

INTERVENTION OF ICLEI – LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR SUSTAINABILITY
ON BEHALF OF
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES CONSTITUENCY (LGMA)
AT THE OPENING of ADP2.5

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Mr. Co-Chair,

In March 2014, we encouraged delegates to use the opportunity of ADP2.4 to prepare for the June Forum on Cities and Subnationals, as the historical outcome Warsaw 2013.

Indeed, the positive dialogues in March advanced even beyond our expectations and through your able leadership, we have now reached here in Bonn to the ADP2.5 with 2 specific and interconnected agendas; a Cities Forum and a Technical Expert Meeting on Urban Environment to be convened consecutively on 10 June Tuesday.

We commend you, the ADP negotiators and the UNFCCC Secretariat for your trust and openness to advance this dialogue.

We sincerely hope that June 10th in Bonn will build upon the legacy of the first Cities Day successfully convened in Warsaw on 21 November 2013.

Focus of ADP2.5 on urban issues is also timely with the most recent scientific evidences of growing climate risks on urban areas and populations as well as their enormous mitigation potential, which are specifically highlighted in urban chapters of AR5 as the first time in the work of IPCC.

Mr. Co-Chair,

In this ADP2.5, we wish to see concrete progress in 3 areas;

Firstly; To ensure that the political outcome of Paris2015 firmly acknowledges the engagement and empowerment of local and subnational governments as an essential element for the success of a new, strong, global climate regime.

Secondly; To start drafting a package of COP decisions or programmes for Lima and Paris for a 10-year action plan that will announce 2016-2026 as the global decade of low-carbon and climate resilient urban development with a 2 track approach; one track for rapid acceleration of “low- hanging fruits” of mitigation action in urban planning, transport, buildings, energy and waste, together with immediate strengthen our cities to deal with extreme weather events and changing climate patterns. The second track; to design new, innovative, multilevel partnerships to respond to the transformation our cities and regions in the light of challenges and opportunities of the Urban World of 21st Century in the post2020 period.

Thirdly; to ensure the continuity and advancement of this dialogue at the UNFCCC platforms at both Ministerial-Mayoral and technical level which provide valuable benefits to all of us.

We remain committed to mobilize our full support to turn this dream into reality to ensure the wellbeing of our cities, nations and our Earth.

Representatives of our member cities and regions from all around the world will be ready to share with you the details of these evidences and how they are dealing with these challenges on a daily basis.