# Key lessons learned,
# Issues and challenges identified,
# and
# Elements necessary for a sustainable way forward for Kenya:
# Towards A Safer Nairobi City Strategy.

## 1.0 Introduction

A strong Kenyan delegation team headed by the Minister for Local Government, Hon. Karisa Maitha attended a successful International Conference on Sustainable Safety: Municipalities at Crossroads. This took place in Ethekwini, Durban, South Africa, 25-28th November 2003**.**

The Kenyan delegation made itself felt by active participation in various events and forums including chairing and participating in a number of plenary and panel sessions. The video on Nairobi was shown and was well received. At the end of the conference, the Kenya team met and agreed that an outline paper of the key lessons and possible elements for crime prevention should be developed. This paper is to be tabled at the breakfast meeting at **Mayor's parlour on 9th December 2003.** This is therefore an attempt towards formulated such a paper. This paper has not been adequately shared and debated by the team mandated to produce it due to time constrains. The paper is presented in four sections, namely an Introduction, Lessons learned, Key issues and challenges identified and Key elements of integrated and sustainable community safety planning and development

### 1.1 The Key Objectives of the Conference were to:

- Strengthen the vision and understanding of the Safer Cities approach and the importance of sustainable safety in the context of good governance, poverty reduction, community mobilization and mounting of community outreach, information and development programmes.
- Review Safer Cities experiences and practices and learn from the experiences of mayors, city councillors, municipal managers and key partners in integrating safety and prevention in strategic planning and service delivery.
- Promote sustainable safety as an integral part of strategic municipal planning.
- Develop an integrated action plan for Safer Cities in Africa and other regions of the world for 2004-2006.
- Foster the Safer Cities approach and city-to-city co-operation in the NEPAD initiative for Africa.

*The conference was modelled around both plenary sessions* and *panel discussions. These* focused on the main elements of municipal safety and crime prevention strategies, including:

- Integrated urban planning and the *safer cities* concept
- Social development targeting groups at risk (youth and women)
- Environmental design, municipal planning and service delivery
- Police and justice for local communities
- City-to-city cooperation

## 2.0 Key lessons learned and reaffirmed

- **The significance of integrating safety and crime prevention in strategic planning and service delivery of the city.** The issue of safety and prevention should be part and parcel of every aspect of city life and should be embraced by all stakeholders.
- **The crucial role of cities**: The leadership and influence of Mayors and Local Authorities is invaluable in promoting community safety by engaging and mobilising the various government departments and social actors who should be involved as well as advocating the necessary innovative institutional changes and commitments
- **The importance of local level action:** Emphasis must be put on creating change from the bottom-up by building capacity and focussing on implementation on the ground, rather than expecting positive change to trickle down from the top
- **The importance of partnerships:** In order to be comprehensive and sustainable, community safety efforts must involve partnership efforts of all stakeholders who have influence over the diverse sectors and elements that can play a role in improving community safety
- **The importance of inclusiveness and active participation:** In order to truly respond to the needs of those most vulnerable to crime and insecurity, explicit effort must be made to consult and engage these marginalised groups in identifying priorities for action and developing crime prevention strategies and initiatives

## 3.0 Key issues and challenges identified

- Lack of adequate institutional and legal framework within which community safety strategies fit
- Institutional resistance to change and new approaches to tackling crime and insecurity
- Negative impact of weak governance and the difficulty of transforming political will into action
- Ensuring truly inclusive participation and partnership in the development and delivery of sustainable community safety strategies and interventions
- Monitoring and evaluating the impacts of efforts, particularly when initiatives need a longer time to demonstrate their full effects or changes produced are more qualitative than quantitative

## 4.0 Key elements of integrated and sustainable community safety planning and development

### 4.1 In General:

- Informing the development of crime prevention policies, strategies, and initiatives by first thoroughly assessing the community safety situation through a **local safety diagnosis** that relies on different sources of complementary data on crime and victimisation
- Developing crime prevention policy that supports local strategies and initiatives, with **greater focus on the needs of those most vulnerable to crime and insecurity**

  o Strategies and initiatives must be developed through **the active engagement and greater participation of marginalised and vulnerable groups** such as women, the poor, street families, children, youth, and people who are physically and challenged

