



## ***UCLG-MEWA***

# ***Istanbul Declaration of Malatya Agreement***

We, as the mayors, presidents of regional governments, and representatives of our associations, gathered in Istanbul at the second meeting of UCLG-MEWA Committee on Environment, of which the first meeting was held in Malatya, Turkey in line with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development resulting acknowledgment -through **Sustainable Development Goal 11** on Sustainable Cities- of the role that cities and sub-national governments need to play in all its dimensions;<sup>1</sup>

Recalling the statements of the Global Task-Force of local and regional authorities from 2012 to 2015, in particular our joint statement with all United Nations Major Groups on the need for stand-alone goal on sustainable urbanization, the recommendations of the Global Consultation on Localization, our work together under the Urban Campaign, and the Lyon Declaration on Climate and Territories, declare through this document;

**1. With regards to the topic of Climate Change, we are committed to:**

- Being key actors in implementation of local and sub-national actions, and in catalyzing of local stakeholders and citizens, regarding the importance of Goal 7 and 13 of the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>2</sup>
- Engaging with national governments, intergovernmental bodies, private sector, finance institutions and civil society to create a strong and effective global climate community that can support and implement a rapid transformation towards the global utilization of a renewable energy based, low-emission, resilient development approach at all levels,<sup>3</sup>
- Urging national governments to ensure that local and sub-national governments have the capacity and resources to implement local climate mitigation and adaptation strategies that contribute to national and global efforts, and to create enabling structures as well as effective framework conditions that enhance climate cooperation and complementarity between local and sub-national governments,<sup>4</sup>
- Mobilizing and prioritizing actively within our own local budgetary schemes the necessary funding required to implement both local low carbon actions and adaptation measures,
- Generating, where we can, new and innovative sources of funding that can support our low carbon plans, low emission development plans, biodiversity action plans, our integrated sustainability plans, or other smart city development measures, noting that the development and implementation of these plans can offer a great opportunity for local governments to create local jobs and to respond to the economic crisis.<sup>5</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> United Nations Climate Summit – New York – 23 of September 2014 – Catalyzing Action – Joint statement of Non-State actors' representatives

<sup>2</sup> Nantes Declaration of Mayors and Subnational Leaders on Climate Change Local Government Climate Roadmap 2013- 2015 Presented for adoption on 28 September 2013

<sup>3</sup> Nantes Declaration of Mayors and Subnational Leaders on Climate Change Local Government Climate Roadmap 2013- 2015 Presented for adoption on 28 September 2013

<sup>4</sup> Nantes Declaration of Mayors and Subnational Leaders on Climate Change Local Government Climate Roadmap 2013- 2015 Presented for adoption on 28 September 2013

<sup>5</sup> Nantes Declaration of Mayors and Sub-national Leaders on Climate Change Local Government Climate Road Map 2013- 2015 Presented for adoption on 28 September 2013

**2. With regards to the topic of Urban Agriculture, we are committed to:**

- Working through meeting the cities that are positioned only as the consumers with the earth, and ensuring that people in the city would be producers again,
- Managing natural resources in urban areas, in ways that do not underpin food security for the surrounding territory, considering that local governments can support agricultural production and local economic growth by shortening the food chain and promoting local production,
- Ensuring that people are able to purchase and cook safe, affordable, nutritious food,

**3. With regards to the topic of Biodiversity, we are committed to:**

- Ensuring that biodiversity conservation is an integral part of our urban planning and development strategies,

**4. With regards to the topic of Waste Management and Pollution, we are committed to:**

- Raising awareness in public at the residential level for reduction of waste,
- Promoting training and education related to basic waste for kids and youth in local level,
- Contributing to the reduction of the negative effects related to water and soil pollution through effective natural resource management and environmental protection, and protecting these resources,
- Determining of pollutants and pollutant concentrations in residential and industrial zone concerning air pollution, and developing action plan related to these issues,
- Preparing action plan with regards to “noise pollution” and taking short and long term precautions
- Developing integrated implementation projects on decreasing the waste first in its sources, and then parsing, and making efforts about disposal of any kind of waste,
- Mobilizing the central government through increasing the consultations on dangerous waste management in local authorities level,

- Increasing the activities concerning coasts and water resources for protecting of ecologic life and urban cleaning,

**5. With regards to the topic of Energy, we are committed to:**

- Promoting convenient and favorable investments from renewable energy sources for our region,
- Identifying gaps in access to affordable green energy among vulnerable groups in our communities,
- Investing in energy efficient buildings and green energy sources in public institutions (e.g. government offices, schools, etc.), and introducing sustainability criteria into our procurement practices,
- Promoting investments in “smart city” technologies -especially those concerning local transport and urban planning policies- with the aim of impacting energy efficiency and carbon emissions significantly,

**6. With regards to the topic of Transportation, we are committed to:**

- Increasing the promotion of using vehicles without fossil fuel concerning the principle of clean fuel
- Enhancing using of bicycles in the city, and doing the necessary activities to have private areas for this reason in road and environment plans,

**7. With regards to green spaces, we are committed to:**

- Promoting increasing of open and greenery in urban spaces and developing city forestry

**8. With regards to the topic of Research Development, we are committed to:**

- Developing cooperation between local governments by organizing common working groups and through local, regional and international unions, and sharing experiences, and reconcile human and nature to reach for an ecological life.