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**#UCLGMeets**



# UCLG Congress

Daejeon 2022 · 10-14 October

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# General Assembly

Thursday 13 October  
14:30-17:30 (KST)

**#UCLGCongress**



## DRAFT AGENDA

1. Report of the Presidency 2019-2022
2. Report of the policy making processes of the Summit
  - 2.1. Presentation of the Assembly track
  - 2.2. Presentation of the Town Hall track
3. Reports and recommendations from the UCLG Policy Councils
  - 3.1. Right to the city and inclusive territories
  - 3.2. Opportunities for all, culture and city diplomacy: keys to sustainable development and peace
  - 3.3. Territorial multilevel governance and sustainable financing
  - 3.4. Safer, resilient and sustainable cities, capable of facing crises
  - 3.5. Implementation of the New Urban Agenda
4. The UCLG Peace Prize
5. Report of the Committee on Statutory Affairs on the electoral process
6. Appointment of the UCLG Vice-Presidents nominated by the Sections
7. Appointment of the UCLG World Council



**Item 1**

✓ For information

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENCY 2019-2022**

**Summary and recommendations**

This document highlights the major achievements of the World Organization from 2019 to 2022

It is not an exhaustive document, but features the milestones of the World Organization over the three past years.

The published reports for 2020 and 2021 are available on the web site and a detailed report for 2022 is part of the package of the World Council documents and available for any member on demand.

This item aims at providing the opportunity to the UCLG leadership to present the “state of the union” of our World Organization and movement that identifies the priorities for the coming years, the legacy of the Presidency and its mandate, and provides a sense of the work that remains to be done to consolidate some of the policies and actions put in place and to renew our priorities.

The Report of the Presidency will be divided into two parts: a brief summary of the key milestones of the Presidency over its term, and a full Presidency Report that summarizes the three years, available directly on UCLGMeets.

**The General Assembly is invited to:**

1. **Take note** of the report from the President.

**State of the Union**

1. In the lead-up to the World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders, our movement presented itself stronger than ever, embracing its origins to deliver its transformative vision for people, for the planet and for multilateralism. Safeguarding local democracy, building peace through mutual cooperation, and remaining loyal to the values and principles of decentralization, subsidiarity, gender equality, self-government and accountability.
2. Our World Congress in Daejeon is the moment to renew our leadership appointed in Durban. The time span since our Durban Congress has been atypical, marked by the pandemic and a moment of overlapping crises that have had an impact on the priorities of our movement, and to understand that governing with care and empathy needs to be at the core of what we do.



3. In 2020, the world stopped, and the way we all relate to each other radically changed, perhaps forever. The COVID-19 pandemic acted as a magnifying glass that highlighted who and what we were leaving behind and exacerbated the impact of the universal challenges we face.
4. We witness unprecedented levels of inequality to such an extent that peace and democracy are no longer granted. We are confronted with an environmental crisis that is reaching a point of no return. We live in a time of worsening divides where war has made its way into our lives with unforeseen impacts for day to day lives all over the world.
5. Throughout the duration of this leadership, our joint work has adapted the current context. With the universal development agendas as a framework for transformation, and through the Power of We, cities and regions ready to deliver a world that cares, our movement has endeavoured to overcome the pandemic that separated us physically, with the aim of developing a **Pact for the Future**: a strategy that goes beyond the decade of action, and speaks to the international processes that are looking at the post-2030 world.
6. In 2020, after a commitment in Tangier to join UN75, our focus was on galvanising our movement to respond to the call of the United Nations. With the pandemic transforming our habits, we met virtually and were able to build new partnerships, enhance existing ones, and bring together local and regional governments from all over the world into a knowledge platform. We were able to understand that, in spite of the distance, none of us are alone, and our shared efforts can shape the world around us, which was the guiding force between our Decalogue for the COVID-19 era.
7. The pandemic raged on, but 2021 saw a step forward in our commitment to place care at the centre of all actions. Our movement took leaps to present itself as a **Feminist Municipal Movement**, a statement to how we understand politics need to be practiced, and this movement was presented as such in the Generation Equality Forums and in CSW65. With the mandate to adopt a Pact for the Future as a means to deliver our Decalogue, we evolved our learning platform to ensure it was able to bring together partners in a process that would feed the Pact, and began taking strides to evolve our statutory gatherings for a hybrid world.
8. 2022 was the year in which we met again physically, but also a year where our capacity for diplomacy and unity has been put to the test. 2022 marked the review of the New Urban Agenda and saw UCLG facilitating our constituency through the Global Taskforce in the UN Assembly Hall. This year has also been the year of the UCLG Municipal Peace Talks putting the transformative city diplomacy at the centre of the agenda while carrying on our work around, research and learning.

### **We Act for People, for Planet, and for Governments**

9. With the adoption of the mandate to deliver a Pact for the Future, our World Organization is transforming how it presents itself to the World. The three axes that structure the Pact -People, Planet, and Government- will guide our work in the coming years, and have become part of our work plan and of how we tell our story.
10. During the mandate of the Presidency, UCLG has understood that these axes need to permeate our work areas, and that "The Power of We" is our strength to deliver and respond to the current challenges we face. We care, and thus we Advocate, We Research, We Learn, We Listen, and We Meet to renew the social contract, to pave the way for a new social contract with care at the centre: by developing a feminist way of

doing politics, a new relationship with the planet, and a way of governing ourselves with municipalism and local democracy at the centre of decision-making.

11. Since 2019, **We advocate** for a world in which local and regional governments, and the communities that they represent, are a **part of the decision-making table** to bring about transformation. In regards to the future of **government** we were able to build partnerships with the World Health Organization and advocate for the right to healthy cities and territories, to join the UN Secretary-General's call for UN75, and to engage in the review of the New Urban Agenda in Quito+5 with the full strength of our constituency. Our constituency at the HLPF has maintained its structural spaces with the Local and Regional Government's Forum and Day, and local and regional governments remain an integral element of the advocacy towards the G-20, with the U20 initiative growing throughout these last years, presenting our calls to the leadership of the G20 countries. We have also strongly advocated and carried out activities for a world in which local and regional governments have access to finance.
12. Our movement has also strengthened its involvement in the human rights agenda, showcasing its focus on people with the birth of the **Feminist Municipal Movement**, the **Lampedusa Charter** and **the signature of a ground-breaking collaboration agreement with the Office of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights** while working hand in hand with the UN Special Envoy on Disabilities to ensure universal access to services is part of the municipal agenda around the world.
13. UCLG has reinstated its commitment to equity, human rights and equal participation by developing advocacy and a community of practice on Inclusive and Accessible Cities and Territories; and under the premise of "access for all", we have promoted equal access to technology throughout the Network to ensure that the future is accessible to all.
14. When it comes to transforming our relationship with our planet, UCLG has worked to redefine how we interact with our planet, transforming our patterns of production and consumption, and ensuring a true ecological transformation. We have engaged with the three cycles of the COP, as well as with the COP on biodiversity, gathered within the Local Governments and Municipal Authorities Major Group. Our movement has continued to be engaged around the World Water Forum, and showcased our and our strategy on intermediary cities and regions also has the wellbeing of our planet in mind. It will be critical to go from emergency to livability, and continue work through the institutional partnership with key partners in this area.
15. **We care** means bringing people to the centre of our efforts. It is the core of our values as a movement, following the calls of the Durban Political Declaration. Through solidarity, people-centred planning, and a feminist way of doing politics, the value of care has permeated our statutory gatherings, as our leadership met to take decisions to provide for our communities. Our statutory gatherings during these three years have had our communities at the core, as is proven by the development of the UCLG Decalogue for the COVID-19 era, the Rome Charter, the development and involvement of our Policy Councils in the policymaking of our organization.
16. Our work areas have worked within the framework of the upcoming Pact for the Future. **We research** to develop pathways for an equitable and sustainable future. Our 6th Global Report on Local Democracy and Decentralization, which will be presented in the World Congress, is focusing on the "pathways to urban and territorial inequalities". With participation of different parts of the network as well as academia, and civil society organizations, we are researching as one for a more egalitarian world that cares. Our research has also been the spearhead of our advocacy towards the United Nations, with our report *Local and Regional Governments towards the*

*Localization of the SDGs* being presented in 2020, 2021, and 2022 focusing on the state of localization, and bringing to light the involvement of local and regional governments in subnational reporting through VLRs and VSRs. Our engagement with the London School of Economics-Cities has allowed us to build institutional capacities for more effective urban and territorial responses to complex and global emergencies.