- **Greater capacity-building** of Mayors, Local Authorities, and actors on the ground through the development and use of **tools to facilitate training and service delivery**
  - Existing crime prevention training manuals and tools must be adapted to the economic, social, and political contexts and realities within which they are used.
  - Fostering learning through city-to-city co-operation, sharing of good practices, and exchange of expertise, regionally as well as inter-regionally.
- Need for **ongoing monitoring of progress and evaluation of impacts** of pilot initiatives
  - This requires realistic, concrete targets and timeframes to be set at the outset as well as indicators to be identified against which to measure progress.
- Strengthening the understanding of **sustainable safety planning as an integral part of good urban governance**
  - Recognition of community safety as an essential element of sustainable development and poverty reduction
  - Strengthening the links between community safety, good governance, integrated urban planning, design and renewal, and responsive service delivery

## 4.2 Specifically, Mayors and Local Authorities need to:

- Take the lead in **advocating the necessary institutional changes** among local, national and international stakeholders in their respective networks that will support a new approach to community safety and crime prevention
- **Allocate the necessary resources** (institutional, technical and human) in municipal budgets to support the implementation of community safety strategies
- Establish a **network-association of Mayors in Africa** without contradicting or replicating the work of IULA and other regional local authorities institutions
- Establish **clear linkage with NEPAD** on urban issues including urban safety so that their decisions, such as on infrastructure and environment design, are aligned with the resources within NEPAD.

## 4.3 All spheres of government and their respective departments (particularly Police, Justice and Social Development) need to:

- Facilitate the transformation, adaptation and implementation of existing or necessary **institutional frameworks** to be in harmony with this new approach to community-based crime prevention
- Develop **community safety and crime prevention policies and programmes** in support of local initiatives and strategies on the ground
- **Collaborate** with provincial, regional and local authorities and other stakeholders.

## 5.0 WHAT DOES THIS CONCRETELY MEAN FOR NAIROBI IN THE SHORT TERM LEADING TO FEBRUARY 2004 CITY RESIDENTS CONVENTION?

5.a. Merging of the NCC-led and Kenya Police-led processes on crime prevention in Nairobi

5.b. Joint follow-up One day Safety Audit visits by the Mayor, PC, PPO and area MPs to all eight constituencies to amalgamate or reinforce public participation in security planning teams on the ground at the constituency or divisional level

5.c. Setting up dates for a One week Crime Prevention Week in Nairobi in February 2004 leading to the Convention that will adopt a Coordinated, Community-based, Comprehensive Crime Prevention Strategy, involving the participation of all city actors in the preparation leading to and during the crime prevention week.

5.d. The institutionalisation of the Safer Cities approach through a full council resolution and recognised as a minuted item of council, as well as a minuted item of the Provincial Security Committee

5.e. The conduction of a half-day workshop for the Kenya Police Crime Prevention Advisory Committee on the Safer Cities approach and the outcome of Durban 2003

5.f. The development of a national guideline on urban crime prevention by the Ministry of Local Government and its subsequent submission to the Inter-Ministerial Governance, Justice, Law and Order Sector Reform Programme

5.g. The immediate formal acceptance by UN HABITAT to assist in the establishment of the Safer Nairobi Co-ordinating Office at the Ministry of Local Government Reinsurance Plaza 13th floor.

5.h. The establishment of an Annual Mayor's Award Ceremony on Best Practices in Crime Prevention to commence during the crime prevention week.

5.i. The establishment of an Annual National NGO Crime Prevention Conference to commence during the crime prevention week

5.j. The selection of five key priority citywide projects to be implemented between 2004 and 2006, and to be showcased during the next Africities 2006 summit in Nairobi. (e.g. Urban Renewal/Regeneration of Nairobi CBD Project, Urban Slums Upgrading Project, Metropolitan Policing Service, Organised Citywide Public Transport project, Integrated Citywide Youth Development Project, etc)

Annex 1: List of Participants from Kenya who attended a de-briefing meeting on the last day in Durban.

1. Alice Kagunda         Deputy Commissioner, Kenya Police
2. Francis Sigei          PC Nairobi
3. Joe Akech            H W Mayor, NCC.
4. Jack Mbugua         Town Clerk, NCC
5. Lucy N. Nyaga       Assistant T.C, NCC
6. Paul Taylor           UN HABIT AT
7. M. W. Thairu         Ministry of Local Government
8. Peninah W Karoga    Community Ziwani
9. Hassan Abdikadir     Youth for HABITAT
10. Juliet Achieng        Councillor, NCC
11. Sammy L ui          KBC
12. Juma Assiago         UN HABITAT
13. Michelle Kagari       CHRI
14. Elijah Agevi         Regional Director, ITDG-EA