

Speech by Mr. Carlos Lázaro as part of the 3rd Global Forum "Dynamic Cities Need Women", on the theme "Women and Armed Conflict," 24-27 September 2013

Presentation on the cooperation between the **Association Amputats Sant Jordi**, the **Metropolis Women International Network** and **local governments** to promote the development of orthoprosthesis adaptation centers for amputation victims.

Metropolis has created an initiative that aims to improve social care for people with physical, organic and functional disabilities in Metropolis member cities dealing with *post-disaster situations* (for example armed conflict and natural disasters) and at high risk of social exclusion. The first target city will be Abidjan, which will be backed with the knowledge of the Association Amputats Sant Jordi, from Barcelona, to establish the infrastructure required to develop an orthotics and prosthetics center of its own, as a benchmark for Africa.

The main objectives of this Metropolis Initiative are the building and transfer of knowledge and training from the Association Amputats Sant Jordi to specialists in Metropolis member cities that require it. It also seeks to provide orthopedic devices and prosthetic materials to carry out the adaptations necessary for the completion of the adaptation in question.

This will form the basis of an "Orthoprosthesis Centre" model that fits in with the socioeconomic characteristics of the host city. This will improve the quality of life of a significant number of victims of amputation; these data will be determined on the basis of knowledge regarding the needs and economic possibilities of the recipient city, once an onsite diagnosis is carried out.

A letter of intent was signed in Abidjan, the Ivory Coast, between the Metropolis Women International Network, the Association Amputats Sant Jordi and the District of Abidjan on 26 September 2013 last. The City of Barcelona - Department of International Relations and Cooperation, and the City Councilor of Women and Civil Rights, are also participating in this agreement. The development of this project will be based on the model of public-private partnership, known as the "Barcelona model."