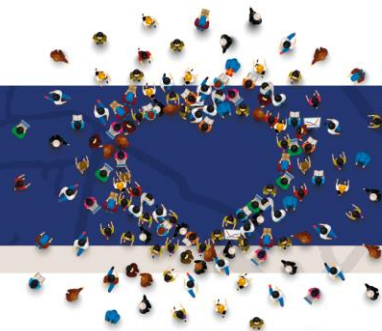


## Item 2.2 – Annex 4

### CANDIDATURES TO CO-PRESIDENCY

This annex includes the biographies and motivation letters or manifestos that the candidates to Co-Presidency submitted. In alphabetical order:

- **Altay, Uğur Ibrahim**, Mayor of Konya
- **Araya, Johnny**, Mayor of San José
- **Cosse, Carolina**, Mayor of Montevideo
- **Kulginov, Altay**, Mayor of Nur-Sultan
- **Lee, Jang-Woo**, Mayor of Daejeon
- **Li, Mingyuan**, Mayor of Xi'an
- **Stofile, Bekhe**, Chairperson of Matjhabeng Local Municipality, President of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA)
- **Van Zanen, Jan**, Mayor of The Hague, President of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG)
- **Vrbanovic, Berry**, Mayor of Kitchener, President Emeritus of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)



**Ugur Ibrahim ALTAY**  
**Mayor of Konya**



Ugur Ibrahim Altay was born in Konya in 1974. He completed his primary education in Selcuk Primary School (1985) and Mevlana Secondary School (1988), and his high school education in Konya Gazi High School (1991).

In 1997, he graduated from the Department of Civil Engineering at Selcuk University Faculty of Engineering and Architecture.

Ugur Ibrahim Altay served as Project Engineer for one year. In 1999, he completed his military service in Sırnak. Altay, as a civil engineer, has carried out many qualified projects.

Ugur İbrahim Altay served as the Deputy Chairman of the TMMOB (Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects) Chamber of Civil Engineers of Konya Branch between 2004-2008. In 2008, he was elected as Konya Branch Chief of Civil Engineers Chamber of TMMOB.

Ugur Ibrahim Altay, who was elected as the Mayor of Selcuklu Municipality, one of the three central districts of Konya, with the elections of March 29, 2009, was reelected as the Mayor of Selcuklu Municipality in the election in March 2014.

In 2019, he was elected as Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality getting more than 70% of the votes.

In addition to his position being Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality, Uğur İbrahim Altay also has responsibilities such as being:

- Governing President of United Cities And Local Governments-UCLG
- President of Union of Turkish World Municipalities
- President of International Agrocities Union
- Vice President of League of Historical Cities-LHC
- President of Union of Municipalities of Anatolian Civilizations
- President of Union of Konya Municipalities
- Administrative Board Member of Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities-OICC

Ugur Ibrahim Altay is married with three children.

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**Ms. Emilia SAIZ**  
**UCLG Secretary General**  
**Barcelona, SPAIN**

Distinguished Secretary General,

Konya Metropolitan Municipality presents its best wishes and respects to you and the UCLG family.

Having joined UCLG in 2012, Konya has always been an active member of UCLG and UCLG-MEWA. In 2013, Konya Metropolitan Municipality was elected as an Executive Bureau Member of UCLG and Co-President of UCLG-MEWA. Konya has also shown its commitment by being on the frontline of service to UCLG and UCLG-MEWA. To name a few, hosting five important meetings including the Executive Bureau and Council Joint Meeting of UCLG-MEWA in 2013, Committee on Smart Cities Meeting in 2015 and 7<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in 2022.

Besides facilitating meetings, Konya has contributed to various committees within UCLG-MEWA in the past years in managing positions as well as co-president of UCLG-MEWA Committee on Environment, president of UCLG-MEWA Committee on Smart Cities and founder president of UCLG-MEWA Committee on Tourism. I, the Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality duly perform my duties as Co-President since I assumed the position in 2018 and has had the chance to serve as the Governing President of UCLG between 15<sup>th</sup> June and 15<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

Konya has strong relations with many cities and organizations in the world with more than 60 sister cities all over the world and working actively to increase both the number and quality of these connections. Konya undertakes important positions in many international organizations. I perform as the President of the Union of Turkish World Municipalities, President of International Agricultural Cities Union and Vice Chairman of League of Historical Cities while Konya is either a member or executive member of many international organizations such as Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities (OICC), as a historical city with ten thousand-year experience, bringing modernity and tradition together in harmony.

Konya Metropolitan Municipality is very well aware and appreciative of these two sides of Konya. During my time in the office, we have been thriving to build our future with a meticulous attention to the global issues and policies made and implemented in align with national authorities and in collaboration with our international partners, finding the strength in our roots that is due to being a cradle for many civilizations throughout its history.

Finding strength in cooperation, Konya's efforts to achieve diversity and quality in physical, cultural and social local services as well as richness, stability and resilience in international relations to become an exemplary local government in Turkey have proven to be quite fruitful for the citizens of Konya and those in close relations with Konya.



Konya has worked through a gradual approach, as we believe learning from each other is the key to progress. Therefore, throughout the years we have expanded our scope locally, nationally, regionally and internationally as one might infer from the experiences mentioned.

