

REFERENCES TO MULTILEVEL ACTION AND URBANIZATION TOWARDS COP28



AN OVERVIEW OF REFERENCES IN THE PARTY SUBMISSIONS ON GLOBAL STOCKTAKE OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES OF SELECT INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES IN 2023

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Introductory Remarks

Dear colleagues and friends of multilevel action:

Since COP27, local and subnational governments have been strongly recognized in various UNFCCC processes and outcomes. The following report is an overview of such references, to prepare the Local Government and Municipal Authority Constituency to the UNFCCC (LGMA) for COP28 preparations.

Following the conclusion of the Technical Dialogue to the first Global Stocktake (GST) of the Paris Agreement, the GST Facilitators requested Party and non-Party recommendations for the GST final outcomes report.

The Co-Chairs summarized the key points of action that GST COP28 Negotiators can consider in a synthesis report. This compilation of Party submission includes concrete references to local and subnational governments, which is extremely important for LGMA texts for COP28 outcomes.

The synthesis report by the Co-Chairs does not highlight individual submissions by Parties, but it is important to know who said what to rally national endorsements to CHAMP. Therefore, a detailed list of all relevant submissions are provided in this report.

Beyond GST, throughout the year, nations negotiated and adopted a number of documents relevant to the UNFCCC process, many of which also contain important languages on multilevel action and urbanization and will influence COP28 outcomes.

Finally, LGMA Joint Position COP28 text is also provided as a separate chapter.

All these aims to contribute subsequent report that will identify a menu of good practices and recommendations for Parties on how to further increase the urban components in NDCs for the next round of updating (until 2025).

Sincerely,

Yunus Arikan

Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI

LGMA Focal Point

References in Synthesis Report of Global Stocktake Outputs Submissions

Summary of the text

The "Views on the elements for the consideration of outputs component of the first global stocktake" synthesis report is prepared by the Secretariat under the guidance of the chairs of the subsidiary bodies. The report provides an analysis of submissions received by Parties and non-Party stakeholders in response to an invitation from SB 58. 7, including the LGMA submission (included at the bottom of this report). Specifically, the report synthesizes views on the elements for the consideration of outputs component of the first Global Stocktake, taking into consideration the informal note by the co-chairs of the contact group on the indicative draft structure of the Global Stocktake CMA 5 decision.

References to multilevel action and urbanization

Significant References

"469. Support efforts to contribute to decarbonization on a global scale by promoting city-to-city cooperation as well as other bilateral and multilateral coordination, including by promoting endeavours towards achieving urban carbon neutrality through sharing knowledge and know-how on an individual city level, both bilaterally and multilaterally;"

"Para 547 speaks to specific references that NDCs should address based on the GST recommendations, with sub-point (e) identifying that "the NDC should also be the vehicle to make visible efforts complementary to the national goals, reflecting the efforts of subnational governments and other non-state actors within the country."

"572. Encourage further cooperation and engagement at all levels on the preparation of NDCs throughout 2024 and ahead of the deadline in paragraph 25 of Decision 1/CP.21, including through discussions within existing mandates of the UNFCCC, as appropriate, and a COP29 ministerial meeting on NDC and LT-LEDs"

Total References (15)

- 1. "48. A few of the non-Party stakeholders' submissions stressed the need to translating community-based research outputs into action, including policy change and transformation at national and sub-national levels, promoting the outcomes of the GST in a manner accessible to local communities and civil society by providing various options that are clear and usable with strong follow-up and accountability mechanisms to facilitate implementation"
- 2. "120. Specifically, most Parties acknowledged that developing countries are engaged in the development and implementation of national adaptation plans (NAPs), articulating greater ambition; reported adaptation actions and pursued adaptation actions across a multitude of sectors including agriculture, food security, biodiversity, forestry, freshwater resources, urban development, housing, waste management and health. In these communications, adaptation is reflected in consideration of other sectors and aligned with national climate resilience and development agendas."

- 3. "138. Many submissions therefore recommended approaches with high potential for sustainable food production, reducing food loss and waste, shifting towards healthy and sustainable diets and nutrition, and conserving and restoring ecosystems. The role of marine ecosystems was extensively cited as key to advancing adaptation therefore calling for efforts to reduce pressures on marine environments. Some non-Party stakeholders also called for the delivery of resilient shelter and infrastructure systems for urban, rural and coastal settlements"
- 4. "147. Encourage Parties to mainstream adaptation into all plans, budgets, policies, strategies systems and sectors and advancing climate resilient development. Support integration of climate risk and impacts into the design of different systems, integrating climate risk and impacts into the design of infrastructure, water, health, food and nature-based solutions. Support the delivery of resilient infrastructure systems for urban, rural and coastal settlements. In advancing climate-resilient development, countries will accelerate Sustainable Development Goals, reduce poverty and hunger, improve health and livelihoods, and improve access to clean water and energy"
- 5. Para 338 is encouraging Parties to "Recognize good practices of capacity-building, including multilevel, multistakeholder engagement; beneficiary country ownership of building and maintaining capacity; sharing of good practices, experience and lessons learned; resulting in direct finance benefits."
- 6. Para 340 speaks to the need for capacity building elements of the submission suggesting that Parties in GST Outcome could "Recognize that many developing country Parties, in particular LDCs and SIDS, have urgent needs for enhancing capacity at the national, subnational and local levels to implement the Paris Agreement,"
- 7. "348. Almost all Parties submitted their views on efforts related to loss and damage with some Parties submitting it as part of the adaptation section and a few Parties after the section on response measures. According to many, loss and damage needs to be addressed as a continuum with some calling for the GST to recommend crosscutting solutions to enhance synergies between adaptation, disaster risk management and other approaches to avert, minimize and address loss and damage. Others noted that the level of loss and damage and therefore the costs incurred will depend, among others, on the level of ambition of global mitigation actions and the level of investment in adaptation at the local level.
- 8. "385. Request relevant bodies or institutions to develop climate change risk and vulnerability assessment from the sub-national to national level and regional level to inform the subsequent GST on global impacts and needs of Loss and Damage with costed actions for implementation planning, implementing monitoring and evaluating their climate policies and measures."
- 9. "399. Strengthen as appropriate existing mechanisms that endeavour to increase coordination, coherence and synergies between funding arrangements. In addition, at the global level, key agencies involved in averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage could meet periodically at the margins of COP meetings to coordinate and harness synergies. Most importantly, coordination, coherence and collaboration must happen at the country and local levels according to diverse contexts (no one size fits all) and with national and local ownership. At those levels, the new loss and damage fund, other funding arrangements and the Santiago Network can support coordination mechanisms.
- 10. "469. Support efforts to contribute to decarbonization on a global scale by promoting cityto-city cooperation as well as other bilateral and multilateral coordination,

- including by promoting endeavours towards achieving urban carbon neutrality through sharing knowledge and know-how on an individual city level, both bilaterally and multilaterally;
- 11. Para 481 speaks to engagement in international collaboration and encourages Parties to "Recognize the important role of non-Party stakeholders in delivering the goals of the Paris Agreement, such as indigenous peoples, local communities and civil society, including women, youth and children, local and regional governments, in addressing and responding to climate change and in contributing to progress towards the goals of the Paris Agreement, and highlight the urgent need for multilevel and cooperative action;"
- 12. "489. Encourage exchanges and international cooperation among non-Party stakeholders, including the private sector, research institutions, organizations, etc. at national, sub-national, regional, and local levels, including conducting joint research, personnel training, practical projects, technical exchanges, project investment, and standards cooperation etc.;
- 13. Para 493 refers to our point that subnational action and collaboration can contribute to global emission reduction goals and potential to highlight that "to the synergies created between national governments and regions, individual cities, regions, companies, and industries is acknowledged to significantly contribute to the full implementation of GHG emissions reduction targets".
- 14. Para 547 speaks to specific references that NDCs should address based on the GST recommendations, with sub-point (e) identifying that "the NDC should also be the vehicle to make visible efforts complementary to the national goals, reflecting the efforts of subnational governments and other non-state actors within the country."
- 15. "572. Encourage further cooperation and engagement at all levels on the preparation of NDCs throughout 2024 and ahead of the deadline in paragraph 25 of Decision 1/CP.21, including through discussions within existing mandates of the UNFCCC, as appropriate, and a COP29 ministerial meeting on NDC and LT-LEDs;

II. Highlights from 22 Party submissions to Global Stocktake Outputs

The following 22 Party submissions as of 25 September 2023 are included in this analysis:

Africa: Zambia (on behalf of African Group of Negotiatiors; Algeria (on behalf of Arab States); Senegal (on behalf of Least Developed Countries)

North America: United States of America

Asia: China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Nepal; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia (on behalf of LMDC)

Europe: European Union; Norway; Switzerland; Turkiye; United Kingdom of Great Britain.

Latin America: Brazil (on behalf of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay); Chile (on behalf of Chile, Colombia, Honduras, Monaco, Peru, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom), Guatemala (on behalf of AILAC, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, and Peru)

Pacific: Australia; New Zealand; Samoa (on behalf of AOSIS)

Of the 22 UNFCCC Party submissions,

- 3 had no mention of multilevel action and urbanization (Arab States, Indonesia, Nepal), and were therefore excluded from this analysis.
- 19 mentioned local/subnational governments or multilevel action, most commonly in the context of adaptation, capacity building and financing.
 - o 10 are particularly strong (China, S.Arabia, AILAC, AOSIS, US, EU, Japan, UK, Norway, EIG), with United Kingdom, Switzerland, Saudi Arabia using the specific language of "multilevel" policy or coordination, whereas Guatemala and Japan called for decarbonization in cities and urban carbon neutrality.
 - 2 are moderate (India and Türkiye)
 - o 7 are weak (Africa, LDCs, BAU, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, Russia)

None (3)	Weak (7)	Moderate (2)	Strong (10)
Arab States Indonesia Nepal	Africa LDCs BAU Chile Australia New Zealand Russia	India Turkiye	China Saudi Arabia AILAC AOSIS USA EU Japan UK Norway EIG

The following section lists mentions of multilevel action and urbanization in Party submissions in the following order:

Global South

- I.1 Algeria (on behalf of African Group of Negotiators) weak
- I.2 Senegal (on behalf of Least Developed Countries) weak
- I.3 China strong
- I.4 India moderate
- I.5 Saudi Arabia strong
- I.6 Brazil (on behalf of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay) weak
- I.7 Guatemala (on behalf of AILAC, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, And Peru) strong
- I.8 Samoa (on behalf of AOSIS) strong
- I.9 Chile (on behalf of Chile, Colombia, Honduras, Monaco, Peru, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom) weak

Global North

- II.1 United States of America strong
- II.2 European Union strong
- II.3 Japan strong
- II.4 United Kingdom of Great Britain strong
- II.5 Norway strong
- II.6 Switzerland (on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group) strong
- II.7 Australia weak
- II.8 New Zealand weak
- II.9 Turkiye moderate
- II. 10 Russian Federation weak

Global South

I.1 Zambia (on behalf of African Negotiators)

Weak urban content

Encourages adaptation at local level and operationalizing of Santiago Network to provide technical assistance for loss and damage at local and national level.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 22 Efforts Related to Loss and Damage - Progress, Challenges and Barriers

"The level of loss and damage and therefore the costs incurred will depend, among others, on the level of ambition of global mitigation actions and the level of investment in adaptation at the local level."

p. 22 Efforts Related to Loss and Damage - Opportunities and Solutions

"Operationalization of Santiago Network by COP 28 to provide technical assistance for implementation of approaches for averting minimizing and addressing loss and damage at the local, national and regional level, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change."

