

2019 Urban 20  
Tokyo Mayors Summit  
**Communiqué**



**We, the mayors of the undersigned cities, have come together for a second year as the Urban 20 (U20) to actively engage with the process of the 2019 Group of Twenty (G20).**

**In a world where over half of the urban population lives in extended metropolitan areas and given the projections for over 600 million new metropolitan inhabitants by 2030, cities have unquestionably become critical actors to - in the words of the G20 2019 Presidency - *“realize and promote a free and open, inclusive and sustainable, human-centred future society”*.**

**We acknowledge that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a universal and comprehensive framework for addressing many of the planet’s most urgent priorities. We commit to identifying the links between our local sustainable development strategies and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), particularly in three main areas: climate action; social inclusion and integration; and sustainable economic growth.**

**Our goal as the U20 is to leverage the tremendous potential of our cities as hubs of diversity and innovation for the purpose of tackling global challenges. We believe that cooperation between all levels of government is essential if we are to achieve our goals.**

**As such, through this Communiqué we convey our joint recommendations to the G20 at their Leaders Summit in Osaka, on 28-29 June 2019, so that together we can address the most pressing challenges that our planet is facing in the following areas.**

### **1. Climate Action**

Climate change is the most pressing challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, not only because of the irreversible effects it has on ecosystems but also because of its impacts on livelihoods, resources and food security, displacement and social inequalities.

Cities not only contain and concentrate over half the global population, but also the buildings, transportation, energy consumption, water and waste management, food systems and industries essential to the lives of city dwellers and their economic activity. It is more critical than ever that we, cities, tackle global environmental challenges, through every possible effort. Building sustainable and resilient cities is crucial to safeguard the quality of life, livelihood and health of our city dwellers, and also to contribute to maintaining our economic vitality and to remaining attractive for people and businesses, while protecting the livelihoods of future generations and promoting sustainable production and consumption patterns, reducing emissions and securing clean air and water.

Therefore, U20 cities are committed to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement to hold global average temperature increase to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, and welcome the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.

To achieve these goals, we call on the G20 to collaborate with cities in the following actions:

#### **a. Set targets and develop pathways towards decarbonization by 2050 at the latest**

- I. Endorse the conclusions of the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.
- II. Set ambitious targets and clear pathways with no or limited overshoot for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to peak no later than by 2020, reduce substantially by 2030 and

reach net zero by 2050, in line with the findings of the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C.

- III. Develop and present, no later than at COP26, new and more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) that fully integrate the contributions of cities.
- IV. Ensure that GHG emission reductions are achieved in a rapid, drastic and just manner, led by developed countries, distributing the benefits of climate action equitably.

**b. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change**

- I. Build and improve resilient infrastructure, decentralize energy supply, increase the use of renewable energy, conserve and restore ecosystems, and develop sustainable food systems in order to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters, and ensure people's health and livelihood, with special consideration for vulnerable people and vulnerable zones such as coastal, rural or underdeveloped areas.
- II. Support cities by unlocking the necessary resources and encouraging multi-stakeholder engagement in adaptation planning across national and subnational levels of government.
- III. Step up our efforts to help realize the Strategic Plan of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) and its Aichi Biodiversity targets and scale-up ambition to ensure the success of an ambitious post 2020 global biodiversity framework that will be adopted at CBD COP15 in 2020 in China.

**c. Enhance energy efficiency, encourage energy system transition and zero-emission transport**

- I. Commit to decarbonizing the energy grid, with 100% renewable electricity by 2030, and 100% renewable energy by 2050.
- II. Enact national regulations and/or planning policy to ensure new buildings operate at net zero carbon by 2030 and all buildings by 2050 with a suite of supporting incentives and programmes.
- III. Promote research, development and collaboration with suppliers, fleet operators and businesses in order to expedite the transition to zero-emission vehicles and support cities' efforts to diffuse such vehicles through emissions standards, incentive schemes, and charging infrastructure roll out.
- IV. Accelerate the transition to green and healthy streets through the promotion of sustainable public mobility concepts and corporate mobility management, people-friendly planning policies, increased rates of walking, cycling and use of public and shared transport.

