COALITION FOR HIGH AMBITION MULTILEVEL PARTNERSHIPS (CHAMP) FOR CLIMATE ACTION
COP28 Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships (CHAMP) for Climate Action

PLEDGE

Recalling the Paris Agreement's recognition of the importance of engagement of all levels of government, and subsequent decisions by the Conference of Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on multilevel engagement, including the creation of the roles of the High Level Champions at COP21 and their establishment of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action at COP22, the introduction of the Talanoa Dialogue process at COP23, and the COP26 Glasgow Climate Pact,

Reaffirming that collaborative and science-based climate action coordinated between national and subnational governments - including cities, towns, states and regions - is critical and creates additional potential for emissions reduction, building resilience, and avoiding severe climate impacts,

Acknowledging respective national legislations, regulations, and circumstances, and the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement as the primary intergovernmental fora for the global response to climate change.

Encouraged by the work and contributions of non-Party stakeholders, including cities, towns, states and regions, to the Paris Agreement process since its adoption[1], the inaugural convening of the Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Change at COP27 and its second iteration at COP28, and the work of the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) constituency to the UNFCCC,

We, the countries identified below, gathered at COP28, pledge to: [2]

Join the Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships (CHAMP) for Climate Action in order to enhance cooperation, where applicable and appropriate, with our subnational governments in the planning, financing, implementation, and monitoring of climate strategies, including but not limited to Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and Long Term Low-Emission Development Strategies (LT-LEDS), to maximise climate action, including through coalitions such as the NDC Partnership, with a view towards collectively pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, and increase adaptation and resilience.

---

[1] Including the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action established in 2022, the Cities Race to Zero and Resilience, subnational contributions to the 2030 Breakthroughs and the Sharm el Sheikh Adaptation Agenda, and the COP27 Presidency's Sustainable Urban Resilience for the next Generation (SURGe) initiative

[2] This document is a voluntary and non-binding commitment which does not give rise to any rights or obligations under international law.
To achieve these objectives, we will, in nationally determined ways:

1. Consult with our respective subnational governments, as appropriate and applicable, to determine the avenues for subnational action to contribute to national mitigation and adaptation commitments and strategies, and their subsequent implementation and monitoring.

2. Work collaboratively with our respective subnational governments to unlock and realise mitigation and adaptation action opportunities at the subnational level by involving them, as appropriate and applicable, in the review, design, enhancement, consolidation and implementation of our national commitments and strategies.

3. Create inclusive institutional and informal processes to enable subnational governments to contribute to further enhancing NDCs, where applicable, ahead of COP30 in 2025, and, where available and appropriate, integrate local and territorial baseline information, targets and actions for emissions mitigation and adaptation across all sectors and industries.

4. Include relevant subnational government projects (encompassing mitigation and adaptation) in climate-related investment priorities (including those directly and indirectly related to NDCs) and strive to help them secure the resources necessary from public and private financial institutions, as applicable, to begin or scale up implementation, including but not limited to supporting project preparation, pipeline development, aggregation of projects, new financial instruments or policy reform at local, national, regional and global levels as needed.

5. Undertake, as appropriate and applicable, regular, and inclusive country-led reviews of progress at national and subnational level around the implementation of CHAMP commitments through existing processes, which may include the Voluntary National Review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a view to ensure that national policy frameworks support and, where appropriate, can accelerate ambitious multilevel climate action.

6. Meet, amongst the endorsers of CHAMP, with representative subnational leaders, at a global High Level Political Dialogue on Multilevel Climate Action in the lead up to both COP29 and COP30 to share good practices and lessons learned in implementing the CHAMP commitments, to be compiled into a summary shared, among others, as a contribution to the Ministerial Meeting on Urbanization and Climate Change.