Urban Components

p. 20 Loss and Damage, collective progress

"The future projected impacts on the continent described in UNECA/Climate Analytics's Loss and Damage in Africa report (2014)13 are alarming and will likely include: ... Larger tropical cyclone-induced storm surges, in conjunction with sealevel rise, would place more people at risk of coastal flooding. Tunisia, Tanzania and Mozambique are among the most exposed in the developing world overall and in terms of proportion of land area, GDP, <u>urban land area</u>, agricultural area and wetlands."

I.2 Senegal (on behalf of Least Developed Countries)

Weak urban content

Identifies a gap in adaptation coordination between collective stakeholders in Senegal, in recognition that locally-informed adaptation boosts effectiveness.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 5 C.2 Adaptation

"Gaps - Assessment of the collective progress, towards means of implementation and support consistent with the long-term goals of the PA as outlined in Article 2, Article 7.1 and Decision 3/CMA.4... Locally-informed adaptation boosts adequacy, effectiveness, and can drive transformational change."

p. 7 C.3 Means of Implementation

"Opportunities and challenges... consideration of locally available green technologies and technology transfer needs, barriers, and opportunities that exist and which need to be addressed to be able to enhance action and international cooperation on climate change."

I.3 China

Strong urban content

Doesn't use language of "multilevel action" but encourages parties to incorporate climate targets into medium- and long-term development plans at national, subnational and local level in both mitigation and adaptation planning.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 5 Collective progress

"[Paris Agreement promoted progress across countries] Appreciates that the Paris Agreement, adoptedunder the UNFCCC, with near universal participation of 195 Parties at different stage of development with different national circumstances, further strengthens global long-termtrends of low-carbon and climate-resilient development. It has led to policy development and target-setting at national and sub-national levels, in particular in relation to mitigation, as well as enhanced transparency of climate action and support."

"[Progress by non-Party stakeholders] Appreciates the active engagements of non-Partystakeholders, including civil society, indigenous peoples, local communities, women, youth, children, <u>local and regional governments</u> and other stakeholders, at the local, national andregional level, in addressing climate change, and their important contributions to progress towards achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement;"

p. 9 Mitigation - Challenges and barriers, opportunities

"Encouraging to pursue low-carbon transformation in economic and social development] Encourages Parties to promote systematic low-carbon transformation in economic and social development, including incorporating climate targets into medium- and long-term development plans at national, subnational and local level; promoting green and low-carbon energy transition, optimizing and upgrading industrial structures, upscaling green and low-carbon development in key areas including buildings and transportation, accelerating green transition in production modes and living patterns, in a nationally determined manner, reflecting common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances;"

p. 10 Adaptation - Progress and gaps

"[Challenges in NAPs implementatiom] Also notes the challenges to adaptation priorities identified in national adaptation plans, including lack of dedicated funding

for implementation, and <u>lack of data and methodologies to assess effects and needs</u> <u>of adaptationactions at national and local levels</u>, etc"

p. 11 Adaptation - Challenges and barriers, opportunities

"Encourages Parties to promote inclusive, integrated and long-term planning and implementation at local, municipal, sub-national andnational scales, by mainstreaming adaptation into socio-economic development policies andplans, institutional budget, statutory planning, monitoring and evaluation frameworks and into recovery efforts from disaster events;"

"[Invitation for IPCC to provide a special report on GGA] Invites the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to provide a special report in its Seventh Assessment Report on the global goal on adaptation, including challenges, needs, costs and pathways towards achievingit, and <u>calls upon the research community to further the understanding of global, regional and local impacts of climate change, response options and adaptation needs</u>"

p. 19 Enhancing international cooperation on climate action

"[Encouraging cooperation with non-Party stakeholders] Recognizes the important role of non-Party stakeholders, including civil society, indigenous peoples, local communities, women, youth, children, local and regional governments and other stakeholders, incontributing to progress towards the goals of the Paris Agreement; encourages exchanges and international cooperation among non-Party stakeholders, including private sectors, research institutions, organizations, etch. at national, subnational, regional, and local levels, including conducting joint research, personnel training, practical projects, technical exchanges, project investment, and standards cooperation etc."

Urban Components

p. 8 Opportunities and barriers regarding mitigation options

"Welcomes mitigation options that are technically viable, including, inter alia, non-fossil fuels, fossil fuels with CCUS/CCS, improving energy efficiency, <u>electrification of urban systems, urban green infrastructure</u>, demand side management, improving forest- and crop/grassland management, reducing foodwaste and loss, reducing non-CO2 emissions, and deploying carbon dioxide removal (CDR), etc., while recognizing most options face barriers when implemented rapidly at a large scale, and Parties facing different implementation challenges including costs, availability, safety and constraints; (IPCC AR6)"

I.4 India

Moderate urban content

Mentions locally-led adaptation and developing countries' need for local climate finance.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 20 Elements of first GST outcomes, Obligations of the Developed Country Parties to provide finance and other means of implementation and support

"Means of implementation and support have been identified as the enablers for developing countries' ability to respond to climate change. The Deputy Secretary-General identified concrete and achievable actions, such as – ... Support to locally and regionally-led adaptation and resilience initiatives in vulnerable countries, cities and communities at the frontlines of climate disruption."

p. 40 Key areas for increasing ambition "Access to climate finance in developing countries needs to be enhanced. Simplified and expeditious access to climate finance can allow for more rapid deployment of urgently needed finance while also better serving local needs, particularly in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change."

p. 49 Guidance and way forward "Promoting cross-level and cross-functional collaboration among UNFCCC entities, organizations, (and if outside UNFCCC processes are to be encouraged then they must respect the UNFCCC process); including determination of involvement of non-party and other stakeholders at the national, regional, local, and private sector/corporate levels."

Urban components

p. 42 Key areas for increasing ambition

"Multilateralism over unilateralism – Any unilateral measures in the name of climate change responses are discriminatory towards developing countries and violate principles of equity and CBDR-RC and the UNFCCC provisions. Such proposals must be strongly opposed, as they are detrimental to multilateral cooperation. Parties must continue to work towards common priorities in a sustainable manner minimizing environmental and climatic deterioration. In this regard, the concerns for the global "commons" has been in the forefront of India's developmental efforts, including thrust on renewable energy, smart cities, sustainable transport, climate change resilient agricultural practices, better irrigation and water conservation measures."

I.5 Saudi Arabia

Strong urban content

Calls for adaptation with "multilevel policies" and states that technology development and capacity building are critical to subnational and local action.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 2 Context and Cross-cutting considerations

"The unprecedented scale and pace required to achieve the Paris Agreement goals and objectives, within the context of the Convention's objectives will require integrated and holistic solutions that promote multilateralism, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development for all, and the preservation of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities, and taking fully into account historical responsibilities for climate change. The importance of promoting equity and the clear call to action arising from the best available science mean that such transitions will require sensitivity to local contexts and circumstances to ensure that no community is left behind, that adaptation is locally driven and supported by international solidarity, and that climate actions are truly just and respectful of the integrity of Mother Earth."

p. 9 Mitigation, opportunities

"The undeniable right for developing countries to seek their national development, including considerations of sustainable development, poverty eradication, and equitable access for developing countries to the remaining carbon budget shall continue to be preserved in the future implementation of the Agreement and shall support strengthening climate action... Achieving sustainable development and eradicating poverty would involve effective and equitable climate policies at all levels from local to global scale, including the equitable distribution of the carbon space."

p. 12 Adaptation, collective progress

"Developing countries have also showcased their determination to enhance the implementation of adaptation efforts through a spectrum of actions, including the development and implementation of climate change laws that include adaptation, raising awareness of the importance of adaptation, <u>adaptation with multilevel policies</u>, the establishment of new national climate change cabinets, the reporting of national expenditure on adaptation, and the enhancement of disaster risk management. "

p. 25 Technology development and transfer, opportunities

"Support by developed countries is a critical enabler to technology diffusion. According to the IPCC, international cooperation on technology development and transfer accompanied by capacity building, knowledge sharing, and technical and financial support can accelerate the global diffusion of all mitigation technologies, practices and policies at national and subnational levels, and align these with other development objectives."

p. 26 Capacity building, political messages

"The Global Stocktake outcome in relation to capacity building should highlight that capacity-building should be country-driven, based on and responsive to national needs, and foster country ownership, including at the national, subnational and local levels."

Urban Components

p. 12 Adaptation, collective progress

"Developing countries have demonstrated significant dedication in their adaptation efforts to withstand the risk of climate change impact. These efforts span a multitude of sectors, including agriculture, food security, biodiversity, forestry, freshwater resources, transportation, <u>urban development</u>, housing, waste management, and health. Furthermore, the formulation and implementation of National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) underscore their enduring commitment to enhancing their adaptive capacity. Simultaneously, their commitment to reporting on adaptation actions including through their (NDCs), Adaptation communication, and NAPs underscores their contribution to the global efforts."

p. 30 Efforts relating to response measures, opportunities

"Response measures within the UNFCCC process shall be enabled to explore and address all forms of negative impacts faced by developing countries through a wide variety of formats, such as: ... Exploring work areas including Trade, export development, investment, industrial development and value chain integration, cities, health, youth, inclusive growth. Further, the work areas should be flexible and open for revision at later point of time as the agenda as Parties evolve their understanding and new issues arise."

I.6 Brazil (on behalf of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay)

Weak urban content

Strong message on involvement of local communities in Global Goal of Adaptation, but no other reference to local govt.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 5 Final remarks "Global adaptation progress and support needs for meeting the Global Goal on Adaptation, but not losing the need to think about how to support Parties, in particular developing countries, on identifying in a nationally determined manner vulnerabilities to climate change. Enhancing capacities on the ground, with special attention to governance. <u>Involvement of local communities is essential</u>."

I.7 Guatemala (on behalf of AILAC, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, And Peru)

Strong urban content

Encourages future NDCs to reflect the efforts of subnational governments and other nonstate actors within the country. Frequent mention of cities and the urban environment. Uses of the word "local" in regards to indigenous communities were excluded.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 7 Context and cross-cutting considerations, Climate Change and Society

"Climate action in cities: Increase the involvement of climate action in cities, addressing urban metabolism and proposing practices that include awareness, education, participation and regulation to move towards more sustainable consumption and markets."

"Cities and Biodiversity: Cities play a leading role in the stability and flow of biodiversity, as well as in the pressure it exerts on rural and the peripheries areas, which are the main providers of goods and services in cities, including those that confer climate resilience and capture and storage." "Inclusive and Equitable System Transformations: System transformations offer numerous opportunities, but their rapid pace can be disruptive. These changes must be inclusive, addressing various dimensions of equity, and consider their local context impacts, involving the entire society."

p. 15 Opportunities and Challenges, Mitigation

"Promotion of Clean Mobility: Incentivizing the transition to electric vehicles and other zeroemission technologies through subsidies, rebates, and emissions regulations reflecting the negative impacts of burning fossil fuels is a key strategy. This approach aligns with the COP26 Declaration on accelerating the shift to 100% zero-emission vehicles. We must see major fixed capital infrastructures radically transformed, even devalued, such as those of the private car or suburban urban planning, to be replaced by those that enable the development of a clean energy economy, such as bike infrastructures and major public transport rail networks."

p. 17 Considerations on the impacts of climate change mitigation

"Therefore, the global and local discussions should go through the broadening of the assessment, analysis, addressing, and reporting of all "the environmental, social, and economic impacts arising from the implementation of mitigation policies, programs and actions" according to the specific needs and concerns of Parties, taking as reference the framework established initially for the response measures in the Convention, the Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement decisions"

p. 30 Guidance for new NDCs communication cycle "The NDC should also be the vehicle to make visible efforts complementary to the national goals, <u>reflecting the efforts of subnational governments</u> and other non-state actors within the country."