**d. Increase resource efficiency and promote circularity**

- I. Commit to measure and reduce consumption-based emissions substantially; including through new and ambitious global initiatives to reduce emissions from the construction, food production, automobile, aviation and apparel sectors.
- II. Recognize that increasing consumption of biomass resources causes the loss of tropical forests, which contain high carbon stock and restrict the use of biomass in the energy sector so it is used efficiently and limited to applications where other forms of renewable energy cannot be used. Promote a responsible supply chain management to limit the loss of tropical forests and protect biodiversity.
- III. Reduce the generation of plastic waste in view of the critical situation concerning marine litter, by phasing-out certain single-use and hard to recycle plastics in particular and by considering a new legally binding international agreement, in line with the regulation of the international trade of plastic waste by the Basel Convention.

- IV. Promote further 3Rs and environmentally sound disposal of waste, in accordance with the target set by SDG 12 and toward zero waste, by diverting at least 70% of municipal waste from disposal or incineration by 2030.
  - V. Halve per capita food waste and reduce food losses by 2030 as set out by SDG 12, pursuing food security for all, encouraging local economic production and fair trade.
- e. Encourage the global mobilization of city dwellers and cities for an effective response to climate change**
- I. Aim to create a social movement for the implementation of measures by encouraging the work of pioneers and frontrunners in civil society, supporting activities that raise awareness for environmental and climate justice, raising enthusiasm among city dwellers and cooperating with private companies in order to build effective systems and policies through participatory and inclusive processes.
  - II. Ensure inclusivity and equitable distribution of benefits and costs, including universal and affordable access to resources, health and opportunities, through the mobilization of city dwellers, unions, and innovative multi-stakeholder collaboration into climate action planning and delivery.

## **2. Social Inclusion and Integration**

Significant demographic, economic, social and political transitions are reshaping the way societies live. Our communities are experiencing rapid changes from ageing populations, to shifts in patterns of population flows sparked by differences in economic opportunities, forced displacement because of conflict or natural disasters. Discrimination against women and girls still remains in many aspects of our society. There is a rising concern about intolerance and hate crimes against targeted individuals and minority groups, including but not limited to persons with disabilities or religious minorities.

Dense populations and rapid urbanization also provide great challenges to our cities, sometimes risking exclusion and segregation. Increasing income inequality is a persistent policy challenge because it touches nearly every aspect of life. There is a growing tide of nationalism that feeds on markers such as stagnant work opportunities to create an exclusionary narrative around those who are left behind. In this context, new migrants are facing significant inclusion challenges. It is clear that not addressing social inclusion comes with considerable social and political costs especially for cities.

The goal of the U20 is to achieve more inclusive, peaceful, safe and discrimination-free cities in which every city dweller can have free and fulfilling lives regardless of their race, age, socio-economic status, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability. To achieve these goals, we call on the G20 to collaborate with cities on the following actions:

- a. Promote equality in economic opportunity, access to basic social services and political participation**
- I. Make labour, credit and other markets more inclusive such that all individuals – and particularly, unemployed youth and vulnerable populations and underrepresented groups – can access them equitably and derive wages and other benefits fairly.
  - II. Ensure equal access, in particular for poor and marginalized populations to quality basic services, including education, health, medical treatment, public transportation, public safety, technology, energy, water and sanitation. Improve financial frameworks for local governments to adequately fund basic public services.
  - III. Foster inclusive civic participation in city governance by ensuring all city dwellers are able to fully contribute to the community and participate in democratic political processes,

expanding participation in decision-making and providing transparency tools, open data and e-government platforms.

