



GLOBAL TASKFORCE

OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

FOR **POST-2015** DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

TOWARDS **HABITAT III**

Statement on the Declaration of the Post-2015 Summit on behalf of the LAMG and the GTF 2nd session of the Post-2015 negotiations – 17- 20 February 2015

Delivered by Ms. Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao, Delegation of Euskadi in the United States, nrg4SD representative

Excellencies, Dear Co-Chairs, Member States and colleagues,

Local and subnational governments believe that the Declaration should be universal, addressing all developing and developed countries and inclusive, based on a multi-level and multi-stakeholders' partnership and rooted in the framework of international cooperation.

The Declaration should also ensure the linkages with the ongoing related processes that cannot be isolated from sustainable development strategies: such as climate, finance and the forthcoming new urban agenda.

Regarding the **collective vision of the road to 2030**, we very much share the **today's challenges** enumerated in the elements paper proposed by the Co-Chairs. We would also like to remind **one of the greatest challenges of our century, which is ensuring a sustainable urbanization** in a world where 75% of the world population will live in cities by 2050.

We would also kindly request to **add, as part of those challenges, the "threats to cultural diversity"**, as culture is a crucial element of the sustainable development. We would like to recall once more the **importance of enhancing the value of cultural diversity** as part of our **common values**.

As for **what we should do to get there**, we agree on the need for goals and targets that can be universally implemented and be easily measurable and verifiable. We further **call for ensuring a territorial dimension of the targets and** indicators that will endow reliability and connectivity with people and environment.

We **welcome the strong references to a revitalized global partnership** in order to implement the Post-2015 agenda but would like to **recall the absolute need to perform a global partnership not only at the implementation stage but earlier, while defining the agenda**. It is now acknowledged that the MDGs agenda suffered from not including all relevant stakeholders during its definition stage. We should avoid repeating such a mistake.

The same goes for the **follow-up and review section** that should refer to all relevant stakeholders. We believe we should ensure **"Monitoring, evaluation and reporting process based on country led accountability and built on existing national and subnational mechanisms and processes, with broad multi-stakeholder participation, including local and subnational governments as governmental stakeholders. This multi-stakeholder, participatory approach should be integrated at all levels, regional and global"**.

Allow us also to request that the concept of **good governance** be more concrete by referring to **"an effective, participatory and inclusive governance"**.

Local and subnational governments thank you for your attention and remain at your disposal, wishing you successful discussions.