Urban Environment

p. 7 Context and cross-cutting considerations, Climate Change and Society

"Climate action in cities: Increase the involvement of climate action in cities, addressing urban metabolism and proposing practices that include awareness, education, participation and regulation to move towards more sustainable consumption and markets."

p. 8 Context and cross-cutting considerations, Climate Change, Ecosystems and Biodiversity

"Promoting Nature-Based Solutions for Adaptation: Encourage the use of nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches as viable options for adapting terrestrial, freshwater, coastal, ocean ecosystems, and <u>urban environments</u>."

"Cities and Biodiversity: Cities play a leading role in the stability and flow of biodiversity, as well as in the pressure it exerts on rural and the peripheries areas, which are the main providers of goods and services in cities, including those that confer climate resilience and capture and storage."

p. 10 Context and cross-cutting considerations, Climate Change in the context of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)

"Population and Urbanization: LAC is Home to approximately 8% of the world's population, making it one of the most urbanized regions globally." "Socio-economic Inequalities: LAC Grapples with stark inequality exacerbated by unemployment and urban poverty. Its most vulnerable groups are local communities and indigenous people, afro-descendants, women, and immigrants; risking the sustainability of development and wellbeing of future generations and adversely affecting the social inclusion of local communities.

p. 15 Opportunities and Challenges, Mitigation

"Promotion of Clean Mobility: Incentivizing the transition to electric vehicles and other zeroemission technologies through subsidies, rebates, and emissions regulations reflecting the negative impacts of burning fossil fuels is a key strategy. This approach aligns with the COP26 Declaration on accelerating the shift to 100% zero-emission vehicles. We must see major fixed capital infrastructures radically transformed, even devalued, such as those of the private car or suburban urban planning, to be replaced by those that enable the development of a clean energy economy, such as bike infrastructures and major public transport rail networks."

p. 16 Consideration of the impacts of climate change mitigation

"Multifaceted Benefits of Climate Mitigation: The benefits of climate mitigation are wide-ranging: ... Enhanced Living Standards: Climate action can lead to sustainable cities, efficient transportation, and cleaner environments, elevating the overall quality of life."

I.8 Samoa (on behalf of AOSIS)

Strong urban content

Acknowledges importance of locally led adaptation and capacity building at all levels.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 7 Adaptation

"Acknowledge the importance of locally led adaptation action as a means of ensuring effective adaptation as well as long-term adaptation planning as a means to avoid maladaptation."

p. 5 Relevant Messages from the Technical Dialogue Synthesis Report

"Capacity-building is foundational to achieving broad-ranging and sustained climate action and requires effective country-led and needs-based cooperation to ensure capacities are enhanced and retained over time at all levels."

I.9 Chile (on behalf of Chile, Colombia, Honduras, Monaco, Peru, the Republic of Korea and the United Kingdom)

Weak urban content

Mentions that local communities and economies are affected by marine climate impacts.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 3 Context and Cross-Cutting Considerations

"Additionally, it is key to recognize that the ocean plays a cross-cutting role in many aspects of climate action. It is a regulator of the climate system, sink of CO2 and other greenhouse gases, but also a source of food security and connectivity across countries and regions. It provides crucial ecological, economic and cultural services and represents a fragile space subject to ongoing impacts of acidification, deoxygenation, marine heatwaves, sea-level rise and other processes that can gravely affect local communities and the livelihoods of millions of people and vulnerable groups."

p. 3 Collective progress to date

"The conservation of coastal ecosystems also has great benefits in terms of adaptation, including buffering against extreme weather events, remediation of coastal acidification, improving water quality, providing refugia for climate-vulnerable species and supporting climate-resilient marine spatial planning and Marine Protected Areas, which can be conducive to a higher resilience of local economy, artisanal fisheries, and sustainable blue food production."

II. Global North

II.1 United States of America

Strong urban content

Mentions local role frequently and with specificity, particularly concerning capacity building, preparing fundable investments, funnelling funds to the local level, and local engagement in international climate cooperation. Does not use language "multilevel action," but calls for alignment in local and national adaptation planning.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 5 C.1 Mitigation - Collective progress towards achieving Article 2.1(a)

"Non-Party stakeholders have taken significant Paris-aligned efforts: The Net Zero Tracker reports that 257 cities, 157 regions, and 967 of the 2,000 largest publicly traded companies in the world have set net-zero targets."

p. 10 C.2 Adaptation - Collective progress towards achieving Article 2.1(b) and Article 7.1

"... progress has come through a variety of context-specific national and local-level actions to increase resilience to a changing climate."

"Despite this progress, there remains a planning and implementation gap in adaptation. Urgent, transformational adaptation action is needed, but as reflected in the AR6, IPCC Working Group II report, progress has been incremental and somewhat fragmented, reflecting a greater need for <u>integrating adaptation across national and subnational development and sectoral policies</u>."

p. 13 C.2 Adaptation - Recommended responses (for future consideration)

"The GST's recommended responses should comprehensively address a variety of contexts and systems, consistent with the GGA framework currently under development, particularly through consideration of examples of national and local progress within each stage of the adaptation planning cycle."

"Mainstream adaptation into policies, plans, budgets, and strategies across multiple sectors. Formulating and implementing NAPs provides countries with a way to integrate adaptation into national and subnational planning and development efforts and provides for better alignment of local adaptation actions with national priorities. Moreover, local communities are often on the frontlines of climate impacts, and integrating locally-led approaches to adaptation planning and implementation can help bring context-specific and inclusive solutions forward."

"Translate adaptation policies and plans into investible projects. Improving the bankability of adaptation projects will also crowd in global, regional, and local sources of private finance that can play a complementary and significant role in mobilizing resources for adaptation."

p. 22 C.4 Means of implementation and support: Capacity building

"The GST decision could highlight the efforts to date on capacity-building along with its critical importance and several best practices... Successful capacity-building is locally- and nationally-owned, and ultimately can be maintained and enhanced independent from international support." "Successful capacity-building work is inclusive. It operates with strong multistakeholder engagement, a broad range of Party and non-Party stakeholders, including academia, civil society, indigenous peoples, youth, and the private sector, and at all levels (national and subnational levels)."

p. 23 C.4 Means of implementation and support: Technology development and transfer

"Strengthening domestic and local-enabling environments to foster trade and investment in technology development and transfer that is voluntary and on mutually agreed terms is central to effective international cooperation."

"Governments increasingly recognize the importance of promoting innovation to foster local capacities and entrepreneurship that supports social and economic objectives."

p. 25 C.4 Means of implementation and support: Efforts relating to loss and damage

"The Santiago Network was established to catalyze demand-driven technical assistance for the implementation of relevant approaches to avert, minimize, and address loss and damage at the local, national, and regional level in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change."

"In addition to these multilateral initiatives and processes, it is important to recognize national efforts to respond to loss and damage, such as ... mechanisms to channel funding to the local level to support activities relevant to averting, minimizing, and addressing loss and damage."

p. 28 D Enhancing international cooperation for climate change "In particular, there are opportunities for more effective and inclusive engagement of multiple actors across sectors and levels of governance... This includes ... local communities." "The IPCC AR6 Working Group III report also found that the Paris Agreement reshaped international cooperation and is helping to catalyze non-state and sub- and transnational actions at multiple levels and across sectors..."

II.2 European Union

Strong urban content

Frequent mention of local communities and govt "at all levels." Particularly mentions subnational govt in the context of capacity building, loss and damage, and adaptation efforts.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 10 Preamble

"Call for engagement of every level of governments and non-Party stakeholders (NPS), acknowledging the important role as transformative agents of change of those who are disproportionately affected by climate change."

p. 11 Context and Cross-Cutting Considerations

"Recognize that effective climate governance enables mitigation and adaptation by providing overall direction on setting targets and priorities and mainstreaming climate action across policy domains and levels." "Equity should be addressed at all governance levels, from local to global scale."

p. 12 Collective progress - Adaptation

"Recognize that the ambition, scope and progress on adaptation has risen amongst governments at all levels, along with businesses, communities, and civil society."

p. 17 General guidance and way forward - Mitigation

"Resolve to design mitigation policies that avoid negative and maximise the positive impacts, improve wellbeing of all people and nature including safeguarding food security and ending hunger, by analysing and understanding the impacts and through inclusive processes that <u>engage stakeholders at all levels</u>."

p. 18 General guidance and way forward - Adaptation

"Call for a shift to transformative adaptation while avoiding maladaptation, including transboundary effects, in the short-, medium-, and long-term, with a view to <u>make progress at national, sub-national or regional levels</u> and to facilitate adaptation by the private sector."

"Urge Parties to enhance adaptation action and actions to avert, minimize and address loss and damage based on improved understanding, collective ambition, action and support at all levels, on a cooperative and facilitative basis, and cooperation by sub-national, national, regional and international actors, as well as NPS and private sector actors, including (sub) national governments, MDBs, private sector, NGOs, and academia. Recognize the need for those efforts to contribute to social justice and to be gender-responsive."

p. 24 General guidance and way forward for non-Party Stakeholders

"Invite and engage stakeholders from all levels of society (including private sector, local communities, non-state actors, youth, Indigenous Peoples as rightsholders) to further align their actions and initiatives with Paris Agreement long-term goals and implement GST1 recommendations and commitments in their work going forward."

p. 25 General guidance and way forward for finance flows and means of implementation

"Encourage Parties to continue supporting efforts to enhance capacities across all regions and sectors of the economy and <u>at all levels</u> to address the gaps in reaching the mitigation and adaptation long-term goals of the Paris Agreement"

p. 25 General guidance and way forward for adaptation, including loss and damage "Encourage further strengthening of the broader landscape of actions contributing to avert, minimize and address loss and damage ... as well as initiatives outside the UNFCCC including ... the United Nations Secretary-General's Early Warnings for All, connecting local, national and international actions and actors."

p. 26 General guidance and way forward for finance flows and means of implementation and support

"Encourage Parties to develop materials and tools that are tailored to local cultures and contexts and encourage active participation in order to empower local communities to take ownership of climate actions."

Urban Environment

p. 18 Updating and enhancing, in a nationally determined manner, systems-wide enhanced action

"Implement adaptation priorities contained in national adaptation plans, strategies and other relevant national planning documents; in particular in areas such as health, water, food and ecosystems, inter alia through nature-based solutions including ecosystem-based adaptation, and <u>including action in urban areas</u>"

II.3 Japan

Strong urban content

Mentions the need for economic transformation "by all actors at all levels." Recognizes the importance of local decarbonization and encourages Parties to promote urban carbon neutrality by facilitating and participating in knowledge sharing with and between cities. Calls for a focus on a decarbonization in cities, given cities' collective contribution to global GHG emissions and the environmental health and economic co-benefits.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 3 B-1 The best available science

"Adaptation options that are feasible and effective today will become constrained and less effective with increasing global warming. Scientific findings indicate that actors at all levels should collectively work to transform our economies throughout all sectors in this critical decade."

p. 7 C.2-3. Recommendations on Adaptation

"5. Parties should strengthen the engagement and support of all levels of government and relevant stakeholders to ensure the successful implementation of adaptation initiatives."

p. 11 D1. Collective progress

"Various international cooperation initiatives are underway in the areas of mitigation, adaptation and transparency across the world... <u>Local decarbonization is crucial in advancing the transition to decarbonization</u>. In this context, efforts are being made to contribute to decarbonization on a global promoting city-to-city cooperation as well as other bilateral and multilateral coordination."

p. 12 D3. Recommendations on international cooperation for climate action "Parties should foster international cooperation activities that generate new co-benefits by enhancing engagement involving diverse stakeholders across all levels.... Parties should promote endeavors towards achieving urban carbon neutrality through sharing knowledge and know-how on an individual city level, both bilaterally and multilaterally."