17. **We learn** by developing tools, activities, and modules to learn together and re-embrace localization, with the on-line Platform #LearningwithUCLG at the centre, developing over 50 learning courses, four modules on SDG localization and three modules on the localization of the Sendai Framework, and counting on more than 500 people registered. and developing the #LiveLearningExperiences, a platform of shared knowledge aiming at fostering connection of local practices to the global agendas. The training of trainers and peer learning among members are also indispensable parts of the work in this area.
18. **We listen to**, and build strengthened partnerships with the international community. Through our #CitiesAreListening Experiences and our Town Hall process, we ensure that the transformation of the global agendas is a process of co-creation alongside partners from the private sector and the internationally organized civil society, and follow our mandate that came out of Durban.
19. This work around care has been also mainstreamed in how we communicate, with our teams' new platforms that will allow enhanced communication among members and renewed visibility towards partners. The development of UCLGMeets.org and working on the backstage of the UCLG as Platform of Platforms have been critical. The experience of our #LiveLearningExperience and our #CitiesAreListening Experiences platforms have shaped the narrative of UCLG and have led to the renewed storytelling around the #PowerOfWe.

### **A Network that is fit for purpose**

20. **Over the past years, UCLG has embarked in partnerships with the European Union and with the Swedish International Development Agency to support and enhance its activities. In order to ensure the efficacy of our actions and to respond to the challenges of the years to come, UCLG undertook an external evaluation from 2020 to 2022, whose results are promising and lay out the challenges we need to overcome in the coming years.**
21. Throughout the 2019-2022 period, the activities of UCLG have been powered in large part by the first generation of the Special Partnership between UCLG and the European Union, which was renewed until 2022 after five successful years. Throughout these years, the partnership with the European Commission has allowed us to enhance our work, to strengthen our partnerships in the international sphere, and has contributed to all work areas of UCLG, as well as to our Regional Sections.
22. The agreement will further support the role of local authorities and their associations in formulating policies to promote local, regional, and global level sustainable development and formalize a set of common interests and objectives. These include to enhance the engagement between the EU and local and regional governments and their associations in decentralized cooperation, foster the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, raise awareness and build the capacities of local and regional governments and their associations as governance and development policy actors at the international level; Strengthen the capacity of associations of local authorities to coordinate the voices of all partners, create synergies, and add value as

a network, ensuring good governance and sustainable partnerships, including with the European Union.

23. The next stage of this partnership will begin in 2023, until 2027. Supported by €50 million from the European Commission's Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI – Global Europe), the five renewed partnership agreements recognize the contribution of local and regional governments to the design and implementation of policies that are required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular for making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
24. Over these four years of implementation, the agreement with SIDA allowed us us to strengthen our advocacy work through the mobilization of our Ubuntu advisors in support of policy and knowledge development, to facilitate our learning activities, knowledge sharing, peer-to-peer exchanges and decentralized cooperation and thus increase the capacity of local and regional governments to design and implement innovative policies, and to strengthen our communication efforts and the showcasing of the experience of our members in the localization of the SDGs through the Local4Action Hub initiative.
25. The external evaluation of the programme carried out by Triple Line in mid-2022 highlights the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of the programme. Perfectly coherent with UCLG's overall strategy, the programme has promoted a better understanding and concrete buy-in of the SDGs at LRG level and all its intended results across its different components were achieved, with a strong focus and cross-cutting attention on gender and women advancement. The evaluation also notes its remarkable efficiency, pointing out the full adaptation of its means of implementation in the context of COVID-19.
26. The evaluation also highlights some challenges: How can we better mobilize and address the specific needs of the Least Developed Countries? How can we strengthen our monitoring and evaluation system to better account for the outcomes of our work and demonstrate the added value of our Organization? How can we better communicate and mobilize our constituency beyond the 'willing'?
27. Consolidating these achievements and meeting these challenges will be at the heart of the discussions that UCLG and SIDA engaged in at the end of 2022 with the aim of developing a new phase of this partnership.
28. Following the mandate received by the Executive Bureau in May 2020 and the selection of the consultants during the World Council in November 2020, UCLG launched the process for its external assessment, this assessment analyses the performance of the Organization and its capacity to adapt to the changing ecosystem in which it operates. As decided by the Governing Bodies, it considers UCLG's position in the global context and the structure of the network. It has been carried out by the agency "DNA Consulting".
29. After receiving two initial reports on the progress made, in May 2021 and November 2021 respectively, in which DNA Consulting shared the preliminary results of the assessment after a phase of desk-work and in-depth interviews that included the perspective of the Sections, the World Council agreed to give more time to DNA Consulting to conduct additional interviews and online sessions with specific groups of members.
30. As per the final report, it appears that UCLG's evolution since its creation has been successful. It is a unique international organization on the international stage, in terms

of diversity of membership, legitimacy, uniqueness of its focus, geographical scope and generalist approach, which makes it particularly relevant and beneficial for its members.

31. Building on these recommendations, the World Secretariat is initiating consultation processes next year to address the key recommendations, and it is expected that these processes will be aligned with the strategic priorities defined by the Pact for the Future, and for the process to be launched at the 2023 Retreat.

**Failure is not an option - The Pact for the Future towards the renewal of our systems**

32. The transformation -of our models, of our actions, of our partnerships- is no-longer dispensable. Failing is not an option. Against this backdrop, we are firmly committed to contribute to a sustained and profound change in our societies and systems. A change to break through as one, stronger, caring for each other and for our planet.
33. The Daejeon World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders, our World Congress, will be the space to renew our leadership and our priorities for the coming six years, with a stronger focus on peace and city diplomacy, on gender equality, on human mobility, accessibility, health, proximity... we will present ourselves with renewed consultation mechanisms and the inputs of our partners of the Town Hall Process and our regional sections.
34. Through this Pact for the Future, UCLG members and our organized constituency acknowledge the importance of this foundational moment, for a world that bridges local actions and global trends. A world that guarantees equal access to public basic services. A world that has transformed its systems, from degenerative to regenerative. A world driven by well-informed, critical and empowered communities. A feminist world that cares and thrives with girls, women, boys and men equally empowered. A world based on solidarity.
35. United Cities and Local Governments, an equality driven movement, is committed to facilitating the space for local and regional leaders to make this world a reality, responding to the call of the UN Summit for the Future.



## Item 2

✓ For information

### REPORT OF THE POLICY MAKING PROCESSES OF THE SUMMIT

#### Summary and recommendations

The 2022 World Congress will provide an alternative space for the constituency to organize with stakeholders and prepare inputs, promote policy areas and develop the next steps of the municipal movement. It will consolidate the policies that UCLG has been promoting within its strategic plan, with a strong focus on delivering "Our Common Agenda", redefining the new essential services to leave no one and no place behind, regenerating trust between government and people, and placing local and regional governments as representatives of communities and for communities, and keeping the four UCLG Policy Councils issues as key pillars.

Special attention will be paid to creating a space of structural dialogue with other stakeholders and in particular civil society, aiming at strengthening local democracy, the implementation of the right to the city and the development of an intergenerational agenda for the World Organization.

The outcome of the Summit will not only be a declaration, but a corpus of integrated policy recommendations resulting from a consultation with other stakeholders and offering both bottom-up continental and region-specific priorities. They will come from the four Tracks of the Congress and will feed the **Pact for the Future**.

This item aims at providing an overview of the policy-making processes of the World Summit towards the Pact for the Future.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the policy processes.

