

LGMA COP29 CLOSING PLENARY STATEMENT

Due to challenges with regards to timing, it was not possible for the LGMA Constituency to deliver this statement verbally at COP29 Plenary

Mr. President, delegates, colleagues

At the outset, the LGMA Constituency congratulates the COP29 Presidency in successful delivery of COP29 in such a short time and despite numerous challenges.

The LGMA Constituency is concerned about the lowest level of ambition in almost all tracks of COP29 outcomes. COP29 outcomes are a clear demonstration that global commitment and solidarity for climate action is one of the immediate and biggest victims of the evolving domestic and geopolitical turbulences.

Regarding quantum goal on climate finance, the LGMA called for trillions by 2030. Thus, the LGMA will advocate to ensure that the agreed-upon global finance goal of 1,3 trillion USD by 2035, including 300 billion USD of public finance, is a floor, not a ceiling and that climate finance instruments should not add to debt burdens of local, subnational and national governments.

Regarding Mitigation Work Programme, the LGMA welcomes inclusion of specific recommendations from the 3rd and 4th Dialogues on cities, buildings and urban systems. The LGMA expresses its appreciation for the COP29 Presidency to host the 3rd edition of the Ministerial Meetings on Urbanization and Climate concluding with the MAP Initiative and Baku Continuity Coalition for Urban Climate Action. The LGMA will advocate for seizing opportunities through sustainable urbanisation for climate action by institutionalization of such meetings and concepts in the UNFCCC Process towards and by COP30, as well as through relevant initiatives by COP27-COP28-COP29 Presidencies.

The LGMA also welcomes the COP29 decision to expand the mandate of High Level Champions until 2030. The LGMA stands ready to advance the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action, in particular by enhancing the engagement of Thematic Groups and their partners through additional technical and financial support, as well as connecting numerous initiatives to raise ambition of new national climate plans by 2025, as appropriate.

The LGMA welcomes Baku Adaptation Roadmap but underlines the need to integrate locally-led provisions in the indicators framework.

The LGMA is very concerned that in Baku no decision is adopted on global stocktakes. Nevertheless, the LGMA will engage in the design and preparation of NDCs3.0 by 2025, pursuant to para.161 of COP28 UAE Consensus, support COP28 CHAMP Initiative to increase good practices on multilevel climate action such as the 2nd Brazilian NDC and convene Town Hall COPs to connect our communities into climate emergency action and national climate plans.

In conclusion, in these difficult times where global processes are seriously threatened, the LGMA will continue to be an even stronger partner for all national governments and global community who wishes to raise ambition, deliver action and uphold global solidarity.

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.

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