Urban environment

p. 11 D.2 Opportunities for and challenges in enhancing action and support for collective progress

"According to the IPCC AR6 WGIII, cities contribute to approximately 70% of greenhouse gas emissions on a consumption-base, excluding those from land use, forests and agriculture. Therefore, going forward, it is increasingly imperative to strive for decarbonization in cities. This effort is expected to yield multiple impacts: improving the urban environment by reducing air pollution and improving waste management while creating jobs and fostering local economies."

p. 12 D3. Recommendations on international cooperation for climate action "Parties should promote endeavors towards <u>achieving urban carbon neutrality</u> through sharing knowledge and know-how on an individual city level, both bilaterally and multilaterally."

II.4 United Kingdom of Great Britain

Strong urban content

Highlighted the "urgent need for multilevel and cooperative action," need for adaptation to be locally led, importance of local level capacity building and importance of funneling finance to local level.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 9 C.2 Adaptation, C.2.1 Account of collective progress

"Welcome of progress in recognising the importance of supporting local level adaptation actions for the most climate-vulnerable communities by channelling finance to the local level and enabling those communities to take control of the decision making on use of that finance." "Recognition of IPCC ARC findings on adaptation best practices including: ... the importance of inclusion and mainstreaming: climate resilient development is enabled ... when decision-making

processes, finance and actions are integrated across governance levels, sectors, and timeframes."

p. 11 C.2.2 Adaptation actions for further progress

"Recognition of plurality of adaptation actions and metrics and the need for adaptation to be locally led. Need to support countries and local actors to design transformational adaptation plans and policies." "Importance of mainstreaming adaptation into all systems and sectors to promote climate resilient development, which can enable progress towards the GGA, particularly when these efforts are included within national and local plans and planning processes."

p. 16 C.3.3.2 Capacity Building, Actions for further progress

"Call for... the need for context-specific programmes that recognise country or sector-specific needs with sufficient local ownership while keeping in alignment with national and international priorities to have the maximum impact... and the need to deliver technical assistance alongside capital to build capacity either at the national or subnational government levels."

p. 16 C.4 Efforts relating to loss and damage, account of collective progress

"Recognition of progress in averting, minimising, and addressing loss and damage at local, national and international levels." *p. 20 D.3 Enhancing international cooperation, Non-Party Stakeholders* "Recognition of the important role of indigenous peoples, local communities and civil society, including women, youth and children, in addressing and responding to climate change and <u>highlighting of the urgent need for multilevel and cooperative action."</u>

II.5 Norway

Strong urban content

Recognizes importance of local communities (though more concerning indigenous communities than municipal govt) and calls for locally-led adaptation efforts.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 1 Outputs in the Context and cross-cutting considerations

"When taking action to address climate change, parties must respect, promote and consider human rights, and recognize the important role of indigenous peoples, local communities, youth and children, as well as gender equality."

p. 6 Roadmap to close the gap

"Enhance the role of locally-led adaptation efforts, being informed by local contexts, priorities and priorities." "Have inclusive decision making with indigenous peoples, recognizing their inherent rights, and with local communities."

II.6 Switzerland (on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Group)

Strong urban content

Explicitly mentions multilevel action in regards to adaptation planning, recommends Parties support local government capacity building, and coordinate with local institutions in regards to climate financing.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 18 C.2 Collective progress towards adaptation

"Key recommendations: Mainstream adaptation action into all areas of policy planning, in particular into vulnerable sectors, and strengthen national legal and governance frameworks around adaptation, ensuring multilevel coordination. Use each iteration of the adaptation cycle as an opportunity to understand progress and strengthen efforts on the basis of experience"

p. 26 C.3 Making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate resilient development, including Means of Implementation and Support Account of collective progress: "...many developing country Parties continue to face significant capacity gaps and have urgent needs for enhancing capacity at the national, subnational and local levels to implement the Paris Agreement."

p. 30 C.4 Efforts relating to Loss and Damage 4.4 Strengthen coordination, complementarity and synergies between different funding arrangements...

"Key recommendations: Most importantly, coordination, coherence and collaboration must happen at the country and local levels according to diverse contexts (no one size fits all) and with national and local ownership. At those levels, the new loss and damage fund, other funding arrangements and the Santiago Network can support coordination mechanisms. Wherever possible, this should happen with existing national or local mechanisms, rather than reinventing wheels."

Urban Environment

p. 13 Building mitigation supported by Urban Sustainability Framework

p. 19 2.7 Strengthen resilience and adaptation to climate change in the agriculture sector

Urban agriculture listed as a recommendation to "strengthen resilience and adaptation to climate change in the agriculture sector"

p. 23 Concessional finance for developing country adaptation supported by World Bank's Global Practice for Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land

II.7 Australia

Weak urban content

Mentions local level in respect to capacity building, technological assistance and finance, but does not specify local *government* or multilevel coordination. References to local may allude more to indigenous communities.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 8 Adaptation - Progress to Date

"The Global Stocktake should affirm the importance of natural capital and naturebased solutions to support engagement of local communities and Indigenous peoples, in taking action on climate in their own terms."

p. 14 Means and Implementation - Progress to Date

"Australia also recognises that capacity-building must be a country-driven process, with country ownership necessary to ensure assessment of existing capacities and a needs-based approach to skill development. <u>Australia has a commitment to locally led solutions to capacity-building</u>, that build local skills and opportunities and build genuine, respectful partnerships."

p. 15 Means and Implementation - Progress to Date

"As noted in the third Technical Dialogue, international cooperation on technological development and transfer should be 'people-centred, human rights-based, and gender-responsive', with a focus on enhancing Parties' 'endogenous capacities, enabling environments, and national systems of innovation'. This requires working with local communities to develop approaches to technological assistance that will benefit local value chains and are tailored to a country's institutional environment and capacity constraints.

p. 21 Guidance and way forward - Finance

"The Global Stocktake should also commit to improving the quality of finance, including through the continued efforts to ensure support also pursues environmental, social, economic and development co-benefits and to ensure climate finance is gender responsive and regionally, locally and culturally informed and responsive."

II.8 New Zealand

Weak urban content

References inclusion of local communities in the context of indigenous peoples.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 12 Elements regarding mitigation

"Sub-elements that would contribute to progress on biodiversityand in the agricultural and land sectors include: ... Encourage increased cooperation and support for research, development, innovation, and implementation of low emissions agriculture approaches, including through existing avenues such as the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases, <u>locally-appropriate programmes</u>, and climate finance."

p. 16 Elements regarding adaptation "New Zealand would see elements in relation to the adaptation policy cycle to include: the role and localisation of information; risk assessment; national adaptation planning; and reporting on implementation. The GST recognises that meaningful inclusion of local communities and Indigenous Peoples has a positive impact on adaptation action. Means of inclusion include consultation, engagement, partnership, co-design, and co-delivery."

II.9 Turkiye

Moderate urban content

Recommends local mitigation projects state their alignment to national mitigation goals, and adaptation metrics be robust enough to understand local conditions. Recognizes local government's general role in the advancement of mitigation and adaptation.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 2 On the Mitigation Work Programme

"The outcomes of the work programme should be properly reflected to the country-specific conditions, including sub-sectoral and local levels to increase the expected mitigation impact globally... the contribution of any project to the overall national mitigation action should be clearly defined in advance." "Despite a number of initiatives and activities at the international, regional, national, sub-national and local levels, further efforts are needed to meet the temperature goal of the Paris Agreement."

p. 3 On Global Goal on Adaptation

"As indicated in Article 7.2 of the Paris Agreement, Parties recognize that adaptation is a global challenge faced by all with local, subnational, national, regional and international dimensions..." "Adaptation metrics must be robust enough to include understanding of local conditions, taking into account local vulnerabilities and hazard exposure."

II.10 Russian Federation

Weak urban content

Recommends that the GST reflect local dimension of national adaptation plans.

References to Multilevel and Multi-actor Governance

p. 2 Assessing collective progress

"We believe the GST should reflect the risks and vulnerabilities assessment as well as the progress in development and implementation of national adaptation plans, including sectoral, regional and local dimensions."

p. 4 Addressing gaps and ensuring comprehensive responses

"In terms of adaptation, overcoming of barriers should take into account both the global nature of adaptation and the local, regional and national contexts of adaptation."

III. Outcomes from Key Processes in 2023

a. G7 – Communique from Leaders Summit and Environment and Urbanization Ministerials

15 – 16 April: <u>G7 Ministers announce inaugural Roundtable on Subnational Climate Actions</u>

"On 15-16 April, the G7 Ministers' Meeting on Climate, Energy and Environment in Sapporo (Japan) concluded with the announcement of the first-ever G7 Roundtable on Subnational Climate Actions in collaboration with Urban7 (U7) – the voice of local governments at the G7 process...

Concretely, the Ministers established the G7 Roundtable on Subnational Climate Actions, as a forum "for G7 members to share national policies and programs promoting subnational climate actions both domestic and across borders." The Communiqué explicitly recognises the U7, noting that the G7 Ministers "look forward to facilitating a dialogue with the U7 at the Roundtable."

22 May: <u>G7 Leaders recognise the transformative power of cities as drivers of sustainable development</u>

"From 19-21 May, G7 Heads of State <u>met</u> in Hiroshima, Japan to discuss pressing global issues including Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine, economic resilience, and climate change. In their <u>final Communiqué</u>, the G7 Leaders emphasised "the transformative power of cities worldwide as drivers for every aspect of sustainable development" and committed to continuing their cooperation with cities on sustainable urban development "to support exchanges with our global partners, whose cities face some of the most significant challenges relating to climate change". The G7 Leaders also recognised "the vital role of sub-national governments in collaboration with other stakeholders and partners to advance climate and energy actions based on local needs and environmental conditions."

7-9 July: G7 Sustainable Urban Development Ministers Meeting includes Urban7

"The Urban7 lauds the G7 ministers for urban development for their decision to include the Urban7 in their meeting and in the preparations for the summit. The Urban7 was consulted in the drafting of the G7 Sustainable Urban Development Ministers' Communiqué, which lays out the priorities and commitments of the ministers. In particular, the group offered input on multi-level governance and the importance of greater partnership and cooperation between different levels of government.

In their Communiqué, the ministers explicitly acknowledged, "that cities play an important role, individually and as part of an effective network, in providing innovative, integrated and advanced solutions for these challenges that can enable a just and green transition on the journey to net zero patterns of production and consumption." Furthermore, the ministers recognised the Urban7 Mayors
Declaration, in which mayors laid out their expectations and priorities for the Japanese G7 Presidency. Finally, the ministers highlighted the importance of the engagement of the Urban7 in the process of planning the meeting."

5-6 October: G7 hosts inaugural Roundtable meeting on Subnational Climate Actions

"On 5–6 October 2023, representatives of the G7 governments met online for the G7 Roundtable meeting on Subnational Climate Actions... It was attended by representatives of national governments from G7 members as well as by delegates and representatives of subnational governments and/or other partners, including the Urban7 group.

Focusing on the vital role that national governments play in assisting and expanding subnational climate actions, the roundtable aimed to enhance mutual learning and policy improvement in the G7 countries. For that, participants were sharing information about policies and programs at the national level – including jointly implemented with the local and regional institutions and other partners – in promoting subnational climate actions in their respective countries (domestic policies and programs) and outside of G7 member countries (international cooperative programs). They also explored opportunities for international cooperative actions among G7 members including facilitating city-to-city collaboration."

b. G20

28 July: <u>G20 Environment and Climate Ministers' Meeting Outcome Document and Chair's Summary</u>

"19. We recognize the findings from the Synthesis Report of the IPCC AR6 regarding the potential of demand side measures in reducing global GHG emissions. We will promote international cooperation and sharing of experiences and best practices on empowering sustainable consumer choices and preferences. We recognize the critical role of education, training, public awareness, participation and access to information, in this regard. We also acknowledge, taking into account different government systems, the important role of cities, regions and local governments, in implementing climate actions and in making the transitions in the context of local needs and environmental conditions, including environmentally conscious lifestyle, promoting knowledge sharing and city-to-city collaboration."