#### Overview of the Policy Outcomes

1. The outcome of the **Assembly Track** will be a compendium of Policy Recommendations to the municipal movement, and will be further submitted to the General Assembly.
2. The **Town Hall sessions** will produce a series of recommendations, based on the policy papers drafted by each of the Town Hall, after being submitted to debate. They will then be presented to the General Assembly.
3. The final outcome document of the Summit will be the **Pact for the Future**, and the **political statement** with a long-term vision, setting the scene with the hopes, aspirations and calls for the years to come. This political introduction will reflect



the visions of the UCLG leadership and will serve and be known as the ***Daejeon Political Declaration***. It will further deploy **a narrative and strategy on the three axes** (people, planet and government) of around 10 pages, building on the contributions of the UCLG policy processes leading to the UCLG World Summit. The focus will be on bringing together joint ideas and advocacy that have been carried out throughout the years in key areas of work for the constituency, and will ultimately shape the multi-annual strategic plan of UCLG and work programmes for the years to come.

4. The Pact for the Future of Humanity will further constitute the contribution of the constituency to the United Nations Summit for the Future in 2023, and will be open to endorsement by other local and regional government networks, which are part of the Global Taskforce.

### **Amendment process**

#### ***The political statement of the Pact for the Future: The Daejeon Political Declaration***

5. Members of the World Council were invited to submit amendments to the political declaration. These amendments could be submitted directly via the UCLGMeets platform, in one of the three working languages of UCLG, by 15 September. Proposals were required to provide concrete wording to be added or deleted from the existing draft.

#### ***The narrative and strategy of the Pact for the Future: the multi-annual strategic plan of UCLG***

6. Members of the World Council were also invited to present specific motions on the strategy. These motions could be on topics, issues or work that members would propose to include in the strategic work plan of UCLG.
7. Motions were to be submitted directly via the UCLGMeets platform or via email to the Congress coordination team at the World Secretariat, by 15 September. These motions, also to be submitted in one of the three working languages of UCLG, were requested to link the proposal(s) to a specific axis of the Pact for the Future, counting on the support of at least 5 members from 3 different world regions.
8. The amendment process will be open in Daejeon, albeit limitedly considering the extensive co-creation process organized the months before the Congress. The following steps are proposed to be presented to the Executive Bureau:
  - a) Final motions to the strategy of the Pact for the Future can be submitted by leaving a message at the UCLG World Secretariat office in the DCC (room to be announced) or by sending an email to [UCLGExBu@uclg.org](mailto:UCLGExBu@uclg.org).
  - b) Motions should be submitted in writing in one of the three working languages of UCLG: English, French or Spanish.
  - c) Motions should consist of concrete proposals on topics, issues or work to include in the strategic work plan of UCLG, explicitly linked to one of the axes of the Pact for the Future.
  - d) Motions should be presented with the support of at least 5 members from 3 different world regions.
  - e) Motions will be accepted until 13 October, 14:00 (Korea Standard Time).
9. The final draft of the Pact and the Declaration will be presented to the World Council on 14 October for adoption.

## Item 2.1

✓ For information

### PRESENTATION OF THE ASSEMBLY TRACK

#### Summary and recommendations

The Assembly Track of the UCLG World Congress 2022 aims at deliberating and presenting continental and thematic priorities that contribute to the global policies of the World Organization. The Assembly will be co-chaired by the regional political leaders with inputs by the co-chairs of the Policy Councils and with the lead of the UCLG Regional Sections.

The Assembly Track will be built on sessions inspired Position Papers that will be need to be submitted by UCLG Regional Sections. The Position Papers will define a compendium of policy recommendations that will be a part of the Pact for the Future of Humanity: the core of our renewed policy priorities from 2022-2028, and will also be part of the Work Programme of UCLG. The sessions themselves will contribute to disseminate the conclusions of these papers, and feed into the final versions of the Pact for the Future.

The draft structure of the Pact for the Future and its three axes: People; Planet; and government will be the base of the discussions and consultations around each of the Assembly Position Paper. The Regional Sections are invited to present their outcomes to the UCLG Statutory bodies.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the outcomes of the Assembly Track process and its sessions in Daejeon.
2. **Make use** of this feedback in the work plans of the World Organization.

1. The Assembly Track includes UCLG Sections and local and regional government representatives as the key drivers, ensuring that the policy process of the World Organization is truly bottom-up, for the people and by the people.
2. The Assembly Track aims at allowing continental, sectoral and thematic priorities that contribute to the global policies of the World Organization of Local and Regional Governments.
3. Through the Assembly Track, UCLG Sections develop position papers to be presented during the Assembly sittings and to further provide a set of recommendations to the newly elected UCLG Presidency and towards the Pact for the Future.



## From Durban to the Pact for the Future

4. In Durban, the Assembly Track allowed to showcase the key priorities of the World Organization from a continental perspective. The sittings of the Assembly and the Position Papers delivered in Durban laid out the key themes for each world region, and fed into the Durban Political Declaration, the roadmap laid in Durban for the Decade of Action. Below is a brief summary of the priorities of each paper:
  - a) **Africa** - The challenge of urbanization and the urban poor, access to finance for local and regional governments, capacitation of local and regional leaders, and multi-level governance were of the key themes of the African Position Papers.
  - b) **Americas** - Globalization and financialization are the key elements of the paper. The lack of access to finance for local governments, inequality, urban violence, migration -in particular the situation in Venezuela and Nicaragua, the faces of poverty -in particular how it affects the youth- and the challenge of reducing the carbon emissions and maintaining the Amazon were highlighted as some of the key characteristics to understand the situation in the region.
  - c) **Eurasian-Pacific** – The Asia-Pacific position paper placed its focus on resilient and sustainable cities and the localization of the Sendai framework, as well as promoting cultural heritage and ensuring effective local self-government.
  - d) **Europe** - The European position paper addressed how to strengthen the role, consideration and involvement of local and regional governments in European and global policies, and also focused on achieving international partnerships to implement and disseminate the SDGs worldwide.
  - e) **Metropolis** - The Metropolitan position paper addressed the challenges of the upcoming metropolitan era, and the role large metropolises will play in the upcoming years: in particular, how to rethink city borders and jurisdictions for better quality of life for all.
  - f) **Middle-East and West Asia** - The Middle East and West Asia position paper addresses the consolidation of peace due to the various conflicts in the region, the migratory movements that originate due to this crisis, and the struggle of addressing the climate crisis in the region.
5. The Assembly Track process in 2022 towards and in Daejeon will be the opportunity to show how this reality has updated and renewed the continental priorities of the World Organization, and being a critical part of the Pact for the Future, our strategic priorities from 2022 onwards.
6. The consultations towards the Assembly sittings in Daejeon and the Assembly gatherings in the framework of the World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders in 2022 have been by the UCLG regional sections, building on the experience of Durban, and with the three axes of the Pact (people, planet, government) as the *motif* running through all papers.

## The Assembly Track and the Pact for the Future

7. The political priorities included in the Assembly Position Papers will form a compendium of policy inputs that the Presidency will receive to build the Pact for the Future.

8. The compendium of policy recommendations will be used as inputs to the World Organization 2023 work programme and renewal of the strategic priorities as from 2022 onwards. The outcomes of the Daejeon World Congress are set to inspire an entire decade of local action.
9. They will enable the World Organization to consolidate the voice of the constituency before the United Nations, towards continental mechanisms and, above all, to increase ownership of the members and the Sections in regards to the policy definition of the World Organization.
10. The draft structure of the Pact for the Future and its three axes – People, Planet, and Government- will be the base of the discussions and consultations around each of the Assembly Position Paper.

