

# Mayors Adaptation Forum

at the Global Forum on Urban Resilience & Adaptation  
Bonn, Germany 29-31 May, 2014

Resilient  
Cities 2014

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**ECOSOC • Integration Segment (27–29 May, 2014)**  
**SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION**

**BUILDING  
THE FUTURE  
we WANT**

<http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/integration/2014/index.shtml>

## **Intervention of David Cadman, President of ICLEI at the ECOSOC Integrated Segment on Sustainable Urbanization, live video connection from Bonn, Germany, 29 May 2014**

Your Excellencies, honourable Mayors, distinguished delegations of Member States and civil society representatives, ladies and gentlemen,

ICLEI is the largest global network of local government dedicated to sustainability, long-lasting Organizing Partners of Local Authorities Major Group of the Rio Process, the only local government network that is accredited to ECOSOC with a special consultative status and an active member of the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments in Post2015 Development Agenda Towards HABITATIII.

ICLEI commands and warmly welcomes the decision of ECOSOC to dedicate this historical first ever Integrated Segment to sustainable urbanization. This decision and the impressive agenda of these 3–days confirm the essential and pivotal role and contribution of local governments and their constituencies to attain the global goals on sustainability in the Urban World of 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Unfortunately we can not physically join you in New York as we have just started the 5<sup>th</sup> session of the Resilient Cities Congress and its Mayors Adaptation Forum – the annual Global gathering on Urban Resilience and Adaptation here at the UN city of Bonn, Germany.

But as a clear demonstration of ICLEI's dedication to global sustainability and the strong support to the work of ECOSOC, it gives me a great honour and pleasure to facilitate this virtual dialogue at this historical session.

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I thank to you Mr. President, delegations of Member States and staff of the Secretariat of the ECOSOC in providing this valuable opportunity.

In the next couple of minutes, our fellow Mayors of ICLEI member cities from all continents of the world will reflect their diverse, ambitious, innovative and concrete vision and experience of sustainability at the local level.

**I just would like to underline 3 important points.**

**Firstly**, ICLEI expresses full support to the New York communique of the Global Task Force at this session that urges for enhanced engagement of and support to local and subnational governments in the global efforts on sustainability in the post2015 development agenda. We would like to congratulate and thank our sister organization UCLG in facilitating this united voice.

**Secondly**, ICLEI is happy to have this dialogue because it fully responds to our call exactly one year ago announced at the 2013 Bonn Declaration of Mayors, to develop new modalities of interaction for local and subnational governments in order to fulfill their role as governmental stakeholders, including involvement in agenda setting, consultation and implementation, as foreseen para.42 of the Rio+20 outcome document.

**Thirdly**, ICLEI remains committed to contribute in the follow-up of this dialogue with a view to advance on innovative ideas that were expressed on the way towards Rio+20 and in the numerous processes afterwards. These include, but not limited to, ideas such as creation of new and additional channels of dialogue such as Permanent Forum of Governmental Stakeholders, at the UN and UN Environment Assembly, announcement and full implementation of a UN Decade on Sustainable Urbanization, establishment of a broader alliance of Friends of Sustainable Cities at numerous fora, adoption of a stand-alone SDG on sustainable cities and human settlements, ensuring a strong synergy between

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global process on SDGs, HABITATIII, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity and in particular post2015 climate regime.

With this short introduction, I now would like to give the floor to

1. **Paul Lindvall**, Mayor Linköping, Sweden
2. **Tikender Singh Panwar**, Deputy Mayor, Shimla, India
3. **Mussa Natty**, Municipal Director, Kinondoni Municipal Council, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate our vision for possible themes of a stand-alone Sustainable Development Goal for sustainable cities and human settlements as follows;

1. **Inclusive cities** *Ensure decent, low-carbon and affordable housing and infrastructure for all*
2. **Accessible cities** *Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable mobility*
3. **Productive cities** *Ensure safe and clean water, food and energy through a nexus-oriented approach to resource management*
4. **Resilient cities** *Ensure long-term functionality of urban areas through integrated and participatory territorial planning*

We thank you all for your interest and collaboration.