12 July: G20 2023 Action Plan to Accelerate Progress on the SDGs

High Level Principles

"x. Committing to help developing countries better integrate into the global industrial, value and supply chains, and accelerate the industrialization and modernization process. Recognizing that transforming production capacities, promoting implementation of sustainable, inclusive and just transitions globally while leaving no one behind, and encouraging sustainable consumption and production, requires strong international and national enabling environments, the G20 stresses the need to urgently promote collective actions to support inclusive growth and sustainable development models that take into account priorities, needs, vulnerabilities and different national circumstances of developing countries. Such models, while taking into account different levels of national development and capacities of developing countries, would tackle inequalities and be driven by

innovation and sustainable industrialization, which enhances decent work, employment opportunities and income generation. It is vital to respect each country's policy space and leadership to implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments. The G20 also recognizes the role of local and regional governments, and other local actors, in a whole of society approach, to achieve the SDGs.

"xiii. Promoting demand-driven and country-owned development cooperation models that are scalable and tailored to local conditions in developing countries by strengthening institutional and local capacities of relevant stakeholders, promoting knowledge sharing, enhancing access to affordable financing, and facilitating transfer of technology on voluntary and mutually agreed terms and in line with WTO rules for accelerating achievement of the SDGs. We will continue to strengthen G20 efforts including through supporting the work of relevant G20 workstreams and 6 reiterate our commitment to step up our efforts to implement the Common Framework for Debt Treatment beyond the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) in a predictable, timely, orderly and coordinated manner"

Principle-2: Enhancing High-quality data and sustainable data infrastructure

"2.1. Enhance the availability of high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable, disaggregated, and intersectional data as applicable in respective national contexts to ensure that no one is left behind, as well as address biases due to lack of representational data on women, youth and persons in vulnerable situations in data sets and AI applications based on such data sets, by strengthening data-related capacities at the local, national, regional and international levels."

Principle-5: Increasing financing and technology assistance

"5.2. Extend technological assistance, where required, on voluntary and mutually agreed terms and in line with WTO rules to develop and strengthen D4D capabilities in developing countries in the areas of production, collection, processing, analysis and use of anonymised data and harnessing of data-driven insights across SDG-relevant sectors at the local, national, regional and global levels."

10. Policy coherence and coordination

"ii. Support collective actions, including on development finance, strengthening enabling environments through policy frameworks and policy coherence tools to address synergies and spillovers, capacity building (education, training, and skilling, knowledge sharing), digital innovation, information and communication technology (networks and platforms), effective approaches to SDG localisation which aim to jointly realise climate, environment and biodiversity goals and the SDGs in a more coherent and integrated manner."

III. Environmental and Climate Action

"Empower all women and girls in diverse situations and conditions, including those with disabilities, in local communities to be champions of and meaningfully participate, contribute, and lead the sustainable management and conservation of

biodiversity and other environment protection aspects as well as disaster risk reduction."

IV. Women's food security and nutrition

"i. Recognize the vital role of women in sustainable and resilient agriculture and food systems, particularly in developing countries, and promote policy interventions that encourage women's engagement in the development and use of appropriate, climate-resilient agricultural technologies and other innovative approaches, including climate-sensitive, agro-ecological and other innovative approaches, for promoting diversified food systems that make nutritious food and healthy diets more accessible and affordable, enhancing local and traditional crop varieties, including those adapted to local environmental conditions, and maximizing economic impact."

c. Africa Climate Summit Declaration (4-6 Sept)

"13.Further recognise that African cities and urban centres are growing rapidly, and by 2050 would be home to over 1.0 billion people. Cognisant of the fact that rapid urbanization, poverty, and inequality limit planning capacities and other urban dynamics which increase people's exposure and vulnerability to hazards and have thus turned cities into disaster hotspots across the continent;"

"41.Promote investments in urban infrastructure including through upgrading informal settlements and slum areas to build climate resilient cities and urban centres;"

d. <u>European Union Council Decision</u> (17 Oct)

"43. RECOGNIZES the leadership of local and regional governments in accelerating and broadening climate action while effectively engaging citizens in the transformative process to sustainable lifestyles and patterns of consumption and production and STRESSES the need for increased involvement of local and regional governments in the process of implementing NDCs, national adaptation plans (NAPs) and LTS."

e. UN Climate Action Summit Chair's Summary (20 Sept)

"8. It was concluded that holding temperature rise to 1.5°C will require building a policy and regulatory architecture capable of scrutinizing the ambition, integrity, and credibility of transition plans and planning, while recognizing that different jurisdictions have different needs. More needs to be done by governments, financial authorities and regulators to secure the scientific credibility of transition plans. 1.5°Caligned transition plans by non-state actors, particularly those of subnational authorities, must converge by 2025 with nationally determined contributions (NDCs), and ensure they contribute to increase the ambition of national goals. The need for governments to provide safe harbor to first movers and doers and ensure they are reassured of not beaching rules as they strive for higher ambition was also highlighted during the report back to the Secretary-General."

f. BRICS Urbanization Forum (26-27 July)

"The BRICS Urbanisation Forum held at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre, Durban, South Africa was officially closed by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), Ms Thembi Nkadimeng.

The Forum which brought together BRICS member countries, experts and practitioners has over the past two days, engaged in insightful discussions, shared innovative ideas, and forged strong partnerships with a common goal of advancing, strengthening, and building urban resilience within the BRICS as advocated for by the Forum's theme "Advancing urban resilience for sustainable cities and towns for future generations".

Speaking at the closing ceremony, Minister Nkadimeng appreciated the participation of the BRICS nations in recognising that urbanisation is a dynamic force that requires not only innovation but also inclusivity in building resilient communities."

g. <u>Draft Loss and Damage Fund</u> (3-2 Nov)

"20. Decide that, as further set out in paragraphs 22–25 below, the continued operationalization of the Fund during the interim period will be conditional upon the World Bank hosting the FIF in a manner which: ... (e) Allows all developing countries to directly access resources from the Fund, including through subnational, national and regional entities and through small grants funding for communities, consistent with policies and procedures to be established by the Board of the Fund and applicable safeguards and fiduciary standards;"

"44. The Fund will promote, in all its operations, direct engagement with the national and, where appropriate, with subnational and local levels to facilitate efficiency and concrete results."

"48. The Board will develop various modalities to facilitate access to the Fund's resources. These may include: ... (b) Direct access via subnational, national, and regional entities or in partnership with entities accredited to other funds, such as the GCF, GEF and the Adaptation Fund;"

h. <u>UN Habitat Assembly Resolution</u> (9 June)

"Recognizing the important role of local authorities in tackling climate risks, confronting the ramifications of climate challenges, and pursuing sustainable development policies, practices and investments,"

"Underlining the importance of multilevel and cooperative action as an essential element of implementing the objective and achieving the goals of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, and of the efforts of subnational authorities to implement local-level policies for adapting to climate change and mitigating its effects and to build urban and rural resilience,"

"Acknowledging that local authorities should take immediate action to address climate change challenges by adopting climate and urban sustainability actions

that implement specific goals and strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to climate change and support climate resilience, based on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement,"

"Taking note of the launch of the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) initiative of the presidency of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in collaboration with UN-Habitat and with facilitation by Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), with the vision to build on effective multilevel governance to transform cities to be healthy, sustainable, just, inclusive and resilient"

- "2. Encourages the Executive Director to engage with Member States and relevant stakeholders, including international and national associations of local authorities recognized by the United Nations, to continue the practice of organizing meetings, including ministerial meetings as appropriate, following the organization of the Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Change held in the margins of the twenty-seventh Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;"
- "8. Encourages Member States to expand cooperation between different levels of government (multilevel climate action) in order to enhance inclusion of local-level contributions in new and updated nationally determined contributions and support the implementation of nationally determined contributions at the local level."

i. Amazon Summit Declaration (8 Aug)

"14. Criar, no âmbito da OTCA, o Foro de Cidades Amazônicas para o fortalecimento da cooperação entre autoridades locais dos Estados Partes, em especial de cidades em áreas fronteiriças, para a implementação, em nível local, da Agenda 2030 para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável e seus Objetivos de Desenvolvimento Sustentável, para o fortalecimento de lideranças femininas, indígenas, locais e tradicionais e para a promoção da interculturalidade, no qual poderão ser identificadas propostas de ação para os principais desafios urbanos da Amazônia, tais como o acesso das populações amazônicas aos serviços públicos, o desenvolvimento e a implementação de políticas públicas;"

English translation: "14. Create, within the scope of OTCA, the Amazon Cities Forum ("Foro de Cidades Amazônicas") to strengthen cooperation between local authorities of the State Parties, especially cities in border areas, for the implementation, at local level, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Objectives of Sustainable Development, to strengthen female, indigenous, local and traditional leaders and to promote interculturality, in which action proposals can be identified for the main urban challenges in the Amazon, such as access for Amazonian populations to public services, the development and implementation of public policies;"

j. Belém Declaration of Amazon Cities Forum (3-4 Aug)

"Constatando, nesse contexto, a importância de se avançar em parcerias estratégicas com governos nacionais e subnacionais, entidades municipalistas, representantes do terceiro setor e com organismos internacionais e bancos multilaterais, por meio de programas como o Amazônia Sempre;

English Translation: "Noting, in this context, the importance of making progress in strategic partnerships with national and sub-national governments, municipal entities, representatives of the third sector and with international organizations and multilateral banks, through programs such as Amazônia Sempre;

k. <u>Joint Statement of three COP Presidencies</u> (UNCCD COP15, CBD COP15, UNFCCC COP27) (31 October, 2023)

"Achieving the goals of the three Rio Conventions will require enhanced cooperation, coordination and action at all three levels: globally, regionally, nationally and sub-nationally, with the full participation of all stakeholders."

"The Rio Convention, along with the Sustainable Development Goals, through their principles and provisions. Provide a broad and actionable blueprint for building a better future. Countries, corporations and communicates can draw on each Convention's ambitions, clear targets and principles, and agreed pathways, as appropriate, for action at all levels to prevent, halt and reverse land degradation and the loss biodiversity, and mitigate and adapt to climate change."













14 November 2023

Dear Assistant UN Secretary General Selwin Hart,

Dear COP28 President Designate Dr Sultan bin Ahmed Al Jaber,

Dear UNFCCC Executive Secretary Simon Stiell,

Dear UN-Habitat Executive Director Maimunah Mohd Sharif,

Dear World Bank President Ajay Banga,

Dear COP28 High Level Champion Your Excellency Razan Al Mubarak,

Dear COP27 High Level Champion Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin,

Climate change is a global problem with local solutions. This year alone, our cities, towns, states, regions, and devolved nations have seen deadly flooding, record-breaking heatwaves, and wildfires – all while air quality continues to deteriorate and water scarcity threatens the lives and livelihoods of millions.

Correcting course on climate change will require nothing less than full-scale coordination between local, state, and global leaders as highlighted in the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Constituency (LGMA) joint COP28 position.

However, it is clear that the targets of the Paris Agreement are quickly slipping out of reach. Despite everything that countries and their subnational governments have achieved since 2015, we are now at risk of crossing the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C threshold for global warming even sooner than expected.

This is why, on behalf of local climate leaders worldwide, we offer our thanks to you for convening the first-ever Global Delegation of Local Leaders at the COP28 World Climate Action Summit and for hosting the COP28 Local Climate Action Summit in partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies, alongside your widespread support in championing multilevel climate partnership.