Considering the history, culture and experience of Konya and its continuous contribution to UCLG, as the Mayor of Konya and President of two international local governments organization, Union of Turkish World Municipalities and Union of International Agricultural Cities, I am running for the position of 2022-2025 Presidency of UCLG. I clearly understand and act in accordance with the Terms and Reference for UCLG Presidency.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Uğur İbrahim ALTAY".

Uğur İbrahim ALTAY

**Mayor of Konya**

[Courtesy translation from the original in Spanish]



## **Johnny Araya Monge**

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### **Curriculum vitae**

- He holds a degree in Agricultural Engineering from the University of Costa Rica.
- He attended the Program for Mayors of Latin America and the Caribbean at Harvard University.
- He has been candidate to the Presidency of Costa Rica.
- He has been President of the National Union of Local Governments (UNGL) of Costa Rica.
- He is currently Co-President of the Union of Capital Cities of Iberoamerica (UCCI).
- He is currently Co-President of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).
- He is currently President of the Latin American Federation of Cities, Municipalities and Local Government Associations (FLACMA).
- He is currently and has been for 29 years Mayor of San José, Capital of Costa Rica.





**Ms Emilia Saiz Carracedo**  
Secretary General of United Cities  
and Local Governments, UCLG

[Courtesy translation from the original in Spanish]

Dear Secretary General,

Along with best wishes of health and on the occasion of the call for candidatures to renew the governing bodies of UCLG, we would like to present -by consensus of the Executive Bureau of FLACMA and with the unanimous support of the municipalist organizations of Latin America-, the candidacy of our President and Mayor of San José, Costa Rica, **Johnny Araya Monge** to the position of **Co-President of UCLG** for the period 2022 - 2025.

For this reason and based on Mayor Araya's vast experience, leadership and trajectory in local public service, we wish to express the decision and commitment of the President of FLACMA to run for the election process to be held at the Daejeon Congress next October, expressing the commitment to fulfill -if applicable- this task in accordance with the institutional principles and regulations that govern UCLG.

We would be grateful if this application could be formally submitted to the appropriate institutional bodies.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

**Johnny Araya Monge**  
President of FLACMA and  
Mayor of San José, Costa Rica

Mexico City, 28 July 2022.



[Courtesy translation from the original in Spanish]

**Ms. Emilia Saiz Carracedo**  
Secretary General of United Cities  
and Local Governments, UCLG

Madam Secretary General,

I refer to the Terms of Reference issued by UCLG to define the Roles and Responsibilities of the Presidency, which must be formally adopted by the candidates to occupy one of the Co-Presidencies of our World Organization.

For this reason, I formally accept the guidelines established in these Terms of Reference and adopt the commitment to fully comply with these institutional norms of UCLG, should I be elected to the position of Co-President for which I have submitted my candidacy for the 2022 - 2025 mandate.

For the appropriate effects, I subscribe the above,

[Signature]

**Johnny Araya Monge**

President of FLACMA and  
Mayor of San José, Costa Rica

Mexico City, 28 July 2022.

## Carolina Cosse

Mayor of Montevideo (Term: 2020-2025)



Carolina Cosse is an Electrical Engineer graduated from the School of Engineering of the Universidad de la República in 1991. In 2009 she obtained a Master's degree in Mathematical Engineering. She is passionate about mathematics and music of different styles.

She has worked in the private sector, directing numerous engineering and management projects in Uruguay and other Latin American countries. She has provided professional services to Uruguayan public companies such as UTE, the Banco de Previsión Social and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

From 2007 to 2010, she held her first political government position. She was the Director of the Information Technology Division of the Municipal Government of Montevideo, where she carried out very significant projects for the lives of Montevideo's residents.

From 2010 to 2015 she was the president of Antel, where she promoted the democratization of access to ICTs and important infrastructure projects, which led the company to the first place in Latin America, highlighting: the national fiber optic network, the international level Datacenter, the submarine cable interconnecting Uruguay with the United States, the Vera+ channel, the Ceibal educational connectivity, and the Antel Arena.

She was Minister of Industry, Energy and Mining from 2015 to 2019. She oriented her administration towards a strong implementation of policies to boost national industrial production, contribute to the diversification of the energy matrix, promote the development of the mining sector, telecommunications and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly innovative industries such as audiovisual, design, electronics, robotics and artificial intelligence.

In the national elections of October 2019, she was elected Senator of the Republic.

In the local elections of September 2020, she was elected Mayor of Montevideo, a position she will hold until 2025.





Intendencia  
Montevideo

Montevideo, 1st August 2022.

Dear UCLG colleagues,

I am writing to you in preparation for our World Congress in Daejeon, Korea, next October.

As Mayor of Montevideo, I have had the honor of holding the Vice-Presidency of UCLG for Latin America. This role has allowed me to work throughout this time for a better and greater articulation between the different cities, subnational governments and associations that make up our region.

Today, thanks to the will of all the Latin American members of UCLG, our region is going through a new stage of institutional and political consolidation in accordance with the times we are facing. A reflection of this is the constitution of one Secretariat for our section.

In addition, in accordance with Montevideo's trajectory in its work for gender equality, we have supported every instance of UCLG that promotes feminist municipalism.

