



**UCLG CONGRESS
WORLD SUMMIT OF LOCAL
AND REGIONAL LEADERS**

**New Generation
of Universal Local
Public Services**

**Tangier
Local4Action**

UCLG-MEWA Assembly Session

Date: Wednesday 24 June 2026

Time: 09:00 - 10:30

Location: Palace of Arts and Culture / Room B (1st floor)

Languages: Arabic, English, Turkish

Background

The Middle East and West Asia (MEWA) Region is experiencing a period of profound transformation shaped by interconnected challenges including conflict and displacement, climate change, rapid urbanization, governance pressures, and economic uncertainty. Across these circumstances, local and regional governments remain the institutions closest to people, ensuring the continuity of essential services, fostering social cohesion, supporting vulnerable populations, and leading local development efforts.

As the international community enters the final phase of the 2030 Agenda and prepares discussions on future global development frameworks, the role of local governments has become more important than ever. Municipalities are no longer merely implementers of policies; they are strategic actors driving resilience, sustainability, and democratic governance from the ground up.



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The UCLG-MEWA Position Paper highlights four major priorities that shape the realities of local governments in the region:

- Conflict, recovery and displacement management;
- Strengthening governance and multilevel cooperation;
- Sustainable and accessible local finance;
- Climate resilience and climate justice.

These priorities are closely linked to the commitments of the Local Social Covenant, including housing, public health, food systems, climate justice, cultural rights, financing for development, and ensuring access to the new essentials of life. The UCLG-MEWA Assembly at the 8th UCLG World Congress 2026 will provide a high-level political platform for mayors, local leaders, and partners from across the region to discuss shared priorities, strengthen regional dialogue, and contribute to the global agenda of the World Congress.

As part of the UCLG Assembly Track, UCLG Sections develop regional position papers that are presented during the Assembly sittings to reflect the perspectives, priorities, and aspirations of their constituencies. These position papers serve as the basis for political dialogue among members and contribute to the formulation of recommendations that are submitted to the newly elected UCLG Presidency and feed into the Pact for the Future. Through this process, UCLG-MEWA seeks to ensure that the voices and experiences of local and regional governments in the Middle East and West Asia are reflected in the future priorities, policies, and advocacy efforts of the global UCLG network.



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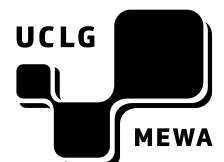
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Objectives

The Assembly aims to:

1. Present the UCLG-MEWA Position Paper and regional priorities to the global UCLG constituency.
2. Highlight the leadership role of local governments in responding to conflict, humanitarian crises, displacement, climate impacts, and socio-economic challenges.
3. Strengthen political dialogue among UCLG-MEWA members and partners around the key priorities of the region.
4. Contribute regional perspectives to the implementation of the Local Social Covenant and future global development frameworks.
5. Reinforce the importance of multilevel governance, local democracy, climate justice, and direct access to finance for local governments.
6. Formulate and endorse a set of recommendations from the MEWA Region to be transmitted to the newly elected UCLG Presidency and contribute to the Pact for the Future.





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Agenda

Time	Item
09:00 – 09:10	Opening Remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Mehmet Duman, UCLG-MEWA Secretary General •
09:10 – 09:30	Presentation of the UCLG-MEWA Position Paper
	UCLG-MEWA Secretariat
09:30 – 10:10	Open Discussion and Collection of Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎤 <i>Gather reactions to the Position Paper</i> 🎤 <i>Identify additional recommendations</i> 🎤 <i>Validate the main messages to be conveyed to the UCLG World Congress</i>
10:10 – 10:30	Endorsement of the Position Paper and Closing
	UCLG-MEWA