Our call to harness the power of local governments

If global decision-makers can join forces with local climate leaders—consulting them on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and providing much-needed resources for frontline climate action—then together, we can lower emissions and keep the aims and the spirit of the Paris Agreement alive. According to UN-Habitat, as of 2022 only 24% of existing NDCs in national climate pledges under the 2015 Paris Agreement include strong urban content.













We, therefore, call on those national leaders attending COP28 to commit to working with local climate leaders when they update their climate mitigation and adaptation targets along with implementation plans, which are due before the end of 2025.

Local governments are not only first responders to the climate crisis—we also provide one of the best vehicles for effective climate solutions. The subnational networks we represent include more than 13,000 local governments, representing over half of the world's GDP and 70% of energy-related greenhouse gases. With this impact, local governments can take action to transform local transport systems, decarbonize buildings, increase renewable energy supply, and put in place local just transition mechanisms that significantly reduce the use of fossil fuels and, therefore, emissions. We are close enough to the needs of residents to translate even the boldest climate goals into practical projects that will have real impacts on people's livelihoods, quality of life, and health.

Our call to invest in local climate solutions

Funding local climate action is one of the most cost-effective investments any country can make. And yet, only 10-15% of global climate finance reaches local governments.

This critical funding opportunity must be pursued without delay. We call upon the leadership of COP28 to strongly encourage the national leaders attending COP28 to embrace climate actions from subnational leaders in the development and enhancement of Nationally Determined Contributions. Furthermore, we urge the COP28 leadership to prompt governments represented at COP28 to start pledging their commitment to multilevel partnerships by including subnational climate solutions in their NDC investment plans.

With high-level commitments in place, national leaders can work with local climate leaders to ensure more accessible access to enhanced sustainable financing, particularly for those in the Global South who are taking climate action. Likewise, the international community must commit to making reforms at the World Bank and other international financial institutions to channel new climate financing into cities, states, and regions throughout the developing world.

Multilateral Development Banks should develop dedicated subnational climate investment strategies, coordinate with national governments to create better enabling environments for subnational climate













finance, and improve access to funding by adapting existing financing mechanisms to the reality on the ground for cities and regions.

As an added incentive to act, national leaders now have a range of attractive options for climate-smart investments, including breakthrough low-emissions technologies and resilient, sustainable infrastructure projects. These innovations are protecting communities and helping millions of people prepare for, recover from, and adapt to all climate disasters.

Many of these investments also promise valuable financial returns while creating well-paid jobs and driving valuable growth in underserved communities. In cities alone, 90% of emissions could be reduced while generating US\$23.9 trillion net value (greater than the U.S. economy) by 2050 and 50 million good green jobs by 2030 in C40 cities. With subnational governments in the OECD representing 55% of its public environmental spending and 64% of its public environmental investment, there are huge opportunities here as well.

A cause for hope

If this sounds like cause for hope, it is – but it's also a call to action. The time to act is now. In small towns, intermediary cities, megacities, and states and regions alike, we are working hard to make our communities safe, sustainable, and equitable for the more than 1 billion people we represent.

But subnational governments can't deliver alone. We need partners in our national governments, development finance institutions, and global organizations to support and elevate our ambition. We want to work together on solutions that work for all people.

Thank you in advance for helping us begin to realize the full potential of that partnership when many of us meet in Dubai later this month.

Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr, OBE, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Co-Chair of C40 Cities

Mayor Abigail Binay, Makati, Philippines

COP28 Advisory Committee and Board Member of Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy













Mayor Carolina Cosse, Montevideo, Uruguay

Executive President of United Cities and Local Governments

Mayor Frank Cownie, Des Moines, United States

President of ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

Mayor Yawo Winny Dogbatse, Kloto I, Togo

Board Member of Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy

Mayor Katja Dörner, Bonn, Germany

Host City of UNFCCC Secretariat and ICLEI Global Executive Committee Climate Action and Low Emission Development Portfolio Co-Chair

Premier Nomusa Dube-Ncube, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Africa Co-Chair of the Under2 Coalition

Mayor Anne Hidalgo, Paris, France

Global Ambassador of Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy

Mayor Sadiq Khan, London, United Kingdom

Co-Chair of C40 Cities

Governor Yuriko Koike, Tokyo, Japan

Vice Chair of C40 Cities

Mayor Rafał Trzaskowski, Warsaw, Poland

President of the European Committee of the Regions' Commission for the Environment, Climate Change and Energy (ENVE) and Board Member of Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy

First Minister Humza Yousaf, Scotland, United Kingdom

European Co-Chair of the Under2 Coalition













POSITION OF LGMA¹ CONSTITUENCY TOWARDS UNFCCC COP28

#MULTILEVELACTIONDELIVERS IN ACTION

With coherence and robust cooperation between all levels of government, we can accelerate climate action to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C and enhance our adaptive capabilities in line with the Paris Agreement, as subnational governments play a pivotal role in translating global climate goals into practical, localized actions and efficient public service delivery.

Endorsers of this position perceive that *subnational governments* refer to all levels of governments other than national governments including towns, cities, counties, territories, provinces, regions, states and others.

We recognize that humanity is at a critical turning point, with the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report indicating that we are likely to overshoot 1.5°C of warming as early as 2027.

STATE OF PLAY

Climate disasters such as floods, heatwaves and droughts are already affecting our communities and territories, as well as our capacity to allocate resources to essential services and local solutions. The consequences extend beyond our domestic economies - leading to financial and human resource losses. They also damage our nature and biodiversity, food systems, indigenous ways of living, culture, and memory. These impacts are also far from equally distributed, disproportionately affecting the poor, traditionally marginalised and vulnerable groups, including women, children, migrants, and indigenous people.

Despite significant collective progress through the formulation and updating of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and related strategies, the transition from planning to implementation remains slow, uneven and incremental. Without urgent action at all levels of government, this situation will only worsen.



¹ The Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency represents the voice of subnational governments in the UNFCCC process on behalf of the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments, with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability - as the Focal Point. Building on the initial draft led by the above LGMA partners, a final list of endorsers of this statement will be announced at the LGMA COP28 press conference on 30 November 2023.













RECOGNIZING THE ROLE OF SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENTS

The outcomes of the Global Stocktake (GST)² will be pivotal in illustrating the state of our planet, and will demonstrate how we can chart a better future. As Parties take stock of climate action, inaction and the gaps that create this division, we urge them to recognize and engage with their decentralised governments, where most policy implementation takes place.

We, subnational governments, are crucial and indispensable actors of a just and resilient transition to net-zero. We drive climate action at the local level through our own policies, regulations, and investment in infrastructure, which in turn incentivizes further private sector investment and innovation by sending strong market signals. We are also the first ones to prepare for and respond to losses and damages associated with climate change and have developed robust regional and local adaptation plans.

Provided with the appropriate mandates, human capacity, and financial resources, we can strengthen and accelerate our response, in order to deliver climate justice and results beyond climate change mitigation and adaptation, including better disaster recovery, poverty alleviation, public health, services to citizens, enhanced biodiversity and restored ecosystems.

MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE

To achieve this, new multilevel governance infrastructures are needed to address these responses in an equitable manner and advance economic prosperity, which is critical to the wellbeing of people everywhere.

We, subnational governments, can support national governments in raising their climate targets to ensure a global halving of emissions by 2030, keep temperatures rises to 1.5C by 2050 and translate those national targets into effective policies and action on the ground.

However, this demands harmonized action between all Parties and subnational governments, with the Parties playing an enabling role for subnational action. We share the responsibility of addressing the climate crisis through multi-level cooperation between our levels of government to achieve the phase-out of fossil fuels as quick as possible and to accelerate the uptake of renewables and establish low-carbon development pathways, as well as foster climate-resilient development in our territories and communities to ensure a just transition.

To ensure such successful collaboration, Parties should look at putting in place structures within their territories that enable regular dialogue and action planning with subnational governments, as part of the COP planning and reporting process.

² The Global Stocktake (GST) is a process for taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement with the aim of assessing the world's collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the agreement and its long-term goals. Each stocktake is a two-year process that happens every five years. The first stocktake will be held at COP28 in Dubai, supported by Technical Dialogues in 2022-2023. Building on the experience of the 2018 Talanoa Dialogues, the LGMA Constituency succeeded in convincing UNFCCC negotiators that the global stocktake should receive inputs at the local, national and international levels, where the LGMA-led processes are branded as Stocktake4ClimateEmergency.













CALL TO ACTION

In line with the Glasgow Climate Pact and the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan's call for urgent multilevel and cooperative action, and building on our joint advocacy under the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency, on behalf of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, we call on the Parties to the Paris Agreement, current and future Presidencies of UNFCCC COPs, the UNFCCC Secretariat and other UNFCCC Observer Constituencies to:

1. RECOGNISE SUBNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Give enhanced recognition to the leadership, commitments, plans and progress of subnational governments in accelerating and implementing climate change mitigation and adaptation. Acknowledge them as key enablers of a just transition, effectively engaging citizens and vulnerable groups to enhance their wellbeing and progress to sustainable lifestyles and patterns of consumption and production.

2. APPLY VERTICAL INTEGRATION

Acknowledge the urgent need to collaborate across all levels of government, with Parties ensuring the full and meaningful participation of the subnational level in contributing, updating, implementing and reporting on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and long-term low GHG emission development strategies.

3. ADAPT

Recognize the role of subnational governments in leading locally and regionally led adaptation actions and plans, and allow for their meaningful inclusion within the Global Goal on Adaptation Framework.

4. FINANCE CLIMATE ACTION

Acknowledge the role and efforts of subnational governments in financing local mitigation, adaptation, resilience building and the recovery and restoration of livelihoods, infrastructure and nature, despite limited budgets and independent sources of revenue.

Create solid climate financial mechanisms and dedicated initiatives to enable them to <u>directly and rapidly</u> access climate finance opportunities (including private finance) and technical assistance, including recognition of integrated, sustainable urban and territorial development as one of the non-market mechanisms under the Paris Agreement. The establishment of such integrated climate programme financing will ensure that investments align with local needs and priorities, support science-based climate action, help close the green jobs skills gap, foster a just transition and target support to the most vulnerable.















5. ADDRESS LOSS AND DAMAGE

Recognize the leadership, commitment and expertise of subnational governments in countries and communities most affected by loss and damage resulting from climate impacts, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Include LDCs and SIDS in the design and governance of the new Loss and Damage Fund to ensure that funds are accessible at local level and that they reach the most vulnerable communities.

Incorporate local and indigenous knowledge regarding climate-friendly cultural norms, beliefs and daily household practices, and financial support mechanisms, to recover, rebuild and advance to resilient livelihoods, infrastructure and nature.

6. COLLABORATE

Leverage partnerships and collaboration with the LGMA Constituency, as the crucial platform bringing together subnational voices globally and promoting vertical alignment between national and local resilience governance. Incorporate the outcomes of local and regional stocktakes convened worldwide into the Global Stocktakes (GST).

7. FORMALISE SUBNATIONAL VOICES IN THE UNFCCC COP AGENDA

Support subnational governments' engagement at the first-ever COP28 Local Climate Action Summit as part of COP28 World Climate Action Summit, announced by the Incoming UAE COP28 Presidency and Bloomberg Philanthropies, scheduled for December 2.

Support institutionalization of the Ministerial Meeting on Urbanisation and Climate Change as a regular mandated event at UNFCCC COPs, building on its success at COP27 and the resolution of the 2nd UN-Habitat Assembly, and welcome the 2nd edition scheduled for December 6,

Support COP27 Presidency's Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) initiative and recognize the transformative power of integrated, sustainable urban and territorial development and the role that subnational governments play in the delivery of the Marrakech Partnership, the Race to Zero and Race to Resilience campaigns, 2030 Breakthroughs, Breakthrough Agendas, the Sharm el-Sheikh Adaptation agenda, and Thematic and Solutions Pathways.