### **The format of the Position Paper**

11. The Position Paper will have as base the three components of the Pact for the Future: People, Planet and Government. It is proposed that the Position Paper be of maximum 6 pages long, and include the following elements.
  - a) **Key messages:** Summary of the main messages of the paper
  - b) **Current context and state of challenges:** he context and challenges in regards to local implementation faced in the region
  - c) **Key policy priorities in the following areas:** Detail the direct links of these challenges with one (or more) of our global policy priorities identified within the Pact for the Future:
    - **People:** This axis will push for a stronger agenda on supporting rights in the city, including right to adequate housing for all, cultural rights and digital rights, as a critical tool in leaving no one and no place behind and as the sole antidote to the rise in discriminatory and xenophobic discourse. The peacebuilding agenda will be an essential driver of for the Pact for the Future.
    - **Planet:** This axis emphasizes the need to build new models for an ecological transformation and in relation to nature. It could explore further the issues linked to fair and equal distribution of the benefits of climate action and resilience building, the strengthening of care systems, protection of public services and common goods, decentralized and local energy, and water and urban, territorial and human mobility.
    - **Government:** This axis will bring to life our local democracy agenda, including our work on renewal of governance, on emergency governance and redoubling efforts around transparency and open governments.
    - If relevant, link to the recommendations and work of UCLG Fora, Committees and Communities of Practice
  - d) **Policy strategies and tools:** Group a set of policies developed in the region to face the challenges detailed in part 2
  - e) **Links with global agendas and continental mechanisms:** Detail how the policy strategy is linked with continental strategies developed by continental institutions (eg. EU, AU, ASEAN), regional agendas (eg. EU Urban Agenda, 2063 African Union Agenda) and/or global agendas (SDGs, Climate Agenda, Sendai Framework, Financing for Development, Global Migrants Compact)

- f) **Key recommendations and actions by the international local and regional governments movement:** List a set of maximum 8 policy recommendations. For example, the Durban Manifesto included policy recommendations on:
- Eg: Ecological Transformation
  - A Seat at the Global Table
  - National Enabling Environment
  - Accelerating the localization of the SDGs
  - Habitat III legacy, Multi-Level Governance
  - Culture, Pillar of sustainable development
  - Migration

### **Process of the Assembly Track**

12. The Process has been distributed in two moments:

- a) Consultation Phase: February-September 2022  
The Sections will ensure a process of consultation of their membership in the 9 UCLG Sections. The Sections are welcome to include the Consultations as a part of their own processes:
- Africa
  - Asia-Pacific
  - Eurasia
  - Europe
  - Latin America
  - Metropolis
  - North-America
  - Middle-East and West Asia
  - Forum of Regions
- b) Assembly Sitting: October 2022  
The Sections will be holding their Assembly Sitting forming the Assembly Track of the UCLG World Congress. The Sections will present the outcomes of these sessions to the General Assembly in the Daejeon World Congress

### **Roadmap for the Assembly Track**

13. **February 2022:** Initial discussions by Sections in the framework of the UCLG Retreat 2022 (21-25 February 2022):
- a) Presentation of the Assembly Track Process towards Daejeon and its contribution to the Pact for the Future.
  - b) First presentation of initial priorities identified during the Retreat 2022
14. **June 2022:** Consultations and drafting exercise by the Sections:
- a) UCLG Sections were invited to conduct consultations and start the drafting of their Position Paper towards Daejeon and contribution to the Pact for the Future on People, Planet and Government
  - b) UCLG Sections were invited to present an oral update of their Position Paper at the UCLG Executive Bureau, as a preview to the full position paper.

## **Towards Daejeon: the Policy Papers and the Assembly Sitzings**

### **15. Final Draft for publication: September 2022**

16. **ASSEMBLY SITTINGS - October 2022:** Formal sittings of the Assembly Track during the UCLG World Congress in Daejeon and formal contribution to the Pact for the Future.

There will be finally seven sittings of the Assembly, with UCLG ASPAC incorporating its Assembly in the framework of its statutory meetings in Daejeon. North America and the Latin American Section will hold a joint Assembly, as will Metropolis and the Forum of Regions.

## Item 2.2

✓ For information

### PRESENTATION OF THE TOWN HALL TRACK

#### Summary and recommendations

The UCLG Town Hall is the space for dialogue and interaction between different internationally organized civil society constituencies and the political leadership of the local and regional governments constituency to jointly define our global policies building on the Live Learning and #CitiesAreListening Experiences, which shaped UCLG's international advocacy and inclusive, sustainable thinking for the future. Driven by civil society, it allows different international stakeholders to collaborate in the definition of policy priorities and the localization of the global agendas.

The 2022 UCLG Town Halls focus on: the Global Commons; Trust and Government; Caring Systems; and Climate and Culture. They kicked off in January with "Thinking Big" meetings to get to the heart of the issues of each Town Hall and to start setting the general priorities to be discussed during the cycle.

In July 2022, the "Going Deeper" phase gathered the Town Hall leading organizations in Bogotá for a field visit led by UCLG. This visit focused on care policies in which the Town Hall representatives visited care blocks and facilities throughout the city. The field visit gave a hands-on perspective on care and local public services and was documented through a video which will serve as material for exchange amongst local and regional governments.

In September 2022, the Town Halls met with the UCLG Policy Councils to test their ideas with UCLG's membership and to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments to finalize the policy papers before Daejeon.

At the UCLG World Congress in Daejeon, the policy papers of the Town Halls will be presented to the local and regional government constituency through a dialogue, which is meant to kick off the next phase of the Town Halls focusing on implementation, advocacy, and linking it to the UN Common Agenda and Summit for the Future.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the recommendations and conclusions of the Town Hall Policy Papers.

#### Background

1. The UCLG Town Hall is the space for dialogue and interaction between different internationally organized civil society constituencies and the political leadership of the local and regional governments constituency to jointly define our global policies. It builds on the spaces for dialogue and interaction between different stakeholders and the political leadership of the local and regional governments constituency created





such as the Live Learning and the #CitiesAreListening Experiences which shaped UCLG's international advocacy and inclusive, sustainable thinking for the future.

2. Driven by civil society, it allows different international stakeholders to collaborate in the definition of policy priorities and the localization of the global agendas. The policy recommendations commissioned for local and regional governments are a sign of the transformation of our movement to include all stakeholders in the decision-making process and to showcase how cities are listening to deliver a pact for the future. The Town Hall culminates in a corpus of integrated policy recommendations resulting from a consultation with other stakeholders and offering both bottom-up continent and region-specific priorities.

### **From Durban to Daejeon**

3. The contributions of the first generation of the UCLG Town Hall process were integrated into the Durban Declaration and into the daily work of the World Organization in its different areas (policy, advocacy, learning and research). Structured around 5 key priorities: Accessible Cities; Addressing Informalities; Gender Equality; Right to the City, and Sustainable Urban Development.
4. Following the outcomes of the Durban Town Hall, the 2022 UCLG Town Hall renewed the structured dialogue between the local and regional governments constituency and internationally organized civil society and is strengthened by the presence of international partners and 3 cross-cutting caucuses (youth, feminism and accessibility). The UCLG UBUNTU Advisors are also contributing and following the discussions. The subjects of the Town Hall are directly linked to the UCLG Pact for the Future and its three axes: People, Planet and Government. They also reflect the priorities and targets included in the UN Secretary General's Common Agenda, which looks at the next 25 years and tries to imagine a more inclusive and networked multilateral system, and will serve as contributions from our constituency to the UN Summit for the Future in 2023.

### **Kicking off the 2022 Town Halls**

5. The 2022 UCLG Town Halls focus on: the Global Commons and redefining public services and the notion of what is public and what should be considered as part of the commons; Trust and Government and defining how we will regain trust in the public sector and redefine our institutions; Caring Systems and understanding what we need to renew our social contract to put care at the center of our cities and territories; and Climate and Culture to guarantee that our planet and future generations are protected through culture as the backbone of our societies and as our motor for sustainable development.

#### ***Global Commons Town Hall***

6. The COVID-19 pandemic and its related crises have underlined what is essential to our everyday lives and have redefined the notion of what is public and what should be considered as part of the commons. It has never been clearer that basic services such as access to housing, to water and sanitation, to health, to nutritious and sustainable food, and to transport are indispensable to protect the livelihood of people. Over the past two years, the importance of access to green public spaces, the right to clean air and a clean environment, digital rights and the right to connectivity, the right to quality time, among others, has risen. This is what is at the heart of this Town Hall led by the Global Platform for the Right to the City with Town Hall organizations including Cities Coalition for Digital Rights, Open Society Foundations, ACCORD, FAO and UNICEF.

