



Giovanni Allegretti

His presentation dealt with the topic of **"Right to the City"**.

His presentation focused on the background, definition and significance of the concept of "Right to the City" in societies.

He began his speech by defining the concept of "Right to the City". According to the speaker, the concept of "Right to the City" originated from philosophical discourses and not from legal discourses, from the notion of law. He starts from the idea that the territories are the products of a permanent social conflict that changes form while being present. For him, the "Right to the City" is an interesting framework for the citizen's participation as far as IOPD topics are concerned.

The concept of "Right to the City" appeared in the 1960s in Korea. He ended his speech by emphasizing that the persons concerned by the "Right to the City" are all those living in and developing collaboratively a territory, its culture and its economy.

Discussions and interactions with participants.

Following the speaker's presentation, the moderator opened the discussion session.

This section recorded the intervention of four (4) panelists namely:

- Mr. Yacé Jean, Mayor of the Cocody municipality.
- Mr. Gnagne Ibrahima, national coordinator of the association of Mauritanian municipalities in the south
- Jean Michel OVONO (Lawyer), from the DRC
- An elected official from the municipality of Attécoubé

The question of the mayor of Cocody, Mr. Jean Marc YACE, concerned the definition of the concept of "Right to the City".

To address these different concerns, the speaker mentioned that the idea of "Right to the City" is much more a philosophical idea than a legal one from the perspective of law. This "Right to the City" is that of the people living in the territories regardless their formal citizenship. It is the right to discuss and build the change of one's territory, given the fact that the "Right to the city" derived from the relations to the city, but it applies to territories with a different typology than urban. It is a right that brings together rights contained in international documents, collective rights related to the environment, community participation in the management of the territory and other collective rights related to international law.

Mr. Gnagne Ibrahima, following the speaker's intervention, asked a series of three questions to clarify the idea of "Right to the City":

-What are the actions to be taken when we talk about the "Right to the City"? Are there any examples?

-What is the relationship between the projected material and the "Right to the City"?

- Shouldn't "Right to the City" take into account the land subdivision ?

For this set of questions, the speaker suggested to the participant to follow the presentation of the next speaker, Mr. Yves CABANNES.

After the presentation by **Giovanni Allegretti**, the Mayor of the hosting municipality stated that he understood the idea of "Right to the City" as a process of construction of an autonomous territory. He ended his speech by questioning the risks of promoting this right to the city, especially since street children have the right to build a territory for themselves, and to have their own rules in the city.

For Mr. GIOVANNI, the important element to introduce in the concept of "Right to the City" is the collective participation, aiming at giving opportunities to the citizens through trainings.

Finally, Jean Michel OVONO asked the speaker if there is a possible link between the conflict related to land and the "Right to the City". He stressed that his concern is motivated by the resurgence of land conflicts leading to a massive resettlement of populations in Central Africa and particularly in Congo.

The speaker explained to the participant that his question is relevant but complex, as it does not only concern the issue of right to the city, but issues that raise the problem of right to ownership.

At the end of the discussions session, participants learned that the concept of "Right to the City" is not new. It involves all those who live in and develop together a territory, its culture and its economy.