8. ADDRESS THE LINKS BETWEEN CLIMATE CHANGE AND NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY LOSS

Better link nature and climate, as natural ecosystems play a significant role in regulating the climate and act as natural buffers against extreme weather events.

Facilitate the adoption of nature-based solutions as key solutions supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation, while producing significant co-benefits in terms of health, food and quality of life. Acknowledge and support subnational governments' role in protecting biodiversity, including through environmental monitoring, spatial planning, planning of urban and natural spaces, transport and water management.















9. IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Recognise that the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and decentralised cooperation actions are crucial to achieving positive impacts on the ground.

Acknowledge that the Agenda2030 can only be reached if the subnational level are allowed to play an essential role in transforming the SDGs international ambitions into practical realities.

10. MULTILEVEL STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

Invite all stakeholders to collaborate with subnational governments to support the delivery of climate emergency plans and commitments. This is crucial in order to reach the goals of the Paris Agreement, drawing on subnational technical and institutional expertise.

Pursuant to their budgets, legislative and executive actions, and leadership mechanisms, subnational governments are publicly accountable institutions. Through the acknowledgement of their role in the Paris Agreement and Glasgow Climate Pact, they also play a key role in driving and engaging their communities into global action. From business to parliamentarians, from civil society to academics, from trade unions and farmers to indigenous communities, from faith groups to generational and gender equality advocates, we invite all stakeholders to consider their subnational governments as their ally in responding to climate emergencies.

[Logos of networks and subnational governments endorsing]















LGMA SUGGESTIONS FOR COP28 AND GST³ OUTCOMES

PREAMBLE

Recognizes the leadership of subnational governments in accelerating and scaling up climate mitigation and adaptation action while effectively engaging citizens in the transformative process to sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production, and *recalls* the urgent need for continued acceleration and collaboration with all levels of governance;

MITIGATION

Recognizes the role of subnational governments in accelerating the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions while ensuring social and environmental safeguards, biodiversity compatible offsets, and encourages Parties to step up their full and meaningful participation in the process of updating, raising ambition of and implementing nationally determined contributions and long-term strategies;

RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION

Acknowledges the role of subnational governments, within the new Global Goal on Adaptation framework, in diagnosing, assessing and developing local and regional adaptation plans and actions in their territories and allowing for financial and technical support to be provided for the implementation of locally-led and contextually-relevant adaptation strategies;

Recognises the need to integrate Urban Resilience Assessments and Action Plans into local governments' planning strategies so these do not contribute to maladaptation, while helping to advance climate adaptation monitoring, evaluation and investments towards robust, inclusive, equitable, and participatory adaptation;

MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION: FINANCE, CAPACITY BUILDING, INNOVATION AND AWARENESS

Invites Parties to reform and set up financial mechanisms for adaptation and mitigation and urban finance programmes to enhance the availability and access of climate finance opportunities for subnational governments, where appropriate, including through financial institutions, and national fiscal and regulatory reforms, in order to ensure that investments are geared to territories and local conditions;

Encourages Parties to build the capacity of subnational governments to access climate funds and financing options, supporting an integrated approach to climate action, by facilitating their use, enhancing and broadening advisory services on available financing options, and providing targeted

³ The Global Stocktake (GST) is a process for taking stock of the implementation of the Paris Agreement with the aim of assessing the world's collective progress towards achieving the purpose of the agreement and its long-term goals. Each stocktake is a two-year process that happens every five years. The first stocktake will be held at COP28 in Dubai, supported by Technical Dialogues in 2022-2023. Building on the experience of the 2018 Talanoa Dialogues, the LGMA Constituency succeeded in convincing UNFCCC negotiators that the global stocktake should receive inputs at the local, national and international levels, where the LGMA-led processes are branded as Stocktake4ClimateEmergency.













training on the use of financial instruments and expertise in building solutions; and *acknowledges* the crucial role of innovation, education, training, public awareness, public access to information and public participation to drive climate action at all levels into emergency mode;

LOSS AND DAMAGE

Recognizes the role of subnational governments around the world, and in particular in vulnerable countries that are most impacted by losses and damages resulting from climate impacts, particularly Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), takes account of their experience and needs in accessing financial support mechanisms to recover and rebuild to advance towards resilient livelihoods, infrastructure and nature, and ensures their inclusion in the governance and decision-making of the new Loss and Damage Fund;

LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT BY NON-PARTY STAKEHOLDERS

Welcomes the leadership of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and high-level champions, as well as commitments by non-Party stakeholders in the Race to Resilience and Race to Zero campaigns, Breakthrough and Adaptation Agendas to support national targets;

ROBUST COOPERATION AND STRUCTURE DIALOGUE BETWEEN ALL LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT

Invites Parties to recognize the important role of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities in the implementation of the objectives of the UNFCCC, as well as monitoring and reporting, mainstreaming, resource mobilization, capacity-building and communication, education and public awareness, social participation and public access to information by adopting a Plan of Action on Cities and Other Subnational Governments for Climate Mitigation and Adaptation and a structure for dialogue as a framework to support the Parties in accordance with national legislation, and facilitate its implementation, according to national legislation.





Subnationals; Towns, Cities and Regions





CITIES & REGIONS



Joint response of Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency on elements for the consideration of outputs component of the first global stocktake¹

Annex-I: Taking stock of multilevel action and urbanization in climate emergency response

Annex-II: Overview of Cities, State, Regional and local governments' contribution towards adaptation and Global Stocktake

Annex-III List of all LGMA contributions at the First Global Stocktake Technical Dialogues in 2022 - 2023

The LGMA Constituency, representing subnational governments² around the world welcomes the Global Stocktake (GST) process and synthesis report published on September 8th, 2023 and expresses concerns about its damning results. Through this joint response, the LGMA seeks to highlight gaps within the current report and identify opportunities ahead of the GST political phase for "course correction" to drive greater collaboration with Parties of the UNFCCC and climate action as a result of the Stocktake.

The September 8th synthesis report, and the process that has delivered it, goes a long way towards including subnational governments as key partners, and the LGMA notes:

- The report's key finding #2 that subnational governments through their pledges and actions, as a non-Party stakeholder of the Paris Agreement strengthen and catalyse the action of Parties;
- The report's key finding #3 that achieving both mitigation and adaptation objectives will require
 "broad and rapid changes in existing practices" and that "a focus on inclusion and equity can
 increase ambition in climate action and support";
- The report's key finding #5 that "much more ambition in action and support is needed in implementing domestic mitigation measures". We consider this a key finding. The lack of any reference to "multilevel action" throughout the report is also considered as a missed opportunity, considering the fact that the urgent need for multilevel action is recognized in the Glasgow Climate Pact, as well as numerous good practices on multilevel collaboration as a powerful tool in raising the ambition of the NDCs since 2015.
- A clear correlation between the incorporation of subnational governments in the NDC process and the overall level of ambition of the resulting NDC.

The LGMA calls on Parties (1) in the output component of the first Global Stocktake to recognise the positive impact that integrating contributions from subnational governments in NDC development and monitoring process has on their mitigation and adaptation ambition, (2) to recognise the contribution that multi-level governance can make to closing the gap exposed by the Global Stocktake and (3) to commit to including subnational governments in the planning, financing, implementation and monitoring of climate strategies including the next round of NDCs due by COP30 in 2025.

The LGMA Constituency remains committed and is ready to work collaboratively with Parties, across levels of government and across society, in the spirit of multi-level partnerships an inclusivity to accelerate climate action to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C and enhance our adaptive capabilities in line with the Paris Agreement.

¹ This submission is based on the initial draft compiled by LGMA members and partners who have been supporting the partnership announced by COP28 Presidency and Bloomberg Philanthropies announced on 9 March 2023.

² (all levels of governments other than national governments including towns, cities, counties, territories, regions, provinces, regions, states and others)



Subnationals; Towns, Cities and Regions





CITIES & REGIONS

Towards 2023 UNFCCC COP28, Dubai, Nov-Dec June 2023

The LGMA submits further input for consideration in the political phase of the Global Stocktake:

The reality of changing climate is impacting subnational governments now

- 1. Climate disasters such as floods³, heatwaves⁴, wildfires⁵ and droughts⁶ are already affecting our communities and territories, as well as our capacity to allocate resources for essential services and local solutions. The consequences extend beyond our domestic economies leading to financial and human resources losses but also damages our nature, biodiversity, food systems, indigenous ways of living, culture, and memory. These impacts are also far from equally distributed, disproportionately affecting the poor, traditionally marginalized and vulnerable groups, including women, children, migrants, and indigenous people.
- 2. Summary for Urban Policy Makers of IPCC AR6 indicates that these impacts will further worsen in the future and looking out to 2050, without immediate and deep reductions in emissions, global warming would exceed 2.0°C, exposing even more cities and the people, infrastructure and ecosystems therein⁷. Further, the Summary for Urban Policy Makers highlights the urban adaptation gap and why addressing inequality and climate adaptation must go hand in hand. The most severe gaps in urban adaptation are for the lowest fifth of the population in cities and for smaller and lower income cities that still lack adaptation planning capacity.

Leadership of subnational governments benefits their national governments and regions

- 3. Working together can create synergies and can amount to a more effective and greater impact. Full implementation of GHG emissions reduction targets by individual cities, regions and companies could lead to 2.0 to 2.5 GtCO2e/year of additional emissions reductions compared to the baseline pre-COVID "current national policies scenario" in 2030.
- 4. In addition, research demonstrates that international climate initiative's' aspirational goals, if fully implemented, could lead to a reduction of 16 GtCO2e/year below current national policies scenario emissions projections for 2030, leading to total emission levels close to the range for a 2°C emissions pathway⁸.
- 5. Further examples of subnational action can include cities' potential to contribute to 60% of the US target to halve emissions by 2030, and could contribute to 40% of Italy's share of the European Union's target to cut emissions by 55% by 2030.
- 6. In South Africa, climate action in urban centers could reduce annual national GHG emissions by 27% in 2030, which will surpass South Africa's 2030 NDC target, helping to raise the country's ambition in line with the Paris Agreement.

³Emilia-Romagna; KwaZulu-Natal

⁴ Uttar Pradesh

⁵ Hawaii

⁶City of Punta Arenas

The Summary for Urban Policymakers (SUP)

GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION FROM CITIES, REGIONS AND BUSINESSES - 2021

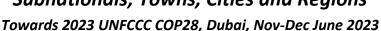


Subnationals; Towns, Cities and Regions





CITIES & REGIONS



- 7. At state and regional level, state and regional coalitions have a potential of emissions reductions 3.3-3.9GtCO2e/year in 2030 more than the current annual emissions of the EU⁹.
- 8. States, regional governments and cities have also played a key role in localizing adaptation strategies by developing regional, local, or city wide adaptation plans and actions. However, much more needs to be done and faster, to close the urban adaptation gap. At 1.5°C warming, without adaptation, an additional 350 million people living in cities and urban areas will experience the effects of severe drought, including water scarcity, and that number grows to around 410 million at 2°C warming¹⁰.
- 9. We, subnational governments benefit from knowledge exchange, collaboration and greater monitoring of our actions which benefits the delivery of goals at national level by participating in net zero and adaptation of international climate initiatives and commitments such as Race to Zero; Regions and Cities Race to Resilience, NDC Partnership, and different networks¹¹.

