

The Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments

BACKGROUND

The **Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments** is a coordination mechanism set up in 2013 at the initiative of UCLG President and Mayor of Istanbul, Kadir Topbaş. It brings together the major international networks of local governments to undertake joint advocacy relating to international policy processes, particularly the climate change agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals and Habitat III.

The Taskforce has substantially increased its membership since its creation and now brings together more than 20 global and regional networks, with the support of 20 partners (including UN Agencies, the private sector, and international organizations. See list in annex).

The initiative aims to be inclusive and new members are welcome to join the Taskforce.

HOW TO JOIN THE GLOBAL TASKFORCE

Send an application letter signed by the head of the organization, briefly explaining your motivation to join the Global Taskforce and the activities you are already undertaking in relation to the new urban agenda to: globaltaskforce@uclg.org

OUR WORK

Since 2013, the Global Taskforce has worked to bring together and amplify the voices of the major global networks of local governments in international policy processes, building on the long tradition of local government advocacy at international level.

GTF-UNACLA

At the proposal of UCLG and following the agreement of the Executive Director of UN Habitat, the composition of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA) has been modified

and enhanced reflecting the GTF membership.

GTF-GAP

The constituency of local and regional governments will organise its contributions to the Habitat III process through the GTF. However the GTF has decided to ensure representation at the **General Assembly of Partners (GAP)** that represents the Habitat partners. The GTF will inform members of the process in the Assembly.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

Building on the First World Assembly of Cities and Local Authorities organized in the framework of Habitat II in 1996, the local government constituency has offered to organize the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments through the Global Taskforce.

In December 2015, the General Assembly adopted Resolution A/RES/70/210, which

contains rules on the participation of local authorities and other stakeholders in the Habitat III process. The text of the Resolution acknowledges the organization of the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments and includes a specific Rule (rule 64) regarding the participation of representatives of local authorities, allowing representatives to participate in most deliberations of the conference.

Special features of the Habitat III Resolution include Hearings for Local Authorities (planned on 16-17 May 2016).

The Second Assembly will be the process and political coordination mechanism through which our constituency will participate in the formal Habitat III process. It will refine and guide our inputs and recommendations to the New Urban Agenda.

It is foreseen that all local and regional governments that register through one of the international networks that form part of the Global Taskforce will be able to participate in the Assembly. GTF networks will communicate information on the Assembly to their members, and participants will be able to register through the international associations of local governments of the GTF.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Since its launch the Global Taskforce has:

- Successfully campaigned for the inclusion of a **stand-alone goal on sustainable urbanization** in the 2030 Agenda (SDG 11 on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements);
- Called for the **localization** of the implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda
- Made proposals to ensure **adequate local financing** of the 2030 Agenda at the Addis Ababa Conference on Development Financing.
- Showcased the ways in which local governments are leading from the bottom-up to address the urgent threat of **climate change**.

CALENDAR

- 11-13 April, Toluca, Mexico, Habitat III Regional Meeting for Latin America
- 16-17 May, New-York, Informal hearings with local authority associations and first preparatory meeting for the Second World Assembly of local and regional authorities
- 23-27 May, Nairobi, II Assembly of the United Nations for Environment (UNEA-2)
- 23-24 May, Istanbul, World Humanitarian Summit
- 11-20 July, New York, High Level Political Forum
- 25-27 July, Surabaya, Prepcom 3
- 12-15 October, Bogota, V UCLG World Congress, Second preparatory meeting for the Second World Assembly of local and regional authorities
- 17-21 October, Quito, Habitat III Conference and Second World Assembly of local and regional authorities

COMMUNICATION

To follow the activities of the Global Taskforce, you can:

- Visit our website: <http://www.gtf2016.org/>
- Follow us on Twitter: @GTF2016
- Read our newsletter sent to all members and partners of the GTF on a regular basis.

LIST OF GTF MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

MEMBERS

- UCLG - world organization of United Cities and Local Governments and its Thematic Committees
- ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
- AIMF - International Association of Francophone Mayors
- ATO - Arab Towns Organization
- CLGF - Commonwealth Local Government Forum
- MERCOCIUDADES - Network of cities of Mercosur
- nrg4sd - Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development
- METROPOLIS - Metropolitan Section of UCLG
- UCLG Regions - Forum of Regions of UCLG
- CEMR-CCRE - Council of European Municipalities and Regions
- UCLG-ASPAC - Asia Pacific Section of UCLG
- UCLG-EURASIA - Euro-Asian Section of UCLG
- UCLG-MEWA - Middle East and West Asia Section of UCLG
- UCLG-NORAM - North American Section of UCLG
- FLACMA - Latin American Federation of Municipalities and Local Government Associations
- UCLGA - UCLG Africa
- CUF - Cités Unies France
- FOGAR - Forum of Regions of UCLG
- FMDV - Global fund for cities development
- PLATFORMA - The European voice of Local and Regional authorities for Development
- C40 - Climate Leadership Group
- UCCI - Unión de Ciudades Capitales Iberoamericana

PARTNERS:

UN-HABITAT, CITIES ALLIANCE, UNACLA, DeLog, European Commission, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Habitat for Humanity, HLP Post 2015, Huairou Commission, ILO, Millennium Campaign, One UN Secretariat, Slum Dwellers International, SUEZ, UNCDF, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNSDSN, World Urban Campaign.



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