7. Lead Organization: Global Platform for the Right to the City: Lorena Zarate, Sophia Torres, Nelson Saule.
8. Town Hall Organizations:
  - a) Cities Coalition for Digital Rights: Aik Van Eemeren, Lead Public Tech at CTO, City of Amsterdam
  - b) Open Society Foundations: Nina Madsen, Programme Officer
  - c) ACCORD: Karishma Rajoo, General Manager
  - d) FAO: Marcela Villareal, Director of Partnerships Division
  - e) UNICEF: Thomas George, Global Lead, Urban
  - f) Youth Caucus: Marta Verani Migration Youth & Children Platform, Major Group for Children and Youth
  - g) Accessibility Caucus: World Enabled
  - h) Feminist Caucus: Huairou Commission

### ***Trust and Government Town Hall***

9. Trust is the backbone of inclusion and peace and the foundation of key elements of democracy such as transparency and integrity in public information, accountability and multi-stakeholder multi-generational dialogue. Fostering trust between people and government will be key to truly reinvigorate multilateralism and ensure that the global agendas are achieved. Trust includes not only listening to others but also learning from others. This is what is at the heart of this Town Hall led by the General Assembly of Partners with Town Hall organizations including Open Government Partnership, Fixed Africa and International IDEA.
10. Lead Organization: General Assembly of Partners: Eugenie Birch, Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research, University of Pennsylvania.
11. Town Hall Organizations:
  - a) Open Government Partnership: Rudi Borrmann, Lead, OGP Local
  - b) Fixed Africa: Barbara Holtmann
  - c) International IDEA: Alberto Fernandez, Senior Programme Officer
  - d) UN Habitat: Chris Williams, Director
  - e) Youth Caucus: Viviane Ogou, President, Puerta de Africa
  - f) Accessibility Caucus: World Enabled
  - g) Feminist Caucus: Huairou Commission

### ***Caring Systems Town Hall***

12. Protecting our communities and enhancing their well-being is a must in the COVID-19 aftermath and this calls for transforming our systems and who is involved in decision-making. The relevance of care work shifted during the pandemic, including by considering the disproportionate impact on women and girls on their uses of time and their full participation in public life. Embracing equality in all parts of life is essential to transform our societies and develop a new way of doing politics, emphasizing the unique role of women and feminist local leaders and their transformative contribution to decision-making. To develop caring communities means understanding that priorities have changed and that we need to renew our social contract.
13. Lead organization: Cities Alliance: Greg Munro, Director; Gabriela Mercurio, Urban Analyst.

14. Town Hall Organizations:
  - a) Public Service International: Rosa Pavanelli, Secretary General
  - b) International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA): Gerald Leitner, Secretary General
  - c) Civil Society Action Committee: Colin Rajah, Coordinator
  - d) UHC2030 Universal Health Coverage: Co-Chair of the UHC2030 Steering Committee
  - e) Youth Caucus: Elana Wong, Major Group for Children and Youth, Youth Caucus
  - f) Feminist Caucus: Huairou Commission
  - g) Accessibility Caucus: World Enabled

### ***Climate and Culture Town Hall***

15. To guarantee that our planet and future generations are protected and able to live decent lives, we will need to acknowledge the turning point in history we find ourselves at. The climate emergency must be mitigated and action is needed from all actors. This action must be one that is rooted in change: a change in production and consumption, a change in our relationship with nature, and a change in priorities to achieve caring systems. This change can be brought about through culture as the backbone of our societies and as our motor for change and sustainable development.
16. Lead organization: Climate Heritage Network: Andrew Potts, Coordinator.
17. Town Hall Organizations:
  - a) Climate Chance: Ronan Dantec, President
  - b) Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature: Corinne Lepage
  - c) International Indigenous Women's Forum (FIMI)
  - d) Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030): Sanjaya Bhatia, Head of Office Incheon of UNDRR
  - e) Youth Caucus: Daniel Akinjise, African Youth Leader
  - f) Feminist Caucus: Huairou Commission
  - g) Accessibility Caucus: World Enabled

## **The Caucuses**

### ***Youth***

18. There is an imminent need to integrate youth voices into both policy and advocacy co-creation processes. To this end, UCLG launched an international call together with the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY) and other leading youth representative organizations to select young councilors (respecting regional and gender balance) who will formally contribute to the recommendations of each of the Town Halls. There is at least one youth Councillor in each of the Town Halls which form the Youth Caucus that will meet periodically to exchange ideas and findings from each of the Town Halls. The youth caucus will be accompanied by political representatives from UCLG, the Cities Are Listening series and UCLG Policy Councils, through Elisenda Alamany, Barcelona City Councilor and Metropolitan Councilor (Metropolitan Area of Barcelona), Gissela Chalá, Vice Mayor of the Metropolitan Council of Quito, and Annie Chrystel Limbourg, Deputy Mayor of Libreville.

### ***Feminist***

19. In order to ensure that the voices of UCLG Women and the UCLG feminist movement are in each and every Town Hall conversation, a representative of the feminist

organizations that the organization works with have been invited to formally contribute to the recommendations of each of the Town Halls. There is one representative of municipalist feminism in each Town Hall. These 4 representatives, in turn, form the Feminist Caucus that will meet periodically to exchange ideas and findings of each of the Town Halls. The Huairou Commission is facilitating this caucus.

### ***Accessibility***

20. In order to formalize the mainstreaming of the accessibility agenda in all deliberations of our network and building on the work of the UCLG community of practice on accessibility, a representative or partner from the UCLG community of practice on Accessibility has been invited to formally contribute to the recommendations of each of the Town Halls. There is one community representative in each Town Hall. These 4 representatives in turn form the Accessibility Caucus that will meet periodically to exchange ideas and findings from each of the Town Halls. World Enabled is facilitating this caucus.

### **The co-creation undertaken**

21. The Thinking Big meetings at the beginning of 2022 set the scene for the Town Hall to consider its core priorities in light of the All Town Halls meeting that took place during the UCLG Retreat, which presented Headlines from the Future within a municipal newspaper entitled the "Municipal Times" to inspire creativity and innovation on what the world would like in 2042 if the goals of each Town Hall were to be met.
22. In July 2022, the "Going Deeper" phase gathered the Town Hall leading organizations in Bogotá for a field visit led by UCLG. This visit focused on care policies in which the Town Hall representatives visited care blocks and facilities with Mayor Claudia Lopez and city representatives throughout the city. The field visit gave a hands-on perspective on care and local public services and was documented through a video which will serve as material for exchange amongst local and regional governments.
23. Finally, in September 2022, the Town Halls met with the UCLG Policy Councils to test their ideas with UCLG's membership and to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments to finalize the policy papers before Daejeon.

### ***Global Commons***

24. *Going Deeper phase:* Since the UCLG retreat, the commons Town Hall has met monthly, first to define a common roadmap for the process and then to start getting to a common approximation to define the commons, particularly from a Local and Regional government point of view.
25. After this first step, the group has been developing participatory workshops to identify lessons learned from concrete cases, in particular from the GOLD VI Report, and key aspects that should be taken into account in order to foster the development and joint management of commons by LRGs and civil society organizations. During the field visit in Bogotá, a perspective on care and local public services was highlighted, connecting the Global Commons through the revitalization of what is considered public, shared use of spaces and facilities, and co-governance of municipal resources.
26. *Consultation and Presentation phase:* In September 2022, the Town Halls met with the UCLG Policy Councils to test their ideas with UCLG's membership and to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments prior to finalizing the policy papers before Daejeon. The Global Commons Town Hall met with the policy councils of Right to the City and New Urban Agenda and identified 3 main elements to recognize

commoning experiences: 1) realizing a community of commoners; 2) a common pool of resources and 3) a set of shared principles.

27. *Key messages from the Global Commons Town Hall stemming from the policy paper:* Taking into account the diversity under which commons can be collectively managed, public authorities can adopt a diversified strategy to support and spur commoning initiatives, including:
- a) Respect and trust: focus on giving community initiatives the space and tools to flourish and thrive and that seeks to remove potential (legal, regulatory, financial, political, attitudinal) obstacles and biases for such;
  - b) Protect: protecting commoning initiatives (and commoners) from possible resistances or retaliation under adverse configurations;
  - c) Realize: ensuring that commoning practices act indeed as levelers for greater equity and equality. Commoning should be intrinsically feminist, anti-racist, anti-ableist, anti-ageist, inter-generational and aligned with the emancipation and autonomy of those traditionally marginalized and excluded.