The fact that a global organization emphasizes women's leadership, but above all, the need for men and women in our communities to receive from our public policies the necessary tools to achieve equality of opportunities, is an example of the importance of multilateralism in achieving more rights and consolidating better democracies.

We place environment and sustainability at the center of the debate, engaging in the continued localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, the presentation of the Voluntary Local Report at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum,



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and bringing the voice of LRGs to spaces such as COP26.

We are facing great challenges in a pandemic and in a climate of global conflict to which no community can remain oblivious. Articulating with the GTF to express our commitment to the New Urban Agenda and to position cities in the migration agenda was an imperative to guide local priorities in the global agenda. Building communities of peace requires local leadership and, above all, an enormous will for negotiation, diplomacy and the construction of global citizenship.

For all of the above reasons, today I am presenting my candidacy for the Presidency of UCLG. This initiative is motivated by the will to propel our global community to the next stage in our ongoing work for the planet, people and governments. We have made a pact for the future and we want to build that future from today. Where the equality for which we work so hard is reflected in a woman's leadership, representative of feminist municipalism, not for a mere symbolic constitution, but so that from that place and with the fundamental collaboration of the chairperson of the Committee on Gender Equality, we can promote the world's women mayors and support them in the construction of more egalitarian cities. We want the diversity of our community to be reflected once again, giving rise to a Latin American presidency as a result of a sustained dialogue in our region that was also built with the other sections. To be able to articulate throughout the global village, with the large metropolises, as well as with the intermediary cities.

We propose a global agenda that prioritizes spaces for peace building, climate action, innovation for social inclusion and advocacy for LRGs to reaffirm our presence at the global table.



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We have a great challenge ahead of us: that multilateralism be seen by our citizens as the fundamental tool that it is, **deepening participation and communication with civil society**, experts and the entire **global community**.

Finally, I invite you to build together a leadership for our network that takes into account the priorities we have set as an organization, the demands of the inhabitants of our cities and the dedication to public service that characterizes us.

I look forward to our next meeting, and with an eye on the next World Congress, I extend to you my warmest greetings with my highest esteem.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Carolina Cosse  
Mayor of Montevideo



Montevideo, 1st August 2022

Emilia Saiz  
Secretary General of United Cities and Local  
Governments (UCLG)

Subject: Acceptance of terms of reference. UCLG Presidency 2022-2025

Dear Secretary General,

I, the undersigned, Mayor of Montevideo, Engineer Carolina Cosse, hereby declare to accept the "Terms of Reference for the Roles and Responsibilities of the Presidency" of UCLG, adopted by the 2015 Executive Bureau in Paris, upon recommendation of the Committee on Statutory Affairs, as well as its subsequent modifications and concordant rules.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Carolina Cosse Mayor of  
Montevideo



## Altay Kulginov

Altay Kulginov was born in 1978. He graduated from the International Kazakh-Turkish University. H.A. Yasavi, the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the British University of Aberdeen by the Bolashak Presidential International Educational Program. Master of State and Local Government, Master of International Commercial Law.

- In 2000 – Military service in the army.
- From 2001 to 2008 – He served in various positions in the Ministry of Justice, the Agency of State Service and the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
- From 2008 to 2010 – Deputy General Director of «Alash Media Group» LLP.
- From 2010 to 2012 – state inspector of the department of state control and organizational and territorial work of the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

- From 2012 to 2013 – Deputy Governor of the West Kazakhstan region
- From 2013 to March 2016 – Mayor of the Uralsk city.
- From March 2016 to 2019 – Governor of the West Kazakhstan region
- Since June 2019 – Mayor of the city of Nur-Sultan.
- From 2019 to 2022 – President of the International Assembly of Capitals and large cities.

Under the Presidency of Altay Kulginov International Assembly of Capitals and large cities has organized 9 major events. So, on July 3, 2020 a high-level conference on "Innovations and Smart city in the fight against the pandemic" was held. One of the significant events during the presidency of the city of Nur-Sultan was the opening of the stele, donated by the International Assembly of Cities in 2020, in the park of the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

НҮР-СҰЛТАН  
ҚАЛАСЫНЫҢ  
ӘКІМІ



MAYOR  
OF NUR-SULTAN  
CITY

**Ms. Emilia Saiz**  
**Secretary General of UCLG**

**Dear Ms Emilia Saiz,**

It is my pleasure to greet you on behalf of the City of Nur-Sultan and on my own behalf!

I hereby confirm that I have read and agree to accept the Terms of Reference for the Roles and Tasks of the UCLG Presidency.

I would be happy to make my own contribution to the development of the international municipal movement and benefit cities and their people around the world. I kindly ask you to support me in this important matter for the benefit of cities.

