



## **World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments**

**4 November**  
**11:00 – 15:00**  
**Plenary Room A**

### **12th session of the World Urban Forum**

#### **Concept Note**

The World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments is set to convene at a critical moment, bridging the UN Summit of the Future and the upcoming Fourth Conference on Finance for Development and the World Social Summit. The World Assembly, the self-organized political space of the constituency of Local and Regional Governments, serves as a platform to emphasize the indispensable role that local and regional governments play in advancing global development agendas, particularly through the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The World Assembly will discuss how the action of local and regional governments together with high-impact partnerships and investments in key areas can serve as catalysts for the SDGs, including through existing initiatives such as the Local2030 Coalition or the Cities Countdown to 2030 that must pave the way for a local SDG Rescue Plan in the final run towards achieving the 2030 Agenda, with the New Urban Agenda as accelerator and catalyst.

The Assembly will also explore the outcomes of the Summit of the Future, emphasizing the need for an inclusive multilateral system centered on governing through partnerships. Discussions will reflect on the work of the Advisory Group to the UN Secretary-General and potential avenues for reform to strengthen the engagement of local and regional governments in the global governance framework.

Further, the Assembly will serve to deliberate on how to bring about a global social agenda driven by local public service provision and grounded in care and equality – and how to finance it. The discussion will focus on how local governments can lead in providing services that address pressing social issues and contribute to a renewed social contract, including in key priorities such as housing, climate justice, culture, health, food security and the fight against hunger, or peace, and the importance of partnerships to power up a new social contract built from the ground up so it can deliver for people and the planet.

The World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments promotes high-impact partnerships that engage various levels of government, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders. Such collaborations are crucial for the effective implementation of global agendas and for ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of sustainable development. Through these focused discussions and collaborative efforts, the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments aims to reinforce the pivotal role of local governance in shaping a more equitable, sustainable, and resilient future for all. This is a moment to consolidate efforts and strategies, enabling local and regional governments to make a significant contribution to the global sustainable development agenda, not just as implementers, but as co-creators of solutions and leaders of transformative change.

**11:00 – 11:30**

**High-Level Opening Session**

<b>Mr. Jan van Zanen</b> , Mayor of the Hague (The Netherlands)	<b>Anacláudia Rossbach</b> , Executive-Director of UN-Habitat	<b>Dr. Hesham Elhelbawy</b> , Assistant Minister of Local Development. Egypt
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**11:30 – 12:40**

**Dialogue 1: The Local SDG Rescue Plan**

Reviewing progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda as a driver for the 2030 Agenda. Highlighting how the action of local and regional governments together with high-impact partnerships and investments in key areas can serve as catalysts for the SDGs, including through existing initiatives such as the Local2030 Coalition or the Cities Countdown to 2030.

**Chairing: Ms. Bernadia Irawati**, UCLG ASPAC Secretary-General

<b>Ms. Rohey Malick Lowe</b> , Mayor of Banjul (The Gambia)	<b>Mr. Ekrem İmamoğlu</b> , Mayor of Istanbul (Turkey)	<b>Ms. Ana Lucía Reis</b> , Mayor of Cobija (Bolivia)	<b>Ms. Célestine Ketcha Courtès</b> , Minister of Housing and Urban Development, Cameroon
<b>Ms. Fatimetou Abdel Malick</b> , President of Nouakchott Regional Council (Mauritania)	<b>Ms. M. Eugènia Gay</b> , Vice President of the Barcelona Provincial Council (Spain)	<b>Mr. Mounir Laymouri</b> , Mayor of Tangier (Morocco)	<b>Dr. Rose Christine Kaggwa</b> , Chair of the Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA) Assembly

Respondents		
<b>Ms. Sigrun Wiggen Prestbakmo</b> , Deputy Minister, Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, Norway	<b>Mr. Rodrigo Ravena</b> , Secretary of Green and Environment, Sao Paulo (Brazil)	<b>Mr. Jeong-kee Kim</b> , Secretary-General of the World Smart City Organization (WeGo)

**12:40 – 13:50**

**Dialogue 2: A Multistakeholder Multilateralism: Outcomes of the Summit of the Future from a Territorial Perspective**

**Chairing: Mr. Carlos Martinez**, Mayor of Soria

Discussing the outcomes of the Summit of the Future and the need for an inclusive multilateral system centered on governing in partnership. This session will reflect on the work of the Advisory Group to

the UN Secretary-General and potential avenues for reform to strengthen the engagement of local and regional governments.

<b>Mr. Ilсур Metshin</b> , Mayor of Kazan (Russia)	<b>Ms. Maimunah Mohd. Sharif</b> , Mayor of Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)	<b>Ms. Sharon Dijksma</b> , Mayor of Utrecht (The Netherlands)	<b>Mr. Rafael Vera Castillo</b> , Mayor of Vicuña (Chile)
<b>Mr. Issa Kassis</b> , Mayor of Ramallah (Palestine)	<b>Mr. Mahamadou Ceesay</b> , Chairman Basse Area Council (Gambia)	<b>Mr Mohammad Alhyari</b> , Mayor of As-Salt (Jordan)	<b>Mr. Greg Munro</b> , Director, Cities Alliance

Respondents	
<b>Mr. Samuel Seth Passah</b> , Director for Local Governance and Decentralisation, Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development of Ghana	<b>Ms. Hanaa Singer-Hamdy</b> , UN Resident Coordinator for Nepal

**13:50 – 15:00**

### **Dialogue 3: Financing the Territories of Today for Future Generations**

**Chairing: Mr. Emani Kumar**, ICLEI Deputy Secretary-General

Exploring the concept of a global social agenda driven by local public service provision and grounded on care and equality – and how to finance it. This dialogue will focus on how local governments can lead in providing services that address pressing social issues and contribute to a renewed social contract, including in key priorities such as housing, climate justice, culture, health, food security and the fight against hunger, or peace.

<b>Mr. Mohamed Sefiani</b> , Mayor of Chefchaouen (Morocco)	<b>Ms. María del Mar Vázquez Agüero</b> , Mayor of Almería (Spain)	<b>Mr. William Patricio Maldonado</b> , Mayor of Nabón (Ecuador)	<b>Mr. Ronan Dantec</b> , President, Climate Chance
<b>Mr. Diego Miranda</b> , Mayor of San José (Costa Rica)	<b>Mr. Alejandro Eder</b> , Mayor of Cali (Colombia)	<b>Hon. Shafi Ahmed Mealin</b> , Mayor of Jigjiga (Ethiopia)	<b>Ms. Shipra Narang Suri</b> , Local 2030 Coalition

Respondents	
<b>Mr. Victor Puga</b> , Secretary of Territory, Urbanism and the Urban Agenda of Catalonia	<b>Mr. Gilberto Perre</b> , Executive Secretary of Frente Nacional de Prefeitos (Brazil)

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## Closing

<b>Mr. Joan Clos.</b> Former UN-Habitat Executive Director
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<b>Global Taskforce</b>
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