### ***Trust and Government***

28. *Going deeper phase:* Since the UCLG Retreat, the Trust and Government Town Hall has been focusing its research on how trust is not a univocal concept, it has to be broken down between different levels of government and different elements that make up citizenship – age groups, ethnicity, gender, and purchasing power. The field visit allowed to focus on the illustration of policies that transform the relationship between government and people, by ensuring that residents have direct and easy methods of communication with their local governments.
29. *Consultation and Presentation phase:* In September 2022, the Town Halls met with the UCLG Policy Councils to test their ideas with UCLG’s membership and to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments prior to finalizing the policy papers before Daejeon. The Trust and Government Town Hall met with the policy councils of Multilevel Governance, Opportunities for All, and Safer, Sustainable and Resilient Cities and highlighted the notion that public trust does not only help governments, but it also addresses global issues like the health crisis, climate change, and other crises we are witnessing today.
30. *Key messages from the Trust and Government Town Hall stemming from the policy paper:* Three principles of a new social contract according to the Town Hall:
- a) Involve residents in problem-solving and policymaking through transparency and access to useful information and data, promoting widespread and meaningful engagement consciously including under-represented groups, and supporting civic space for dialogue, expressing ideas, co-creating policies and programs, and partnering on various projects;
  - b) Commitment by the residents to participate actively and accept multi-stakeholder leadership in civic life to advance and improve agreed upon collective action;
  - c) Acknowledge and respect subsidiarity. All countries decide how to allocate power and responsibilities. An important guiding principle is subsidiarity that holds that functions which are performed effectively by subordinate or local government belong more properly to them than to a higher level of government. A critical dimension to any decentralization policy is the clear articulation of the associated obligations, powers and resources to undertake the assigned tasks.

## ***Caring Systems***

31. *Going Deeper Phase:* Since the UCLG Retreat, the Caring Systems Town Hall has met periodically to start outlining the Policy Paper, and enter deeper in discussions on priorities. Discussions have highlighted the holistic nature of care which requires the adoption of a rights-based approach focused on granting all residents access to structures and mechanisms that allow them to care for themselves and for others. The field visit in Bogotá brought the focus on policies that transform the notion of care, putting at the center education, legal advice, wellness and sports.
32. *Consultation and Presentation phase:* In September 2022, the Town Halls met with the UCLG Policy Councils to test their ideas with UCLG's membership and to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments prior to finalizing the policy papers before Daejeon. The Caring systems Town hall met with the policy councils of Right to the City and New Urban Agenda and stressed that care goes beyond the healthcare approach and includes local public services and that follow human rights based principles that look at all people as empowered and active versus passive.
33. *Key messages from the Caring Systems Town Hall stemming from the policy paper:*
  - a) Focus on the informal and most marginalized: Strong caring systems value the contributions, needs, and rights of individuals and households made invisible by current practices, and help repair historical wrongs;
  - b) Foster development from bottom up: participatory governance and collaboration are cornerstones of inclusive caring systems and allow for the understanding of the challenges, needs and contribution capacities of urban dwellers;
  - c) Invest in technology advances to allow people to receive essential services: Modern technologies can be used to the benefit of public administration and people;
  - d) Care for people and the environment promoting a just transition: caring systems encompass not only the services and structures created by humans, but also the environment and elements of nature.

## ***Climate and Culture***

34. *Going Deeper Phase:* Since the UCLG Retreat, discussions of the Climate and Culture Town Hall have focused on unlocking the potential of culture including arts, heritage, traditional knowledge and Indigenous ways of knowing to help people transformatively reinterpret today's petrocultures and their accompanying mindsets and imagine and realize low-carbon, just, climate resilient futures. The field visit stressed the relationship between care services and resilience, and their power to change cultural and societal norms that can be harmful to people and to the planet.
35. *Consultation and Presentation Phase:* In September 2022, the Town Halls met with the UCLG Policy Councils to test their ideas with UCLG's membership and to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments prior to finalizing the policy papers before Daejeon. The Climate and Culture Town Hall met with the policy councils of Multilevel Governance, Opportunities for All, and Safer, Sustainable and Resilient Cities and highlighted the notion that culture is a missing force in climate planning and that local and regional governments are uniquely positioned to handle issues with climate planning due to their unique position and collaboration with cultural voices and civil society.

36. *Key messages from the Climate and Culture Town Hall stemming from the policy paper:* In order to make short- and medium-term progress on climate and culture, LRGs should pursue one or more of the following pathways:
- a) Culture public bodies aligning on climate science and policy;
  - b) Culture and climate bodies partnering to integrate culture contributions into LRG climate plans;
  - c) Commitment to strong and robust targets for culture-based climate action at LRG level;
  - d) Action, measuring, and reporting embedded in LRG culture-based climate action;
  - e) Utilization of cultural strategies to support Inclusive and Rights-based Climate Action.

**Key areas of the UN Secretary General’s Report on “Our Common Agenda”, Local and Regional Governments and UCLG Town Hall Process**

37. The conceptual umbrella of the Town Hall’s follow up will be the UN Secretary General’s Report on “Our Common Agenda” and the 12 areas of action identified within the UN75 declaration that can only be addressed through reinvigorated multilateralism. The implementation and advocacy stemming from the Town Halls will be linked to the constituency’s contribution towards the achievement of the UN Common Agenda as well as towards the UN Summit for the Future. See Annex for detailed information on the link between each Town Hall’s work and the 12 areas of action.

## Item 2.2 – Annex 1

### KEY AREAS OF THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL’S REPORT ON “OUR COMMON AGENDA”, LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND UCLG TOWN HALL PROCESS

The Un Secretary General’s Report on “Our Common Agenda” includes key proposals based on the 12 areas of action identified within the UN75 declaration that can only be addressed through reinvigorated multilateralism:

1. **“Leave no one behind”** through a renewed social contract and universal social protection, among others.
  - **Relationship with the constituency:** through its advocacy on local public service provision, its Pact for the Future and work carried out with regard to the implementation of the SDGs and New Urban Agenda.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Global Commons and Caring Systems:** through universal social protection and access to local public services, the transition to a society model based on care, and the inclusion of all constituencies in policymaking.
  
2. **Protect our planet”** through committing to net zero emissions by 2050 or earlier and a 1.5-degree Celsius goal, mitigating the effects of climate change and displacement, and strengthening food systems, among others.
  - **Relationship with the constituency:** through its work on the climate, resilience and biodiversity agendas and within food systems agendas.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Climate and Culture and Global Commons:** through the declaration of a climate emergency, the transformation of food systems, and the transformative roles that culture and civil society play in protecting the planet.
  
3. **Promote peace and prevent conflicts”** through adopting a “New Agenda for Peace” and promote multi-stakeholder dialogue, among others.
  - **Relationship with the constituency:** through the constituency’s work on peace.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Trust and Government and Caring Systems:** through building trust between people and institutions, investing in prevention and peacebuilding through systems of care and putting women and girls at the center of policy.
  
4. **Abide by international law and ensure justice”** by guaranteeing the protection of human rights, even online, legal identity for all, and a global roadmap for the implementation of international law, among others.
  - **Relationship with the constituency:** through its migration agenda, for example through the Mayors Mechanism, and through the Cities Coalition for Digital Rights.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Trust and Government and Climate and Culture:** through fostering accountability and transparency, universal local public service provision, and protecting human rights at all levels, and ensuring climate justice.





5. **“Place women and girls at the centre”** through striking down gender discriminatory laws, women’s empowerment and promoting the inclusion of young women in decision-making processes, among others.
  - **Relationship with the constituency:** through UCLG Women and its work through the Generation Equality Agenda.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Caring Systems and Global Commons:** through fostering access to service provision based on systems of care and the democratic management of the commons that fosters racial, gender, age equity and justice.
  
6. **Build trust”** by promoting integrity within public information, better quality public services, tackling corruption, reforming the tax system and encouraging dialogue between national governments and other actors, among others.
  - **Relationship with the constituency:** through its work on advocating for strengthened public service provision and dialogue among different levels of government and actors within the UN Policy Processes (HLPF; UNGA, etc.).
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Trust and Government and Global Commons:** through the fostering of dialogue between people and institutions, participatory democracy, and the inclusion of civil society in policymaking.
  
