Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency Recommendations on the COP31 Cover Decision Text from 16 November

Refers to Draft text cover decision 16 Nov 2026 @ 13:30

Following the process initiated by the COP31 Presidency and the Presidency of Negotiations to develop a cover decision, and based on the reflections and priorities shared by the our Constituency on 11 November, we welcome the cover decision text published on 16 November and ask Parties to support this as a Presidency-led, Party-driven outcome of COP31 to send a strong signal of Party commitment to the continued implementation of the Paris Agreement.

As LGMA Constituency, we urge Parties to **call for retention** of the following paragraphs as priority:

- **III, B, para 79.** Urges developed country Parties, [...] and from approval to first disbursement; **prioritize enhanced direct access for national, subnational and regional institutions, including through mutual recognition of accreditation across funds;** establish dedicated minimum allocation floors [...] that reflect country-driven priorities;

- **III, B, para 102. Encourages Parties, in accordance with their national circumstances and priorities, to strengthen multilevel arrangements with subnational governments for the implementation of their nationally determined contributions and national adaptation plans, and calls for adequate means of implementation to support such efforts in developing country Parties;**

We also ask Parties to **strongly support** the following paragraphs in the draft text:

- **II, para 45.** Recognizes the critical importance of science and information integrity as essential to climate action, underlines the need to protect those on the frontlines defending information integrity and **calls on all actors to continue working together to promote information integrity at the international, regional, national and local levels.**

- **III, B, para 81.** Encourages country-led programming and the meaningful and accessible engagement of vulnerable communities and groups, including **the use of funding modalities and delivery mechanisms which enable a greater share of climate finance to reach the local level;**

- **III, C, para 113.** Recognizes the **central role of the best available science and of the**

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, whose assessment reports are the most robust and comprehensive assessment of climate science, for the effective implementation of the Convention and the Paris Agreement, highlighting **the importance of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for the global stocktake**, and expresses appreciation and gratitude to those involved in preparing the reports of the Seventh Assessment Report for their contributions;

- **III, C, para 127.** Welcomes the launch of the second global stocktake as a comprehensive, facilitative, inclusive and Party-driven process [...] and means of implementation and support, **informed by equity and the best available science, and providing an effective response to overshoot,** underlines that the second global stocktake should assess collective progress [...] to begin preparatory work in accordance with applicable modalities and guidance, and **encourages the meaningful participation of non-Party stakeholders in the process,** including through, but not limited to, the climate high-level champions and the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action;

- **III, C, para 134.** Recognizes the important role and active engagement of non-Party stakeholders, particularly civil society, business, financial institutions, **cities and subnational authorities**, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, people of African descent, women, youth and children, and research institutions, [...] through other relevant intergovernmental processes.

- **III, C, para 135.** *Recognizes* the need to ensure meaningful and effective social dialogue, participation and action of all stakeholders, calling on all actors to work together to significantly accelerate and scale up climate action worldwide, as part of a global mobilization towards significantly enhancing international cooperation and implementation during this critical decade, **through inclusive, multilevel, gender-responsive and cooperative action,** including the meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, people of African descent, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, and call for consideration of how to further enhance participation by the most vulnerable countries and communities, particularly from the least developed countries;

- **III, C, para 137 & 138. Invites Parties and non-Party stakeholders to submit their views on pathways to strengthen the UNFCCC process** and requests the Chair of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation to organize a dialogue at the sixty-sixth session of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (June 2027) and to prepare a summary for consideration at COP32, with a view to adopting recommendations to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the process.

More generally, we **welcome the recognition** of the **complementarity between consensus-driven negotiated mandates under the UNFCCC and voluntary initiatives launched by successive COP Presidencies** under the Global Climate Action Agenda, and proposals to continue to align voluntary action with outcomes of the Party-driven process, including the second Global Stocktake. *(paras 62-63, 122-126, 139-140)*