

Bonn Climate Change Conference - April 2018 (SBSTA 48/SBI 48/APA 1.5)

INTERVENTION OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES (LGMA)* CONSTITUENCY AT THE TALANOA OPENING PLENARY

Delivered by David Jácome Polit, Chief Resilience Officer – Quito
Metropolitan Government**

Thank you Minister/Ambassador,

My name is David Jácome Polit, Chief Resilience Officer of Quito Metropolitan Government. I have the honour of delivering this statement on behalf of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) constituency.

Paris Agreement, recognizes the importance of engagement of all levels of governments in the global climate action,. This is why its implementation should also be different than the past 25 years.

Together with previous Conference decisions in 2010 and 2013, Paris Agreement ushered in a new phase of building vertically and horizontally integrated climate governance approaches for implementing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

In this regard, we believe Talanoa Dialogue is an opportunity to make NDCs fit for Paris Agreement.

At COP23, local and regional governments have advocated for the Facilitative Dialogue to be turned into an open, inclusive and year-long process. We thank leadership of COP23 Presidency to take this vision forward, based on their vision of building a grand coalition, and convince all UNFCCC Parties with this approach of Talanoa.

Local and regional governments and their networks immediately responded to this call by announcing Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues, thanks to the fruitful collaboration with the UN Climate Change Secretariat and Cop23 Presidency.

Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues can help to seize the potential of urbanisation and enhancement of the engagement of local and regional governments in climate action.

Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues aims to foster multilevel policy dialogue, coordination, collaboration and coherence among relevant processes and initiatives deliver and raise the ambition of NDCs.

* Facilitated by [ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability](http://www.iclei.org/) 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](http://www.cities-and-regions.org/talanoa/).

** <http://www.QUITO.GOB.EC/> and <http://www.cities-and-regions.org/talanoa/>

In this sense, we demonstrate that local and regional governments are ready to support national governments to fix and lift NDCs.

I am particularly proud that Quito Metropolitan Government is one of the hosts of those initial 24 events that will convene Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues worldwide. Our dialogue will take place on 4 May Friday, with the engagement of ministries of environment, finance, transport, housing, mayors across Ecuador, with representatives of civil society and financing institutions – respecting the true spirit of Talanoa.

I also congratulate all our peers who will join the dialogues on 6 May.

At the closing on 9 May, ICLEI and City of Bonn will also announce the additional 20+ Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues to be held globally.

We invite all national governments to join us and warmly thank all those who are already working with us.

We also congratulate the synthesis report by the Secretariat on the first set of submissions. We are proud with diverse submissions of our constituency and references to many Parties in their vision to engage with our constituency. We also would like to note that we interpret that the reference to “subnational governments” in this report include all types of local and regional governments responsible for the governing of municipalities, towns, districts, cities, metropolitan areas, counties, provinces, regions, prefectures and states.

The LGMA constituency looks forward to collaborating with Parties, Presidencies and UN Climate Change Secretariat to ensure effective multilevel governance collaboration as the most valuable pathway to deliver Paris Agreement.

Thank you Minister/Ambassador.

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