7. **“Improve digital cooperation”** and adopt a “Global Digital Compact” to provide access to all to the internet, protect data, apply human rights online, promote the regulation of AI, among others.
  - **Relationship with the constituency:** through the Cities Coalition for Digital Rights and UCLG’s its community of practice on smart cities.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Global Commons and Caring Systems:** through fostering access to the internet as a universal local public service, the protection of digital rights, and care at the heart of digitalization.
  
8. **Upgrade the United Nations”** through the creation of a “High-level Advisory Board led by former Heads of State and Government on improved governance of global public goods”, promoting policies centered around people, increased consultations with different actors, among others
  - **Relationship with the constituency:** through the constituency’s work on UN75.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Global Commons and Trust and Government:** through a new vision on the commons, governance models that listen to and represent all constituencies, and the relationship between people and institutions.
  
9. **“Ensure sustainable financing”** through the establishment of a “Biennial Summit between the Group of 20, the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General and the heads of international financial institutions for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient global economy” based on investment boosts on achieving the SDGs, more flexible development incentives, and a fairer world trading system, among others.
  - **Relationship with the constituency:** through the constituency’s work on localizing finance through the Malaga Coalition and FMDV.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Trust and Government and Climate and Culture:** through increased local finance and decentralized fiscal policy, renewed governance, and new ways to measure prosperity beyond GDP.
  
10. **“Boost partnerships”** through annual meetings between the UN, regional organizations, and multilateral development institutions, **“systematic engagement with parliaments, subnational authorities and the private sector”**, and establish civil society focal points in all UN entities.

- **Relationship with the constituency:** through the work carried out by the constituency through UN75, the UN Taskforce on the Future of Cities.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Trust and Government and Global Commons:** through multilevel governance and multi-stakeholder action to protect and promote the commons, and build trust between people and between spheres of government.
11. **“Listen to and work with youth”** by establishing a United Nations Youth Office, a coalition to promote the creation and training of green and digital economy jobs, and represent succeeding generations, including through a “repurposed Trusteeship Council, a Declaration on Future Generations, and a United Nations Special Envoy for Future Generations”.
- **Relationship with the constituency:** through its work related to accessibility and youth, and intergenerational dialogue.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Trust and Government and Climate and Culture:** through the inclusion of youth and vulnerable constituencies in policymaking, promotion of green jobs, and empowering civil society to promote culture and climate action.
12. **“Be prepared”** by convening an “Emergency Platform” to tackle complex global crises, a strengthened WHO, and promote universal health coverage.
- **Relationship with the constituency:** through its work carried out with the WHO and UHC2030.
  - **Relationship with the UCLG Town Halls: Global Commons and Caring Systems:** through a new way to go about governing our commons, access to local public service provision, and the function of care to prevent emergencies.

## Item 3

✓ For decision

### REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE UCLG POLICY COUNCILS

#### Summary and recommendations

The Policy Councils have been the driving force for the World Organization's 2016-2022 strategic priorities and will continue to be so during the 2022-2028 period. They bring forward initiatives, ideas and recommendations, and are essential to enhance policy ownership and the political debate within the Organization. They are integral to renew the involvement of a broader group of political leaders, beyond the Presidency of UCLG

The Policy Councils reflect both key issues in the global agendas and the priority axes contained in the Bogotá Commitment under the following titles: Right to the City and Inclusive Territories; Opportunities for All, Culture and City Diplomacy: Keys to sustainable development and peace; Territorial, Multilevel Governance and Sustainable Financing; and Safer, Resilient and Sustainable Cities, Capable of Facing Crises. The Executive Bureau in May 2020 further agreed to the creation of an additional Policy Council on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

In their renewed mandate, the Policy Councils have allowed to bridge closer ties between the political and the policy inputs of the World Organization, ensuring a stronger alignment of our priorities, and have also allowed to acknowledge new topics that have emerged in our new reality to be taken into account.

The results of the discussions of the Policy Councils have fed the contents of the Pact for the Future, the renewed strategy for the World Organization as from 2022 onwards.

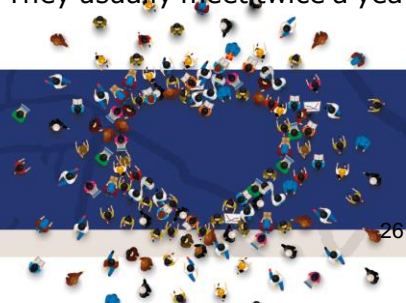
This document aims at providing the key outcomes of the Policy Councils in 2022, and some initial recommendations and highlights of how to implement the priorities identified under each component of the Pact for the Future: people, planet and government.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the reports from the UCLG Policy Councils.
2. **Mandate** the Policy Councils to pursue the work in view of the implementation of the Pact for the Future.

#### Background

1. The Policy Councils were created in 2017 with the aim to provide an opportunity for political representatives to participate in the Organization's policymaking and to have their views raised before the UCLG's governing bodies. They usually meet twice a year, in the framework of the UCLG statutory meetings.



2. Five Policy Councils are currently active. The themes they focus on are the results of the priority axes of the Organization and reflect key issues covered by the global agendas for development. The World Council in November 2020 agreed that their work remains very relevant and that they will need to adapt their focus to the post-COVID reality.
3. In May 2020, the Executive Bureau also validated the need, expressed by the membership, to develop a 5th Policy Council dedicated to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, which has been fully active since its formal creation during the 2020 World Council.

### **Policy Councils outcomes in 2022**

4. In their initial phase (2018-2020), the Policy Councils have been particularly instrumental in connecting with other consultation mechanisms and in building a strong political commitment, ensuring links for example with the national governments (2018 sessions in Strasbourg), with the World Forum on Urban Violence and Education for Coexistence and Peace (2018), with the UCLG Culture Summit (2019) and ensuring also a structured dialogue with organized civil society through the Assembly and Town Hall tracks of the UCLG World Congress (2019).
5. Following their renewal in 2020, the Policy Councils met several times in 2021: in February before the UCLG Annual Retreat; in May in the framework of the UCLG Executive Bureau, and in October in the framework of Urban October and towards the UCLG World Council. The political meetings were preceded by technical preparatory meetings held with the Sherpas.
6. In 2022, the Policy Councils have also been actively involved in shaping the agenda of UCLG, including during their meetings in the framework of the Executive Bureau in Seville.
7. Beyond their own gathering, representatives from the various Policy Councils were present at the 66<sup>th</sup> session of the Committee on the Status of Women (CSW), the International Migration Review Forum, the World Urban Forum, the High-Level Political Forum, or Urban 20. The Policy Councillors contributed thus to the advocacy of the constituency in the framework of these high-level international events.
8. The Policy Councils in 2022 have also been an integral part of the process towards the Pact for the Future. They took part in meetings with the Town Hall partners, bringing their policy and political contributions to the political statement of the Pact.

## Item 3.1

✓ For information

### RIGHT TO THE CITY AND INCLUSIVE TERRITORIES

#### Summary and recommendations

The Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories is an essential mechanism to advance UCLG members' conversation on the Right to the City. While continuing to address key priorities such as shifting the narrative around migration and the right to housing, this mechanism is now set to explore a wider emerging agenda: From renewing approaches equality and accessibility to advancing a new generation of rights.

This document features the results of the discussions of this Policy Council, which will also feed the contents of the Pact for the Future, the renewed strategy for the World Organization as from 2022 onwards.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the report of the Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories.