**b. Promote resilient, accessible and inclusive urban development**

- I. Design and implement housing strategies to ensure access of all populations to adequate housing, paying special attention to the needs of, and in consultation with, specific groups including children, women, ageing populations, people with disabilities, immigrants and all individuals and groups victim of discrimination or hate crimes.
- II. Enhance competences and resources for local government to face real estate speculation and promote inclusive, resilient, sustainable and adequately-served neighbourhoods, safeguard publicly accessible spaces, increase funding to improve public housing stocks, and prepare tools to co-produce public-private community-driven alternative housing.
- III. Provide accessible, affordable and safe low-carbon public transport to all city dwellers, particularly persons with disabilities, women and ageing populations, to allow the greatest possible independence to navigate more easily to their workplaces, health care providers, academic institutions, and other public facilities available in urban centres.
- IV. Promote mainstreaming of accessibility and universal design transversally throughout urban planning strategies and regulations, implementation process and programs, which includes the consultation and direct participation of city dwellers and civil society organizations.

**c. Mainstream a gender perspective across the G20 agenda to achieve greater gender equality**

- I. Ensure women's equal opportunities with men for leadership and decision-making positions and processes at all levels, including political participation, and consider proactive measures to encourage and facilitate access and opportunity as needed.
- II. Eliminate the gender pay gap and promote women's entrepreneurship to further promote women's economic empowerment.
- III. Create locally-owned safe cities free of violence against women by working with local authorities and civil society. Develop laws and policies, public services, awareness-raising campaigns, and other activities that address social norms to prevent and respond to harassment and other forms of gender-based violence.
- IV. Adopt a gender perspective on developing policies and budget, and ensure gender equality on implementing public policies and programs. Support gender budgeting by developing statistical systems based on indicators that are gender disaggregated and consider women in all their diversity.

**d. Proactively address needs of ageing populations**

- I. Engage ageing populations in recurrent education, professional pursuits and activities through which they can contribute to the community in order to create a society where they enjoy a prosperous life.
- II. Develop new and efficient ways to finance and provide composite social and community services for ageing populations such as healthcare, nursing services, barrier-free housing and home care.
- III. Promote intergenerational dialogue between young and ageing populations within the city, to foster socially integrated and sustainable communities.

**e. Facilitate socio-economic integration of migrants in societies**

- I. Raise awareness on the positive impact of migration and shift the narrative from migration as a challenge to migration as an opportunity.
- II. Develop national and regional programs to support the socio-economic integration of migrants in host societies, including support with documentary regularization, shelter,

promotion of decent work and linguistic inclusion, in accordance with the recently adopted Global Compact for Migration and Global Compact on Refugees.

### **3. Sustainable Economic Growth**

The world is undergoing accelerated technological change called the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR): emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, ubiquitous internet-connected devices or big data are significantly altering our society. It has the considerable potential to foster innovation and inclusiveness, and can result in increased productivity, flexible working arrangements and better social service provision. However, automation is displacing workers, particularly those who are in the middle of income distribution, which results in increased socioeconomic inequality. We are witnessing cases of digital rights abuse around the world, linked to data misuse and misinformation, and concentration of power. The “digital divide” may rapidly expand, leaving many behind. The 4IR has brought both of a pressing opportunity and challenge to cities as an economic powerhouse with heightened versions of global challenges.

While 4IR has brought digital infrastructure into focus, physical infrastructure – transport, energy, waste systems, and water – is under great pressure. The importance of green, quality infrastructure cannot be emphasized enough, especially now as we face challenges of climate change and more frequent natural disasters. Cities, however, continue to grapple with planning infrastructure that is based on smarter decisions and serves the interest of communities.