Global Stocktake is an opportunity to reflect on the state of the planet and mechanisms that deliver action

- 10. With the next round of NDCs expected to be submitted by national governments in 2025 and with only 7 COPs left in this decisive decade of climate action, it is critical that the next round of NDCs get us on track for 50% reduction of global emissions by 2030 to not exceed 1.5°C.
- 11. The synthesis report of the Global Stocktake (GST) illustrates the state of our planet and demonstrates that together we have a long way to go to be on track to meet the Paris Agreement.
- 12.As Parties take further stock of climate action, inaction and the gaps, they should recognize where most policy implementation takes place and recognize and engage with their decentralized governments.
- 13.We, subnational governments are well positioned to help national governments increase global climate action in order to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- 14. We, subnational governments, are crucial and indispensable actors of a just and resilient transition to net-zero. We drive climate action at the local level through our own policies, regulations, and investment in infrastructure - which in turn incentivises further private sector investment and innovation by sending strong and long term market signals. We are also the first ones to prepare for and respond to losses and damages associated with climate change and have developed robust regional or local adaptation plans.
- 15. Provided the appropriate mandates, human capacity, and financial resources, we can strengthen and accelerate our response, to deliver climate justice and results beyond climate change mitigation and adaptation, including better disaster recovery, poverty alleviation, public health, services to citizens, enhanced biodiversity and restored ecosystems.
- 16. Countries of the global South, primarily South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa are experiencing rapid urbanization. Parties need to support cities/subnational governments with capacity, resources, and

Global Climate Action from Cities, Regions and Businesses Report, 2021

The Summary for Urban Policymakers (SUP)

¹¹ FURTHER AND FASTER TOGETHER: THE 2021 GLOBAL COVENANT OF MAYORS IMPACT REPORT - TAKING STOCK OF PROGRESS - SEPTEMBER 2022 - First joint progress report across UN-backed global climate campaigns: Race to Resilience and Race to Zero



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Towards 2023 UNFCCC COP28, Dubai, Nov-Dec June 2023

national policy to build resilience to climate impacts and align financial support with the scale and scope needed to tackle the climate crisis both to prevent it as well as adapt in the face of climate risks and biodiversity loss.

Multi-Level Governance can provide significant contribution to closing the gap exposed by Global Stocktake

- 17.Despite significant collective progress through the formulation and updating of National Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and related strategies, the transition from planning to implementation remains slow, uneven and incremental.
- 18.Integrating subnationals in the formal NDC and NAPs process can both support delivery of NDCs and NAPs at a country level and create enabling policy and regulatory frameworks that bolster and accelerate climate action. Recent case studies indicate that this action already happens in countries such as Kenya, Mali, Malawi, and Australia¹².
- 19. Therefore, there is an urgent need to collaborate across all levels of government, with Parties ensuring the full and meaningful participation of the local, regional, and subnational level in contributing, updating, implementing, and reporting on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and long-term low GHG emission development strategies.
- 20. Building on the experience of the 2018 Talanoa Dialogues, the LGMA Constituency succeeded in convincing UNFCCC negotiators in June 2022¹³ that the global stocktake should receive inputs at the local, national and international levels, where the LGMA-led processes is branded as Stocktake4ClimateEmergency¹⁴. Under the banner of #Stocktake4ClimateEmergency, cities, towns and regions are invited to host events that provide an official contribution to the First Global Stocktake. It is advised that these sessions would focus on progress with subnational commitments for 2030/2050, complementarity with the NDCs and addressing climate justice domestically and globally. Integrating high-quality subnational data in climate decision processes is critical for first and subsequent Global Stocktake, therefore this practice should be endorsed and cultivated in long term by all Parties.

¹² Case Studies of involvement in NDC <u>Development Process</u>

¹³ Para.6 of UNFCCC SB56 Conclusions — "The SBSTA and the SBI also encouraged Parties and non-Party stakeholders to hold events, at the local, national, regional and international level, as appropriate, in support of the global stocktake."

¹⁴ https://www.cities-and-regions.org/stocktake4climateemergency/



Subnationals; Towns, Cities and Regions









Annex-I: Taking stock of multilevel action and urbanization in climate emergency response – ICLEI GST TD1.3 Poster Submission

Taking stock of urbanization and multilevel action in the climate emergency response













The Paris Agreement: A pivotal moment for a change of mindset and landscape

		Before Paris (2015)	After Paris (2015-2023)
Local & regional governments that have declared a climate emergency		0	2200+
Local & regional governments that have committed to ambitious 2030 targets		<100	1000+
NDCs that have raised am through the engagement regional governments		n/a	60+
% of NDCs with urban com	ponents	60%	64%
Relevant UNFCCC decisions	2010 - COP16 °C 2013 - COP18	governmental stakeholders"	2015 - Paris Agreement "all levels of governments", "cities and other subnational as Non-Party Stakeholders" 2021 - Glasgow Climate Pact "multilevel and cooperative action"
Inside UNFCCC	2007 - LGMA Climate Roadmap 2008 - European Covenant of Mayors 2009 - Local Government Climate Lounge 2010 - Parliamentarians and Mayors Forum 2013 - ADP 2.3 Workshop, Ministers-Mayors Forum, 2014 - SB40 Forum, NAZCA Pot		2016 - Global Covenant of Mayors 2016 - Marrakech Partnership Human Settlements Action Pathway 2018 - IPCC Cities & Climate Change Conference & Action Agenda 2018 - Cities and Regions Talanoa Dialogues 2019 - SB56 COP Presidency Multilevel Action Event 2020 - Cities Race-To-Zero 2021 - Cities-Race-To-Resilience, RegionsAdapt, LGMA Multilevel Action Pavilion 2022 - SURGe Initiative, Ministerial Meeting in Urbanization and Climate Change, IPCC AR6 Summary for Urban Policy Makers
Outside UNFCCC	2010 - UNDRR Making Cities Resilient 2010 - CBD Biodiversity 10-Year Action Plan for Cities, Subnational Governments and other Local Authorities		2016 - SDG11, New Urban Agenda 2018 - Local2030, U20 as G20 Engagement Group 2019 - GAP Fund 2020 - Making CitiesResilient2030 2021 - G20 Localization Working Group 2022 - Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 12, 2°*10-Year Action Plan, U7 as G7 Engagement Group 2023 - G7 Roundtable on Subnational Climate Action, in collaboration with U7

Stocktake4ClimateEmergency: Local and subnational inputs to the global stocktake process

UNFCCC SB56, paragraph 6: "...SBSTA and SBI also encouraged local, national, international events in support of global stocktakes...

Why? Community engagement matters in national and global climate emergency action

What? Time to focus on national plans, local commitments and justice

How? Turning local city halls around the world into mini climate COPs

Local & Regional

rges and path towards a just transition locally.

22 April Earth Day

National

dimensions presented in your country's NDC and whether national goals

June UN Bonn & Nairobi

Global local

stocktakes

Define what an equitable and just path looks like, including domestic, international and inter-July-Nov

COP28 Results presented

Justice

Learn more <u>www.cities-and-regions.org</u> | <u>www.iclei.org</u>

^{*} The Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency has been representing local and regional governments at the processes under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since the first Conference of Parties (COP) in 1995. The LGMA also represents the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments. ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability acts as the Focal Point of LGMA. https://www.cities-and-regions.org



Subnationals; Towns, Cities and Regions





CITIES & REGIONS

IN THE UNFCCC PROCESS

Towards 2023 UNFCCC COP28, Dubai, Nov-Dec June 2023

Annex-II: Overview of Cities, State, Regional and local governments' contribution towards adaptation and Global Stocktake – Regions4 and CoR GST Poster Submission





Subnationals; Towns, Cities and Regions







Annex-III: List of all LGMA contributions at the First Global Stocktake Technical Dialogues in 2022 - 2023

1- LGMA at 1st Global Stocktake 3rd Technical Dialogue (GST TD1.3) – June 2023 Link to all LGMA statements as one document

OPENING PLENARY

Delivered by; Maryke van Staden

Director of Bonn Center for Local Climate Action and Reporting, ICLEI

ROUNDTABLE-1: MITIGATION

Delivered by; Nadia Fikri

Vice-President of Casablanca-Settat Region, Morocco; Under2 Coalition

ROUNDTABLE-2: ADAPTATION

Delivered by; Teresa Garcia Perez

Policy Officer, Commission for the Environment, Climate Change and Energy (ENVE), European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

ROUNDTABLE-3: IMPLEMENTATION

Delivered by; Andy Deacon

Co-managing Director, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy

ROUNDTABLE-4: HOLISTIC APPROACHES

Delivered by; Urszula Kasperek

Senior Manager, International Advocacy, Governments and Advocacy, Under2 Coalition hosted by the Climate Group

CLOSING PLENARY

Delivered by; Andy Deacon

Co-managing Director, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy

POSTER PRESENTATION

<u>Taking stock of multilevel action and urbanization in climate emergency response – ICLEI GST TD1.3 Poster Submission</u>

^{*} The Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency has been representing local and regional governments at the processes under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since the first Conference of Parties (COP) in 1995. The LGMA also represents the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments. ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability acts as the Focal Point of LGMA. https://www.cities-and-regions.org



Subnationals; Towns, Cities and Regions





CITIES & REGIONS

Towards 2023 UNFCCC COP28, Dubai, Nov-Dec June 2023

2- LGMA at 1st Global Stocktake 2nd Technical Dialogue (GST TD1.2) – November 2022

OPENING PLENARY

Delivered by; Yunus Arikan

Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI; LGMA Focal Point

ROUNDTABLE-1: MITIGATION Delivered by; Kale Roberts

Senior Programme Officer, ICLEI US

ROUNDTABLE-2: ADAPTATION

Delivered by; Veronica Arias

Executive Director, CC35

ROUNDTABLE-3: IMPLEMENTATION
Delivered by; Carlos De Freitas
Executive Director, FMDV

FUTURE DIALOGUES – I Delivered by; Yunus Arikan

Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI; LGMA Focal Point

FUTURE DIALOGUES – II

Delivered by; Manuel de Araujo,

Mayor of Quelimane, Mozambique

CLOSING PLENARY

Delivered by; Yunus Arikan

Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI; LGMA Focal Point

POSTER PRESENTATION

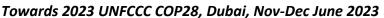
<u>Overview of Cities, State, Regional and local governments' contribution towards adaptation and Global Stocktake – Regions4 and CoR GST TD1.2 Poster Submission</u>

LGMA Adaptation Submission by Regions4 and CoR

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Subnationals; Towns, Cities and Regions







3- LGMA at 1st Global Stocktake 1st Technical Dialogue (GST TD1.1) – June 2022

OPENING PLENARY - (LGMA at 3:05:55 onwards)

Delivered by; Yunus Arikan

Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI; LGMA Focal Point

ROUNDTABLE-1: MITIGATION Delivered by; Urszula Kasperek

Senior Manager, International Advocacy, Governments and Advocacy, Under2 Coalition hosted by the Climate Group

ROUNDTABLE-2: ADAPTATION

Delivered by; Teresa Garcia Perez

Policy Officer, Commission for the Environment, Climate Change and Energy (ENVE), European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Delivered by; Susanne Nolden

Department of International Affairs and Global Sustainability, City of Bonn

ROUNDTABLE-3: IMPLEMENTATION

Delivered by; Carlos De Freitas

Executive Director, FMDV

Delivered by; Andy Deacon

Co-managing Director, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy

CLOSING PLENARY (LGMA at 2:31:13 onwards)

Delivered by; Yunus Arikan

Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI; LGMA Focal Point

SB58 Contact Group LGMA Intervention

Delivered by; Yunus Arikan

Director of Global Advocacy, ICLEI; LGMA Focal Point

4- LGMA Statement at 1st Global Stocktake 1st Informal Dialogue – March 2022

Delivered by; Kale Roberts

Senior Programme Officer, ICLEI US

* The Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency has been representing local and regional governments at the processes under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since the first Conference of Parties (COP) in 1995. The LGMA also represents the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments. ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability acts as the Focal Point of LGMA. https://www.cities-and-regions.org