



In 2009, the EUROCITIES work programme will focus on the three linked themes of

- Innovation and Liveability
- Partnership and Participation
- Diversity and Cohesion

Both the European Parliament elections and the new Commission offer opportunities to reinforce the role of Europe's major cities in European policy development. Under the leadership of our new President, Jozias Van Aartsen, Mayor of The Hague, it is vital that we influence the future of European cohesion policy and the EU budget post-2013 in favour of Europe's major urban areas. And we will be pressing the benefits of integrated, multi-level governance that connects citizens to strategic decision-making.

It is with this important agenda in mind that I therefore enclose an invoice for your city's membership/partnership fee for 2009. I am pleased to say that in recognition of the financial pressures on our members we have managed once more to hold this at last year's level with just a 2.5% allowance for inflation, offering a reduction in real terms on 2008.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or comments about EUROCITIES and our activities.

Thanking you once again for your city's continuing support for the network.

With kind regards,

Paul Bevan
Secretary General

Encl. Membership/Partnership fee 2009 invoice