The U20 seeks to build the foundations for cities to enjoy sustainable economic growth, offer decent work for all, and contribute to our global shared prosperity. To achieve these goals, we call on the G20 to collaborate with cities in the following actions:

#### **a. Promote inclusive economic development and solve urban challenges by harnessing digitalization and emerging technologies**

- I. Create inclusive technologies by ensuring diverse people, especially women, participate in its development. Promote digital rights and equal access for all city dwellers to affordable internet and digital services. Train all city dwellers in digital skills and empower them - particularly women, youth and ageing populations - to overcome the digital divide, support participatory democracy, and foster resilience to changes anticipated in the labour market.
- II. Encourage with all possible opportunities the development of new technologies and social services, both in order to solve urban challenges and to stimulate economic development. Support start-ups and small and medium enterprises (SMEs), eliminate structural impediments to innovation, and promote Open Data, while ensuring system interoperability, transparency, accountability and non-discrimination of data, content and algorithm.
- III. Adopt regulation to ensure that the sharing and “gig” economies act as drivers for cities’ prosperity and serve the general interest of city dwellers, including the respect for fair working conditions and social cohesion.
- IV. Foster cooperation among cities to tackle common challenges related to the development and governance of new technologies, and to harness the digital revolution for benefit of all city dwellers. Develop a set of technology governance and policy guiding principles including transparency, openness, privacy, security, interoperability, efficiency, resiliency, sustainability, and equity.

- b. Develop sustainable, resilient and quality infrastructure to ensure no one is left behind**
  - I. Develop sustainable, resilient, and quality infrastructure, prioritizing those that serve marginalized populations and foster their inclusion in the green economy. Increase attention to quality dimensions of infrastructure through support for project preparation and implementation, and through knowledge dissemination and citizen engagement to account for different needs across genders, ages and abilities.
  - II. Forge a long-term plan with due consideration to the social and economic impact, focusing on resilience and long-life performance of infrastructure, as well as proper planning and budgeting for operations and maintenance.
- c. Enhance local governments' access to adequate finance for sustainable infrastructure**
  - I. Diversify the funding and financial resources available for cities to promote investment in urban resilience, including enhanced access to international funding mechanisms. Engage with civil society, private sector and development organizations, and foster transparent, accountable, equitable and efficient mechanisms to bring private capital into infrastructure investment.
  - II. Promote investment in institutional capital and human capacities in order to increase local investment in resilient infrastructure.
- d. Ensure a just transition to decarbonized development**
  - I. Facilitate through local and national policies a just transition enhancing an equitable distribution of new jobs and a renewed social dialogue between workers, employers, civil society, cities, regional and national governments. Generate positive spiral of economic growth and environment, including creation of decent work prospects toward decarbonized and resilient society.

## **Endorsed by the following U20 mayors:**

Governing Mayor Michael Müller, Berlin

Mayor Horacio Rodríguez Larreta, Buenos Aires

Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Chicago

Mayor Zandile Gumede, Durban

Mayor Peter Tschentscher, Hamburg

Mayor Sylvester Turner, Houston

Governor Anies Baswedan, Jakarta

Executive Mayor Herman Mashaba, Johannesburg

Mayor Sadiq Khan, London

Mayor Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles

Mayor Manuela Carmena Castrillo, Madrid

Mayor Claudia Sheinbaum, Mexico City

Mayor Giuseppe Sala, Milan

Mayor Valérie Plante, Montreal

Mayor Bill de Blasio, New York City

Mayor Ichiro Matsui, Osaka City

Mayor Anne Hidalgo, Paris

Mayor Marcelo Crivella, Rio de Janeiro

Mayor Virginia Raggi, Rome

Mayor Bruno Covas, São Paulo City

Mayor Park Won-soon, Seoul

Lord Mayor Clover Moore, Sydney

Governor Yuriko Koike, Tokyo

Executive Mayor Stevens Mokgalapa, Tshwane

### **Others:**

Mayor Femke Halsema, Amsterdam

Minister-President Rudi Vervoort, Brussels-Capital Region

Mayor Lianne Dalziel, Christchurch

Mayor Jan Vapaavuori, Helsinki

Mayor Albert Sandy Daniel, Port Vila

Mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb, Rotterdam