



Committee of the Regions



LOCAL and REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS
at 2018 UN Katowice Climate Change Conference (COP24)
<http://www.cities-and-regions.org/cop24/>



COP24 KATOWICE 2018
UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

UN Climate Change Conference - December 2018 (COP24/CMP14/CMA 1.3/SBSTA49/SBI49/APA1.7)

INTERVENTION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES (LGMA)* CONSTITUENCY

AT THE CLOSING OF THE TALANOA DIALOGUE
12 December 2018, Katowice

Delivered by Cor Lamers, Chair of ENVE Commission, European Committee
of the Regions **

(256 words)

Thank you Mr President.

My name is Cor Lamers, Chair of ENVE Commission, European Committee of the Regions and the Mayor of Schiedam, Netherlands.

The European Committee of the Regions is the European Union's assembly of democratically elected local and regional politicians.

Local and regional governments around the world commend the COP23 and COP24 Presidencies in successfully convening the Talanoa Dialogues.

Throughout 2018, our constituency participated in more than 60 Talanoa Dialogues in 40 countries, out of which 52 were hosted by local and regional governments, their networks or partners.

They voiced their vision to bridge urban development to climate action and engage all levels of government, to enhance the delivery of the Paris Agreement.

More than 60% of Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues took place in the Global South. All sessions gathered all levels of governments in countries that are Parties to the Paris Agreement.

* Facilitated by [ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability](#) in its capacity the focal point of Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency to the UNFCCC and on behalf of [Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments](#)

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In Europe, Committee of the Regions organised a series of Talanoa dialogues raising awareness about the importance of Climate governance and participation through such dialogues. We see a clear need to extend those dialogues in the future beyond the COP24.

Yesterday, here in Katowice, our local and regional leaders from Europe, Americas and Africa attended the Ministerial Roundtables, shared their experience and provided their inputs.

The Talanoa Dialogues paved the way to turn policies into action. It is now the time to work together to deliver the NDCs and raise national and global ambitions through multilevel collaboration. That is why the Committee of the Regions calls for Nationally Determined Contributions to include Regionally and Locally Determined Contributions. We also request to integrate local and regional governments in the COP24 final declaration.

We need to formally acknowledge the commitments and achievements of local and regional authorities and our role in the global climate governance system.

We commend the COP24 Presidency to include in the draft COP24 decision a paragraph *“to welcome welcome the outcome and outputs of Talanoa Dialogues and invite Parties to use them for their NDC”*

We fully support this proposal and urge all Parties to ensure that this paragraph is maintained, strengthened with reference to multilevel action and fully embedded into the final COP24 decision.

You can count on us.

Thank you Mr President.

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