**Sincerely,**

**A. Kulginov**

# Curriculum Vitae

## *Dr. Jang Woo LEE*



Date of Birth	10 Feb 1965
Family status	Married, father of two children
Office Address	100 Dunsanro Seogu, Daejeon
Phone	(+82) 042 270 2001
Position	Mayor of Daejeon, Korea

### □ DIPLOMAS

Feb. 1992	B.A. in Public Administration, Daejeon University
Feb. 1999	M.A. in Public Administration, Daejeon University
Feb. 2004	Ph.D. in Public Administration, Daejeon University Certificate of Qualification in Social Worker

### □ MAJOR CAREERS

2006-2010	Mayor of Dong-gu District
2012-2020	Member of the 19th and 20th National Assembly (two consecutive terms), The Saenuri Party
Sep. 2021	Director of the Presidential Campaign
Dec. 2021	Chairman of the Presidential Campaign Committee in Daejeon
Jan. 2022	Deputy Director of the Central Presidential Campaign Committee
2022-2026	Mayor of Daejeon Metropolitan City





**Daejeon Metropolitan City**  
Office of the Mayor

1st of August 2022

To Ms Emilia Saiz  
Secretary General  
United Cities and Local Governments

Subject: Candidacy for UCLG President 2022–2025

I would like to extend my warm greetings to you as the mayor of Daejeon Metropolitan City, the host of the 7th United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) World Congress. First of all, allow me to express my sincere gratitude and respect to UCLG and its members for their dedication and hard work that have contributed to the prosperity of UCLG.

I am writing this letter to inform you of my willingness to run for the presidency of UCLG in the election at the upcoming Daejeon World Congress in October 2022. I am committed to the development of UCLG along with all of you.

My candidacy is motivated by the willingness to find a way to revitalize the regional economy that has been stagnant due to COVID-19 through the cooperative network among UCLG member cities. Moreover, a member city of the UCLG ASPAC section has never been a president despite the fact that UCLG ASPAC has been committed to the UCLG activities including hosting UCLG World Congress twice out of seven congresses.

Daejeon has been involved in many exchanges and activities within UCLG since joining it in 2004. In particular, as the host city of the 2022 UCLG WORLD Congress, Daejeon has contributed to UCLG by enthusiastically promoting its voice in the international community. Besides, as a member of the UCLG World Council and Executive Bureau, Daejeon has been actively sharing ideas and experiences at various meetings.

As the mayor of Daejeon, I undertake to continue and develop the legacy of Daejeon City with UCLG. Moreover, I care about the world in which the next generation will live. I will not only give priority to sustainable development but also implement policies that the young people truly desire. These efforts include drawing up a vision for youth, establishing a youth housing environment and a communication platform, and structuring customized jobs. In addition, I will work out policies that will support vulnerable people, such as children, women, the elderly, and the disabled.



## Daejeon Metropolitan City

### Office of the Mayor

If you look at my career, you will notice that I have diverse experiences from solving local issues as the mayor of a small city to setting up national policies on behalf of the people as a member of the National Assembly. In recognition of the political influence and the ability to get things done, I have now taken on the role of mayor of Daejeon Metropolitan City. I believe my experience will be a great asset to understanding the diversity of the UCLG members and it can contribute greatly to the development and interaction of the members.

Since the coronavirus pandemic, the cities and regions have gotten farther away from each other and conversations have diminished. Against this backdrop, Daejeon will prepare for this World Congress to become a venue where the UCLG member cities and associations can reunite and find hope for restoration. To this end, Daejeon is striving hard to make the World Congress the most successful event ever by establishing a strong relationship not only with ASPAC members but also with other sections such as Europe and Africa. I hope that this endeavor will turn into a strong trust that leads to support for my candidacy for the presidency.

Following the legacy of the former leadership, I will do my best to increase the influence of UCLG with a strong sense of responsibility. To solve common global challenges such as achieving sustainable economic development, fostering innovative industries, finding quality jobs, bridging generational differences, alleviating inequality, ending poverty in all its forms, ensuring equitable education, and addressing climate change, I will strengthen the means of implementation and mobilize all my abilities to fulfill my assigned role for the sustainable development of UCLG.

I formally accept the terms of reference for the roles and takes of the UCLG Presidency. I will attend all scheduled UCLG meetings every year and facilitate networking and stronger connections with the various UCLG sections including UCLG ASPAC. Furthermore, I will do my utmost to increase the influence of both local and regional governments by emphasizing political dialogue and harmony and developing new partnerships.



## Daejeon Metropolitan City

### Office of the Mayor

Lastly, to raise the voices of local and regional governments, I will enhance the role of the local and regional governments in the international community and create a new framework for global leadership based on sharing experiences and expanding communications. I am running for the president of UCLG with great confidence and ambition. As President of UCLG, I will make every efforts to work together to make the voices of every city and region heard with the support of the UCLG Presidency, the UCLG sections and secretariats.

Please find attached support letters from 6 different local governments members from at least 3 different sections as following:

#### ASPAC section

- President of National League of Local Councils, Cambodia
- President Local Government New Zealand
- Chairperson of Association of District Coordination Committees of Nepal

#### Other sections

- Europe: Mayor of Brno city, Czech
- Africa: President of Union of cities and towns, COTE D'IVOIRE
- Eurasia: Mayor of Ulaanbaatar city, Mongolia

I also attach a list of other support letters for your information.

Thank you.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LEE JANG WOO'.

