



UCLG AFRICA
United Cities and Local Governments of Africa
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis d'Afrique
CGLU AFRIQUE



**First Forum of Territorial Managers and Training Institutes targeting
Local Governments in Africa
City of Salé, Morocco, September 18-20, 2017**

***MESSAGE OF THANKS
TO HIS MAJESTY KING MOHAMMED VI
– God Help Him–***

We, the participants and attendees of the 1st Forum of Territorial Managers and Training Institutes targeting Local Authorities in Africa, held on September 18-20, 2017 at the International University of Rabat, at the initiative of the African Local Government Academy of the pan-African Organization United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG Africa), representing Ministers, Presidents of Associations of Territorial Governments, Mayors and Local Elected Officials, Presidents and Directors of Institutes of Training, Professionals of Local Governments, Civil Society Organizations, and the general public.

- Welcoming the return of the Kingdom of Morocco within the Great Family of the African Union, and welcoming the undeniable efforts made by the Kingdom for the construction of the African Union and the promotion of the values of Peace and Solidarity, for the support to South-South Cooperation, and for regional integration ;

- *Commending the efforts of the Kingdom of Morocco in favor of decentralization through the implementation of advanced regionalization, thus demonstrating the confidence of the Kingdom in the contribution of the decentralization process to peace, stability, development and progress of the Country;*

- *Recognizing the essential contribution of the Kingdom of Morocco to the development of South / South cooperation, particularly between African countries; and the promotion of decentralization on the continent manifested, inter alia, by hosting the headquarters of UCLG Africa in Rabat and its African Local Government Academy (ALGA) and by receiving numerous missions from African countries wishing to learn from the Moroccan experience in terms of decentralization;*

- *Aware of the fact that this undeniable progress would not have been possible without the enlightened leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, supported by an unwavering passion for the African continent and a positive vision of its role in the world of today and tomorrow*

- ***Express our sincere gratitude to His Majesty King Mohammed VI - God Protect Him - for His tireless work for sustainable development in Africa and the promotion of African cooperation;***

- *Humbly **request** His Majesty's support to the issue of strengthening human capital capacities of local governments in Africa to be included among the priorities of the political agenda in Africa ;*
- *Specifically **request** His Majesty's support to the development and influence of UCLG Africa and ALGA ;*
- ***Renew** our encouragement to His Majesty to persevere in His efforts to consolidate the advanced regionalization in Morocco, as well as cooperation and integration of Africa; and*
- ***Pray** God Almighty to grant Him wisdom and fairness in leading His Kingdom and His People, and in the exercise of His leadership in the service of the structural transformation, sustainable development, as well as economic and political integration of Africa.*

Drafted in the city of Salé on Wednesday, September 20, 2017

The participants in the 1st Forum of Territorial Managers and Training Institutes targeting Territorial Governments in Africa