



GLOBAL TASKFORCE
OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS
FOR **POST-2015** DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
TOWARDS **HABITAT III**

New York Communiqué, May 2013

The members of the Global Taskforce gathered at UN Headquarters at the occasion of the presentation of the report of the HLP Post 2015

Local and Regional Governments organizations, in their capacity as governmental stakeholders and gathered in a *Global Taskforce for Post 2015 Development Agenda and Towards Habitat III*, are fully committed to end extreme poverty in all its forms, to reduce inequalities, in the context of sustainable development, and to contribute to put in place the building blocks of sustained prosperity for all. As the government bodies with much of the responsibility for meeting many of the MDGs and goals suggested for post 2015, we commit to ensuring local and regional governments address these responsibilities and to demonstrating how poverty reduction, prosperity and sustainable development can be combined.

Meeting in New York with UN Agencies, development partners and civil society organizations, the Global Taskforce confirms its willingness to contribute to the definition and implementation and monitoring of the global agenda at the local level and contributing to tackling the challenges of our time to ensure a sustainable, peaceful and fair future.

As the High Level Panel Post 2015 presents its report to the Secretary General the Taskforce celebrates that it highlights the importance of sub-national authorities as pillars for development and acknowledges raising urbanization as an important swift in the world as we know it.

The members of the Global Taskforce would like to further stress that only with democratic, inclusive, accountable and well-resourced institutions that develop policies with the people and in the interest of the communities; we will be able to achieve the goals for 2015 and beyond. Local and regional governments need to be acknowledged as political actors.

Bridging the distance between the citizens and their governments, building dialogue that will lead to tolerance understanding and sustainable peace and constructing societies based on equality and accountability from the bottom up will be crucial milestones for any development agenda. The future we want should enable individuals "to live and be what they choose", mindful of all the common goods of our planet, including cultural diversity and the environment.

Local and Regional Governments and their associations call upon the national governments and the international institutions to be bold in their objectives and offer their full support for successful implementation of policies as well as finding innovative solutions. As the level of government closest to the people they fully support the responsibility of "leaving no body behind" and ensure inclusion of the most vulnerable.

The members of the Global Taskforce would like to emphasize that if these global objectives and our resilience as communities are to be achieved, special attention will need to be paid to local finance that will enable solid partnership for infrastructure development and universal basic service provision.

Local and Regional Governments call on their partners to support sub-national institutions to develop the kind of governance and capacity they need to face the increasing challenges and to better respond to its responsibilities towards the community.

A new global partnership for development including all stakeholders is a prerequisite and the Global Taskforce is committed to actively contributing to this partnership through among others:

- Developing a set of goals and targets reflecting the vision of Local and Regional Governments and/or define targets and indicators that “localize” the global agenda.
- Support the Open Working Group and the High Level Political Forum on SDGs and setting.
- Articulating the voice of sub-national governments to the Habitat III Conference

The Global Taskforce would like to put itself to the service of partners as counterpart and sounding board of local and regional governments.

About the Global Taskforce

Local and Regional Governments organizations have created a Global Taskforce in order to build a joint strategy to contribute to the international policy making debates within the framework of the Post 2015, Rio+20 and towards Habitat III. The Taskforce aims at representing the world-wide municipal and regional (sub-national) movement which is celebrating its hundred years in 2013 and has representation in all the countries of the world.

Local and Regional Government members

UCLG	World Organization of United Cities and Local Governments and its Thematic Committees
UCLG’s Regional Sections	(CEMR, UCLG-ASPAC, UCLG-Euro-Asia, UCLG-MEWA, UCLG-NORAM, UCLG-FLACMA, UCLGA)
METROPOLIS,	Metropolitan Section of UCLG
AIMF	International Association of Francophone Mayors
ATO	Arab Towns Organization
CLGF	Commonwealth Local Government Forum
ORU-FOGAR	World Organization of Regions
ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability
nrg4SD	Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development

UNACLA United Nations Advisory Committee for Local Authorities

The initiative aims at being inclusive and other networks are invited to join the works.

Partners of Local and Regional Governments

UN-Habitat, UNDP, Cities Alliance, UNCDF, ILO, European Commission, Millennium Campaign, One UN Secretariat, HLP Post 2015, DeLog, SUEZ, DCF, Habitat for Humanity, Slum Dwellers International.

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