LEE Jang Woo  
Mayor of Daejeon Metropolitan City



**Dr. Li Mingyuan**  
**Mayor of Xi'an**  
**Co-President of UCLG (2019-2022)**

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Dr. Li Mingyuan, born in 1965, holds a doctoral degree in engineering. He worked as a professor at Xi'an University of Posts and Telecommunications from 1995 to 2001. From 2001 to 2015, he served successively as the Deputy Director of the Information Industry Department of Shaanxi Province, Deputy Secretary-General of the Shaanxi Provincial People's Government, Director of Office of Counselors of the Shaanxi Provincial People's Government, Director of the Department of Science and Technology of Shaanxi Province. In March 2015, he was elected as the Mayor of the Weinan Municipality. Four years later, he was elected twice as the Mayor of the Xi'an Municipality in 2019 and 2022.

Under his leadership, the government is dedicated to building a just and caring society so that vulnerable groups' well-being is guaranteed, gender equality is promoted, the ecosystem is improved, poverty alleviation is realized, and a booming industry is enjoyed by all walks of life with big smiles. Furthermore, special attention has been paid to implementing the global agendas such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and New Urban Agenda, contributing to the sound development of the global community.

## **Manifesto of Dr. Li Mingyuan, Candidate of the Co-President of UCLG**

Distinguished Secretary General Ms. Emilia Saiz,  
Dear Colleagues,  
Friends,

As the largest and most representative international organization of local and regional governments, UCLG is committed to building global networks among members and relevant stakeholders. It has been working effectively to promote mutual understanding, exchanges, and cooperation in economic growth, pandemic prevention and control, youth employment, environmental protection, and care for vulnerable groups. It has contributed significantly to global sustainable development.

Since I was elected Co-President of UCLG in 2019, Xi'an has been proactively participating in global governance. Our city presented itself in 181 meetings. We shared our experience in combating the COVID pandemic, local economic recovery initiatives, cultural protection strategies, and employment security policies, inspiring exchanges and nurturing cooperation. Among all these events, I would like to mention the 2022 UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting, which Xi'an successfully held in June.

During the three-year term of Co-President, Xi'an progressed and achieved fruitful outcomes through UCLG. UCLG ASPAC Tourism Committee was established, Xi'an-UCLG ASPAC Chinese Language Training Program was successfully held with positive responses, thoughtful discussions on culture and sustainable development were stimulated during the Seven Keys Workshop, and the Xi'an Local4Action Hub was launched and appreciated by many. We are also proud to contribute to the drafting of the Rome Charter, which is a programmatic document in the cultural field. As a supporting member of the Organization's research work, Xi'an collected data and examples for the brief report on cultural policy, gender equality, and sustainable development, completed and submitted the Survey on the Role of Local Governments in the Localization of the SDGs, and compiled *Introduction to the United Cities and Local Governments*, serving as an effective guide to our Organization in Chinese. All these efforts have significantly raised the profile of UCLG in China.

The 2019-2022 term is nearing an end. As the Mayor of Xi'an, I, on behalf of the city

and its people, solemnly promise and declare that I am fully prepared to run for the Co-President of UCLG for the 2022-2025 term. For the prosperity of cities and regions worldwide and for the development of UCLG, Xi'an is willing to work relentlessly to share our voices and amplify local wisdom. Therefore, I would like to make the following statements through which I hope to have your support.

**Firstly, real progress must be achieved to further strengthen international exchanges and cooperation to build an open government.**

Xi'an enjoys a long history of conducting international exchanges as the starting point of the ancient Silk Road and an ancient capital for millennia. Nowadays, with the in-depth implementation of the Belt and Road Initiative, the city is at the forefront of China's westward opening up. For education, the Belt and Road Scholarship attracts an increasing number of international talents to study and conduct research in Xi'an. For trade and business, the China-Europe freight train named "Chang'an" secured and improved trade contacts along the Silk Road. Xi'an has fostered sister city relationships with 38 cities in 31 countries for international interaction and established friendly exchange city relationships with 63 cities from 41 countries. In addition, high-end conferences, exhibitions, and forums, such as the Euro-Asia Economic Forum, the Silk Road International Expo, and the "China+Central Asian" (C+C5) Foreign Ministers' Meeting were successfully hosted in Xi'an, helping the city in its progress of opening-up with higher standards.

Xi'an is speeding toward becoming an international metropolis in all aspects and expanding its opening-up on all fronts. Utmost efforts will be made to deepen international exchanges and cooperation. Xi'an stands ready to establish an interactive and collaborative mechanism to facilitate communication and cooperation between Chinese cities and international ones to eventually march towards the common prosperity of global communities.

**Secondly, a people-centered approach must be employed to improve citizens' living standards.**

We adhered to the people-centered development philosophy, won the battle against poverty as scheduled, and eliminated absolute poverty. We adhered to employment-oriented policies in economic development so that more job opportunities have been created and the real economy has enjoyed vigorous development. We continuously promoted the balanced allocation of resources in

education, health care, and elderly care and extended access to quality public service. By 2025, 300,000 sets of government-subsidized rental housing will be available for young people and new citizens. After the pandemic outbreak in 2020, the principles of protecting the people above all and ensuring all those in need are hospitalized or treated have been strictly followed and implemented. All-out efforts were made to ensure that all confirmed patients received customized treatment by dedicated expert teams. The safety of the people was fully protected. Special and vulnerable groups whose well-being was affected by the pandemic received necessary guarantees.

