



**WORLD
URBAN
FORUM**
ELEVENTH SESSION



World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments at the 11th session of the World Urban Forum

26 June 2022, 15:00-18:00 CEST

On the occasion of the 11th session of the World Urban Forum, taking place in Katowice, the organized constituency of local and regional governments gathered within the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments (GTF), facilitated by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), will be convening the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments.

The World Assembly has been officially recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in recognition of the role local and regional governments and communities play in sustainable urban development and in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The World Assembly is explicitly acknowledged within the Quito Outcome document (paragraph 169) as a review and follow-up mechanism of the New Urban Agenda. Specifically, it calls for collaboration with the World Assembly, stating: "We note the importance of continuing to engage in the follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda with sub-national and local governments associations represented at the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments".

We live in a tense, unequal world, and we are at a crossroads. We face linked, unprecedented crises, and we must act. We face crises that continue to expose our systems' shortcomings and roll back the right to the city and increase inequalities. While in recent years local public services have been key to protecting our communities, we continue to see an endemic lack of resources in many parts of the world and above all an imbalance between powers and responsibilities. This is a consequence of a lack of commitment to the New Urban Agenda and this lack of commitment could result in the failure to deliver on the sustainable development goals and the universal development agendas.

Within this context, it is critical that the international system rises to the task and includes all stakeholders in the construction and consolidation of sustainable peace. It is in this moment, when the risk of getting back to the times where force prevailed is real, that we must step up for dialogue, build on international agreements, and think about the importance of multilateralism.

Inspired by the current context, the gathering of the World Assembly at WUF11 will address the overlapping crises, including the invasion of Ukraine, but will further build on the need for a sustainable recovery and development of a multilateral response to crises. It will also ensure that we can build pathways to peace and transform the commitments that were undertaken in Quito six years ago. We stand ready to enshrine the principles of the New Urban Agenda by putting the right to the city at the core of our efforts, put people at the center and contribute to the transformation envisioned by the UNSG's Common Agenda, understanding urbanization as a phenomenon beyond cities.

#Listen2Cities





Agenda

Opening of the World Assembly

Facilitated by **Emilia Saiz**, UCLG Secretary-General

- **Maimunah Mohd. Sharif**, Executive Director, UN-Habitat
- **Berry Vrbanovic**, Mayor of Kitchener, UCLG Governing President
- **Marcin Krupa**, Mayor of Katowice
- **Jan Van Zanen**, Mayor of The Hague, UCLG Copresident

- **The New Urban Agenda Under Review**

Facilitated by **Emilia Saiz**, UCLG Secretary General

- **Claudia López**, Mayor, Bogota
- **Mauricio Vila Dosal**, Governor of Yucatan
- **Ernest Maragall**, Vice-president of International Relations and Cooperation of Barcelona Metropolitan Area
- **Daria Cibrario**, Policy Officer in charge of the Local and Regional Government workers and Multinational Enterprises, PSI
- **Adriana Allen**; President, Habitat International Coalition
- **Alexandre Apsan Frediani**, Principal researcher, Human Settlements research group, International Institute of Environment and Development
- **Xolani Sotashe**, Councillor of Johannesburg, Chairperson of the Human settlements Working Group, SALGA
- **Mohamed Mezghani**, UITP Secretary-General
- **Carlos Maya**, Mayor of the city of Pereira
- **Hyungjong John**, Ambassador, Daejeon Metropolitan City
- **Ana Cristina Wanzeler**, Chief of Staff of the Municipal Secretariat for International Affairs of São Paulo

- **Local and regional governments' approaches to peacebuilding and responses to crises**

Facilitated by **Paul Currie**, Asistant Director of ICLEI Africa

- **Carola Gunnarsson**, Mayor of Sala, UCLG Vice President for Europe
- **Andrei Gheorghiu**, Vice Mayor of Ramnicu Valcea
- **Khadija Ahmadi**, Former mayor of Nili
- Representative from GPR2C
- **Naoko Yamamoto**, WHO Assistant Director General/Healthier Populations
- **Manuel de Araujo**, Mayor, Quelimane
- **Genie Birch**, President, GAP
- **Mercè Conesa**, Director, INCASOL
- **Jonas Sèdozan Gbenameto**, Mayor of the city of Sèmè-Podji
- **Samuel Pyne**, Mayor of the city of Kumasi



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Wrap-up (17:45-18:00)

- **Shipra Narang Suri**, Chief, Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat
- Representatives of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments (TBD)