Mayors and Subnational Leaders prepare for the COP Presidency Cities and Subnational Dialogues held on 21 November “Cities Day”. (l-r) ICLEI Secretary General Gino Van Begin, Grand Rapids, USA Mayor George Heartwell. Bogota Colombia Mayor Gustavo Petro, Des Moines, USA Mayor Frank Cownie, Vancouver Canada City Manager Penny Ballem, Recife, Brazil Mayor Geraldo Julio, Bonn, Germany Deputy Mayor Angelica Kappel, UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres, ICLEI President David Cadman, Seferihisar, Turkey, Mayor Tunc Soyer and Delta State, Nigeria Governor Emmanuel Eweta Uduagdhan, and UN Habitat Deputy Executive Director Aisa Kirabo Kacyira.

“Cities are central in tackling climate change. They are proving grounds for our efforts in ensuring a low carbon future that benefits people and the planet”  Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary General at the Cities Day, COP19 Warsaw

Local Government Climate Roadmap Agenda in Warsaw

- ADP2-3 Workshop on pre2020 ambition: urbanization and the role of governments in facilitating climate action in cities
- COP Presidency Cities and Subnational Dialogue (high level event of the 21 November “Cities Day”)

- ICLEI Side Events (18 November Indonesia Pavilion, 19 November EU Pavilion Implementation Day, 21 November UNFCCC Side event, 21 November US Center)
- Climate Alliance Side Events (13 November EU Pavilion, 15 November EU Pavilion, 16 November UNFCCC Climate Change Studio, 22 November UNFCCC Side event)
- Nrg4sd Side event (21 November UNFCCC Side Event)
- “Warsaw Dialogue” organized by City of Warsaw and Polish Ministry of Environment (20 November)

- UN-Habitat (21 Nov UNFCCC Side Event)
- UNFCCC Secretariat Momentum for Change (20 Nov)
- World Climate Summit Sessions (17 Nov)
- WBCSD Business Day Panel (18 Nov)
- Sustainable Innovation Forum (20 Nov)
- Low Carbon City Drives New Urban Living (20 Nov China Pavilion)
- Climate Action Reserve (21 Nov UNFCCC Side Event)
- Climate Dialogue Workshop (16 Nov)
- Low Carbon Societies in Asia (15 Nov, Japan Pavilion)
- World of Change and Urbanization (14-22 November, US Center)
Photo Highlights

COP Presidency Cities & Subnational Dialogue at the first ever “Cities Day”

“In dealing with rapid transition and related urbanization, we can learn from other global cities which link urban planning, social equity and green environments”.

Ephraim Kamuntu, Minister of Water and Environment, Uganda

(l-r) COP19 President H.E. Marcin Korolec, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, UNFCCC Executive Secretary Christiana Figueres and Warsaw, Poland Mayor Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz (Photo by IISD)

(l-r) Minister and Private Secretary for National Policies, Nicaragua Paul Oquist Kelley, Minister of Environment, the Netherlands Wilma Mansveld, Minister in Assistance to the President, Marshall Islands, Tony De Brum, Seferihisar, Turkey Mayor Tunc Soyer, Delta State, Nigeria Governor Emmanuel Uduaghan, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA Mayor George Heartwell, Bogotá, Colombia Mayor Gustavo Petro, Deputy Executive Director Aisa Kirabo Kacyira, Vice-President, World Bank Rachel Kyte (Photo by IISD)

(l-r) Minister for Development, France, Pascal Canfin, Republic of Korea Minister of Environment Seongkyu Yoon, Mayor of Recife, Brazil Geraldo Julio, Deputy Mayor of Shenzhen, China, Tang Jie, Vancouver Canada City Manager Penny Ballem, Nantes Councillor Ronan Dantec, Minister of Water and Environment, Uganda Ephraim Kamuntu, UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Heinz Leuenberger, Vice-President, Green Cross Poland Dominika Kulczyk-Lubomirska (Photo by IISD)
“Nations cannot act without cities. Cities cannot act without nations. We need to work together. This Cities Day is a first, and will definitely not be the last”, George Heartwell, Mayor of Grand Rapids, USA and Member of White House Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience
I. Official Outcomes

• Para 5.b of Decision 1/CP19  (FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1)
The Conference of Parties decides to accelerate activities under the workplan on enhancing mitigation ambition in accordance with decision 1/CP.17, paragraphs 7 and 8, by: Facilitating the sharing among Parties of experiences and best practices of cities and subnational authorities, where appropriate, in identifying and implementing opportunities to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, with a view to promoting the exchange of information and voluntary cooperation.

• Para 30.d of ADP2.3 Conclusions (FCCC/ADP/2013/3)
In relation to paragraph 5(b) of Decision 1/CP19, the ADP requests the secretariat to convene, during the session of the ADP to be held in conjunction with the fortieth sessions of the subsidiary bodies, a forum to help share among Parties the experiences and best practices of cities and subnational authorities in relation to adaptation and mitigation.

II. Strategic Outcomes

• The second most important COP Decision related cities/local and subnational governments in the history of the UNFCCC negotiations (the first one was para.7 of Dec.1/CP16 at COP16 in Cancun in 2010 which recognized local and subnational governments as “governmental stakeholders” of the global climate regime).

• Highly visible engagement of local and subnational governments in the official agenda via ADP2-3 workshop on urbanization, and “Cities Day” announced and endorsed by the UNFCCC Secretariat and COP Presidency including Minister-Mayor level COP Presidency Cities and Subnational Dialogue

• Overall concrete achievements of the Nantes Declaration of Mayors and Subnational Governments on Climate Change, in particular through Articles 6 and 11

• Forum at the UN Bonn Climate Conference in June 2014 as an important opportunity to advance further in the engagement of local and subnational governments in the Paris 2015 Outcome

“With the Warsaw outcomes, nations confirm that local action is the key and one of the biggest leverage to ensure the transformation of our societies into low-emission and climate resilient development”

Gino Van Begin, ICLEI Secretary General