People's aspirations for a good life have always been the supreme focus of our work. We strive to ensure that all citizens can share the fruit of urban governance and development in a wider and more equitable manner. Xi'an is willing to strengthen cooperation with global local and regional governments and work tirelessly to eradicate poverty and hunger, guarantee the rights to life and health, education, employment, and all others.

**Thirdly, policies and measures must be implemented to promote green development and protect the ecological environment.**

Green and low-carbon development serve as the most sustainable driving force, and a sound ecological environment represents the most inclusive benefits to human well-being. Thus, upholding the concept of building a community of life for humankind and nature, Xi'an is taking concrete steps to achieve peak carbon emission and carbon neutrality through accelerating industrial transformation and upgrading and vigorously developing photovoltaic and other renewable energy industries. Efforts have also been made to foster and enhance key industries such as electronic information and new energy vehicles, transforming the industrial chain into digital, intelligent, and green. By regulating the sources of pollution and pollutants, the quality of the regional ecological environment has been improved in terms of air, water, and soil. As a firm advocate, we will continue to actively call for a green, low-carbon lifestyle, strengthen energy conservation, promote garbage classification in urban and rural areas, and strive to embark on the path of sustainable development in a green, low-carbon, and circular manner.

Environmental issues are critical to the common interests of the international community and our planet's future. Adhering to the concept of innovative, coordinated, green, open, and shared development, Xi'an strives to achieve carbon neutrality in an orderly manner, accelerate the green transition of production and lifestyle, and

effectively protect the ecological environment. Meanwhile, we will also actively engage in international cooperation and facilitate the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement to protect our common home - the planet.

Xi'an's resolve to open up at a high standard and seek global cooperation will remain unwavering. I reiterate that I am well prepared to assume the responsibilities and obligations of the UCLG Co-Presidency, and I am committed to supporting and engaging in the work of UCLG. I always prioritize strengthening communication, enhancing understanding, building consensus, and promoting cooperation. On behalf of Xi'an and its people as well as in my own name, I would appreciate and cherish the honor of being devoted to implementing the Global Development Initiatives and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to build a community with a shared future for humanity.



Mayor of Xi'an Municipal People's Government



## **BRIEF PROFILE OF CLLR BHEKE CHARLES STOFILE, PRESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SALGA)**



**Cllr Bheke Charles Stofile** is the newly elected President of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), following a national meeting of all 257 municipalities held from 2 – 4 March 2022. Before ascending to the position of President, Cllr Stofile served as a member of the National Executive of Committee responsible for Governance, Intergovernmental Relations, International Relations and Councillor Welfare. In this position he lead the SALGA ten (10) representatives to the National Council of Provinces (one of the two national houses of Parliament).

Cllr Stofile is the Chairperson of the Council of Matjhabeng Local Municipality in Free State Province having served in this position since 2011 to-date. He holds a Human Resources qualification from the University of the Western Cape. In preparation for the numerous leadership roles he also studied Labour Law at the Wits University.

Cllr Stofile held various leadership positions in the structures of her political party, the current ruling party the African National Congress as well as the South African Communist Party, where he currently holds the position of Free State Provincial Secretary.

A hard working, decisive and responsible political individual with the rare talent of lobbying and networking with different stakeholders, Cllr Stofile is known to be an assertive leader, with the tact and ability to deal with very difficult situations and embrace ambiguity as an opportunity not risk. He dedicates his energy to the cause because he believes “It is not done until it is done”. Simply put he is a go getter!

Prior to taking up a full-time political position as a municipal councillor, Cllr Stofile was a Senior Manager responsible for Economic Development, Planning and Stakeholder Engagement at Beatrix Mine and has also held various Non-Executive Director positions in different institutions.

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**TO THE MEMBERS OF UCLG**

**CANDIDATE FOR UCLG CO-PRESIDENCY: 2022 - 2025**

**MANIFESTO OF CLLR BHEKE STOFILE  
PRESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

As a leader of the biggest secondary city in the Free State Province of South Africa, I understand first hand the challenges facing local governments, particularly from the vantage point of an Intermediary City.

Rapid and unplanned urbanization and the impact of more frequent natural disasters due to climate change impacts developed and developing nations in much the same way. Ongoing global financial and economic crisis has aggravated the challenges cities are facing.

I share the globally held view that well managed urbanization in our cities and towns are powerful engines of growth. The adoption of the New Urban Agenda at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) by the United Nations (UN) Habitat in Quito attests to this.

**My Manifesto Pledge**

My pledge to you, is that as Co-President of our global cause, I will lead with compassion and empathy while driving a community responsive agenda for local governments.

Working together with the UCLG Presidency and the Regions over the next term 2022 -2025, and in line with commitments made by former UCLG leaders from South Africa, in particular President Parks Tau, that executed their leadership roles on behalf of the members of UCLG, I similarly will:

- Lead a multisector action agenda to explore and promote innovative solutions for infrastructure financing, mindful of climate change.

- Drive thought leadership on the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution, its nexus with Smart Cities and the challenges and opportunities presented to Metropolitan and Intermediary Cities.
- Champion the localization of the following global agendas –The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the New Urban Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, and the Agenda for Humanity are all in coherence with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Promote multi level governance and recognition of the role of local governments in promoting development and the involvement of local governments in development policy formulation and implementation.
- Secure and advance the voice of local governments in all global platforms, in particular multi-lateral institutions and UN bodies.

I endeavor to, as part of the collective leadership of UCLG, strengthen the role of regions in UCLG policy making and governance structures and advocate for decentralization and autonomy for local governments; to strengthen the execution capacity of our valued organization to ensure the delivery of the agendas and commitments that we make.

These are my commitments to you.

Signature:   
CLLR BHEKE CHARLES STOFILE  
SALGA PRESIDENT  
28 JULY 2022

## Biography Jan van Zanen

Jan van Zanen was born in 1961 and grew up in Edam-Volendam. After attending high school he completed his law studies at the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam in 1985 and at Cornell Law School at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. He did his military service as a reserve officer with the Royal Netherlands Air Force. He then worked in a number of functions including as executive secretary at a national business association. As of 1990 Van Zanen became a member of the municipal council in Utrecht, and



subsequently was appointed as the alderman for finance, economic affairs, public space and monuments in 1998. From 2003 to 2008 he was the chairman of the national People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD). Van Zanen then served as mayor of Amstelveen from July 2005 to December 2013. On 1 January 2014 he was appointed as the Mayor of Utrecht. Since 3 June 2015 he has been the chairperson of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG). In that role, Jan van Zanen also joined the Presidency of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) in 2019. He was sworn in as the Mayor of The Hague on 1 July 2020.

The Hague, 29 July 2022

Dear Secretary General, dear Emilia,

It has been my pleasure to serve as your co-president over the past three years. It has been an intense period in which we showed our strength as a network. COVID-19 forced us to change our ways, to do things differently. We met online numerous times, perhaps we even collaborated more intensively than before. However, I also see that we are now catching up with the 'lost time'.

When I started being a member of the UCLG Presidency I was Mayor of Utrecht. Since 2020 I am Mayor of The Hague, the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest city of the Netherlands. I remain chairman of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG). In these roles, I would like to present my candidacy for the Presidency of UCLG in the period 2022-2025 to you. I am particularly motivated to continue because I believe that the existence of a strong and united municipal movement has grown in importance, in the turbulent times that we live in. I want to contribute to that, actively.

### ***Some achievements from the past period***

During my period as co-president, I have particularly engaged in the important work concerning the Sustainable Development Goals and the strengthening of UCLG as a world organization; both topics lie close to my heart. SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) is naturally a key priority for UCLG and its members. Moreover, I worked on more attention and visibility for SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). VNG International is the founder of the UCLG Peace Prize and has worked on the strengthening of local governance worldwide for decades. VNG International's vast knowledge and experience with the topics of peace building and city diplomacy, which I have also applied in the shaping of the Municipal Peace Talks in recent months, provide a solid basis for the new mandate.

UN75 also was a milestone achievement for UCLG; the UN clearly recognized the need for a more multilevel multilateral governance system, to be achieved in the next decade(s). UCLG will continue to contribute to this, and so will I (as Mayor of the 2<sup>nd</sup> UN city of the world). VNG, the UCLG team and various members have worked hard on a revised policy paper on development cooperation & local governments, to be adopted by the World Council members in Daejeon. This will be a (new) cornerstone document and vision on development for our constituency, and important input for dialogues with national governments, the donor community and other stakeholders.

### ***Priorities for the next period***

In the light of all the ongoing conflicts in the world, I find it of utmost importance that we, as UCLG, continue to provide space for reconciliation, after war and conflict, through the Municipal Peace Talks and other mechanisms. Relations between nation states might be destroyed, at least temporarily, but dialogue and cooperation at local level might become possible again. This have proven to be the case in some post-conflict situations; we need to continue to try to facilitate such dialogue as UCLG. In view of the increase in centralisation tendencies, it is even more important that local governments try to unite, whenever possible.

In the next period, I will continue to pledge for international cooperation between local governments, to face the current and upcoming global challenges adequately. Decentralized cooperation (i.e. development cooperation between local governments) is a crucial cooperation modality, which can help tackle these global challenges. As the new UCLG paper on development cooperation of local governments describes, decentralized cooperation needs more recognition and adequate, sustainable funding, now and in the future. This topic can also be addressed within the Local Government Associations Forum of UCLG, for which I want to refresh VNG's commitment.

Moreover, we need to continuously invest in strengthening our organisation, internally and externally. In the next three years, members have the chance to reinvigorate the network and renew its value proposition. The organisation's global agenda has effectively brought UCLG closer to UN processes and strengthened its presence in them. However, we should not lose our focus on achieving meaningful results coming from such efforts. Aside from our relation with the UN bodies, we should also continue to build other partnerships, get more members involved and to link to general media, for more visibility, among other activities.

I look forward to continue my work in the UCLG Presidency. I am also prepared to step up as your new President, to ensure the stability and strength of our organization in the current turbulent times and to answer to the broad support received the previous weeks. As a representative of The Hague, international city of peace and justice, and of the strong association VNG, which is well-embedded in the European section and in the broader world organisation, I feel confident that I have the necessary experience and the right team behind me to fulfil all the responsibilities of that position.

Last but not least: I endorse the terms and conditions of the Presidency, naturally.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Jan van Zanen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jan van Zanen  
Mayor of The Hague  
President of VNG

**Annexes**  
Biography  
Letters of support



**MAYOR BERRY VRBANOVIC**  
200 King Street West, P.O. Box 1118  
Kitchener, ON N2G 4G7  
Phone: 519.741.2300 Fax: 519.741.2800  
mayor@kitchener.ca



July 30, 2022

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to you today to inform you that I intend to stand for the position of Co-President of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) during this year's upcoming 7th World Congress, being held in Daejeon, South Korea from October 10-14, 2022. Consistent with the electoral provisions of UCLG, please also consider this letter of intention as my full acceptance of the Terms of Reference for members of the UCLG Presidency.

My member organization, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, has been a key and active member of UCLG since the foundation of our new world organization back in 2004. I have had the privilege of serving our global family since 2006 in Jeju, South Korea, in various capacities beginning as a committee member and most recently, in my second term in the role of UCLG Treasurer – a role I have held since the Bogota congress in 2016.

In my capacity as UCLG Treasurer, during these past six years, I have worked collaboratively with two successive Presidents - Parks Tau and Mohamed Boudra, our Co-Presidents, our section vice-presidents and other partners to advance our global movement of local and regional governments. During this time our organization has made significant strides. Our financial position as an organization, and that of our sections has improved significantly in collaboration with a variety of partners, we have collectively tackled the impacts of Covid-19 together with our membership and our team in Barcelona, and we have made continued progress as the recognized voice of the world's cities and communities at the United Nations and in other global institutions.

As someone who has been involved with UCLG for more than a decade, I have seen what we can achieve together, when we speak with one unified voice - whether it is about the Durban Political Declaration, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, localizing the Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda or the Sendai Disaster framework. I have had the privilege of working together with many of you as we have seen our meetings move from hotels on the fringes of the United Nations to meeting with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres in his boardroom. And with your support, I am committed to continuing this critical work as we strive to further strengthen the financial situation of our organization – both in its central offices, and throughout each of our sections as well as continue to grow our advocacy towards an ultimate goal of a permanent seat for local and regional governments at the United Nations.

Through my participation, I have also been able to bring the North American and the Canadian local and regional government perspective to many of the discussions around our global tables. With the proximity of Kitchener to New York, my involvement has also been a benefit to UCLG, as I can represent us at meetings, often going back and forth on the same day. I believe it is important to ensure that this voice continues to be part of our global family.

As we collectively prepare for Daejeon in the coming weeks, like you, I remain committed to the strong, democratic leadership of our organization. Like you, I want to see a leadership team that reflects both a global balance and a gender balance, ensuring an ever-increasing female presence as part of a commitment to strong leadership. As Mayor of Kitchener, within Canada's 10<sup>th</sup> largest region, and at the heart of Canada's innovation corridor, I know that Kitchener and FCM's experience would be useful to the ongoing growth and progress of our UCLG family. I therefore ask you to support my candidacy to return to the Presidency, this time in the new role of Co-President. I also offer, in the spirit of UCLG consensus building, that if it would be more beneficial for me to serve in the role of Treasurer once again on the Presidency, I am willing to entertain discussions in that regard as well.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Berry Vrbanovic". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Berry Vrbanovic  
Mayor





## **MAYOR BERRY VRBANOVIC**

### **BIOGRAPHY**

Kitchener Mayor Berry Vrbanovic was born in Zagreb, Croatia, and understands the challenges of immigrant families and the issues facing the thousands of Canadians making Kitchener their new home.

Berry attended St. Jerome's High School and is a graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University with a BA in political science and a diploma in business administration. More recently, Berry was one of 40 global mayors in the 2021-22 class of the Bloomberg-Harvard City Leadership Initiative and in 2022, Mayor Vrbanovic and the City of Kitchener were selected to be part of the inaugural cohort of the Bloomberg City Data Alliance initiative.

Berry Vrbanovic's outgoing and personable style, coupled with his commitment to local government, saw him being first elected as Mayor of the City of Kitchener in 2014. He was then re-elected in 2018, with an outpouring of community support, for a second term. As Mayor, Berry also serves as a Councillor on the council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo. He remains committed to improving the quality of life for residents not only in Kitchener and throughout the Region of Waterloo, but in fact in cities and communities across Canada and around the world.

Prior to being elected Mayor, Berry served as a councillor for six consecutive terms of council, from 1994-2014. His municipal career however started in the public service where Berry worked in the city's clerk's office and the information technology division, both as a student and in a professional capacity upon completion of his university studies.

In addition to serving on all regular standing committees of Kitchener city council, Berry is also an appointee and active participant on many boards and committees, including the Mayor's Advisory Council for Kitchener Seniors (MACKS), Kitchener-Wilmot Hydro Inc. Board of Directors, University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University Board of Governors, Kitchener Housing Inc. Board of Directors, Centre in the Square Board of Management, and the Downtown Kitchener BIA Board of Directors.

Since 2016, Berry has served as the Treasurer of United Cities & Local Governments, an organization he has been involved with since 2006 in various roles and responsibilities. Berry is also President Emeritus (2011-12) of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and a past member of FCM's Green Municipal Fund Council.