1. Since its creation in 2017, the Council has functioned as a platform for in depth policy debate where political representatives can influence the agenda of the World Organization and establish synergies as well as discuss how scale-up specific impact of initiatives led by members, such as the work on housing that led to the adoption of the "Cities for Adequate Housing" Declaration in 2018 and the contribution to the Marrakech Mayors Declaration on Migration that marks the path on a new narrative on Human Mobility. The Council represents a periodic and structural meeting point to address UCLG's commitment towards the Right to the City as recognized in the Bogotá Commitment and the New Urban Agenda (both adopted in 2016).
2. The Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories brings to the debate views on how to support inclusive housing policies and ensure the full and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing for all, work with communities to upgrade slums and regenerate poor neighborhoods, and support the social production of habitat.
3. In the past years, the Policy Council on the Right to the City has carried out its mandate to place the focus on shifting the narrative around migration, as well as debating views on how to support the realization of the right to adequate housing for all.
4. The Presidency of the Policy Council on Right to the City, held by **Armand Beoundé**, Mayor of Ouagadougou and Vice-President of UCLG for Africa, and **Philippe Rio**, Mayor of Grigny, together with the rest of the councillors, have deepened the work of the Council with partners such as the Office of the High Commissioner on Human

Rights, as well as with the UN Special Rapporteurs of the UN, or the Open Society Foundation on issues such as migrant detention.

### **Renewed priorities and objectives**

5. In 2021, the Policy Council triggered UCLG discussions on digital rights and human mobility, enabling to feed and shape the Pact for the Future's axis of "Caring for People". The Policy Council emphasized the importance of defending the human rights of each person, preventing unjust detention, and supporting local communities in border regions. It further called for changing the foundations of our society and pushing for the **recognition of a new generation of rights**, including digital and biodiversity rights.
6. The Policy Council also emphasized the importance of **fighting against discrimination at all levels**; ensuring **decent housing** for all; and enhancing mechanisms for integrating undocumented migrants in education and the labor market. It further called for tackling hate speech and fostering international cooperation based on solidarity, including addressing the factors that push people to leave their countries.
7. Throughout 2021, the Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories gathered to discuss concrete proposals for its agenda, with particular attention to:
  - a) Expanding the policy discussion on human rights throughout the definition of the People's Axis on the Pact of the Future, exploring concepts such as the new generation of rights that includes the **right to peace, accessibility, technology, mobility and culture**.
  - b) Generating discussions to support the renewal of the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City, which will be promoted by the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights.
  - c) Informing the partnership with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and participation within the UN Human Rights system (e.g UN Special Procedures).
  - d) Accelerating the localization of human rights in the city by adopting and promoting universal accessibility as a common good and pillar to equitable public service provision, sustainable development and participatory democracy.

### **Urban October and the Policy Council on the Right to the City**

8. The Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories met in the framework of Urban October and introduced critical topics for the development of the UCLG Pact for the Future, building on previous meetings held in early 2021.
9. Over 70 participants, including the mayors of Ouagadougou, Grigny, Sala, Lampedusa, Libreville, Begur, the deputy mayor of Sfax and representatives from Montevideo and Bogotá brought to the table the need to develop intergenerational cities, the importance of designing cities for all for all that care for the more vulnerable communities, including the elderly and people with disabilities, and showed the more human dimension of UCLG with references to the Lampedusa Charter to reframe human mobility, developing alternatives to detention, and developing cities of peace by fostering non-violence.

10. Partners from the **Civil Society Action Committee**, the **Office of the UN Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility**, and the **Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights** joined the conversation and the calls from the political leadership of the Council, and their inputs will be essential for the development of the Town Hall, as we move towards the 2022 UCLG World Congress.
11. The meeting also provided insights on the interlinkages with the work of other Policy Councils, such as the Policy Council on Opportunities for All, Culture, and City Diplomacy by exploring the relationship between peace and human rights in our cities and territories.

### **The Policy Council in the 2022 UCLG Executive Bureau: The “10, 100, 1000 human rights cities and territories by 2030” Campaign**

12. In the framework of the 2022 Executive Bureau, a thematic session focused on “10, 100, 1000 Human Rights Cities and Territories by 2030”: led by the UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights, in cooperation with the UCLG Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories, the session presented the global campaign launched jointly with the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UN-OHCHR), which aims to scale up local initiatives and advance towards a consolidated global movement of human rights cities and territories.
13. On this occasion, the Policy Councillors recalled that the most important sentence to describe the 2030 agenda is “leaving no one behind”, which is the very reason to place human rights at the center. They all committed to contributing to the success of the campaign in a historical moment that shows the fundamental importance of human rights. There is an intimate link between human rights and access to basic services, particularly at a time of complex emergencies and of a much-needed balance between economic interests, and respect for natural resources. Including individual and collective rights as part of a renewed social contract can also help combat racism and the feminization of poverty. In this sense, the campaign will contribute to a reflection on the next decade of the human rights cities’ movement, and a new generation of rights to be enshrined in the UCLG Pact for the Future.
14. As part of the follow-up work on the campaign, a special session will be celebrated during the World Congress in Daejeon.

### **Exchanges with the Town Halls, ready to contribute to the Pact for the Future**

15. In September 2022, the UCLG Policy Council met with the UCLG Town Halls to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments prior to finalizing the policy papers before Daejeon. The Policy Council on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories met with the Town Halls of Global Commons and Caring Systems to provide feedback on their policy papers, addressing the meaning of the “commons” as a response to the current crises, and bringing to the table the need for caring systems to be accompanied by a roadmap that can help local and regional governments reflect on what they still haven’t accomplished, especially in the post-pandemic era. Participants highlighted care as a notion that is inherent to humanity, and thus a valuable bridge towards social cohesion.

## Item 3.2

✓ For information

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL, CULTURE AND CITY DIPLOMACY: KEYS TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

#### Summary and recommendations

The Policy Council on Opportunities for All has gathered discussions around urban violence and ensuring cities of peace, which bear a strong link with the issue of city diplomacy. It has also been the place in which the 2020 Rome Charter could be fostered, working to strengthen cultural rights within the broader aspect of our agenda on new human rights. The challenges that have been identified in the past years have laid the direction for the Policy Council in the coming years, strengthening its linkages with the Culture Committee, renewing the UCLG Peace Prize as well as what "Opportunities for all" means in the current context.

This document features the results of the discussions of this Policy Council, which will also feed the contents of the Pact for the Future, the renewed strategy for the World Organization as from 2022 onwards.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the Report of the Policy Council on Opportunities for all, culture and city diplomacy.
1. The local and territorial level is critical to rethink and reshape governance systems into more inclusive ones. Responding to these calls and rebuilding trust between citizens, institutions and communities, at all levels, are determinant elements to achieving the global agendas. Citizens, and citizenship, through social movements and civil society, are increasingly calling for the transformation of governing systems. The UCLG Pact for the Future will be based on three axes: People, Planet, and Government. The axis on people calls for placing people at the centre of all policymaking endeavours.
2. Up until now, the Policy Council on Opportunities for All, Culture and City Diplomacy has addressed, apart from the titular issues, issues such as transparency, accountability, and Local Economic Development, all of which play a particular role in ensuring opportunities for all. With GOLD VI focusing around inequalities, the Policy Council has also been critical to address its growing importance within the World Organization.





3. The Policy Council has also brought the views on culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development, protecting its core value, and fostering city diplomacy and dialogue as a way to promote peace. The work done through the UCLG Culture Committee on the Rome Charter on cultural rights will be a key supportive policy document to drive the change in many different aspects of our life post-COVID and for the agenda of the Policy Council.
4. The Policy Council is co-chaired by **Souad Ben Abderrahime**, Mayor of Tunis, **Li Mingyuan**, Mayor of Xi'an and Co-President of UCLG, and **Jan van Zanen**, Mayor of The Hague, President of the Association of Dutch Municipalities (VNG) and Co-President of UCLG, and counts with 14 additional councillors.

### **Renewed priorities and objectives**

5. The Policy Council met in February 2021 to exchange on its priorities and discuss concrete proposals of its renewed agenda, based on the growing inequalities since the pandemic, and the growing mistrust between communities and their institution. The importance of equality as a pillar of building peace in our cities and communities was also highlighted as critical.
6. The Policy Councillors emphasized the importance of having a symbiotic relationship between different spheres of government, based on the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, as well as co-governance mechanisms, to promote an enabling environment with a view to achieving aligned goals.
7. Addressing the rural-urban symbiosis and territorial approach as important bases for grasping demographic changes and the digital divide, and guaranteeing cohesion by working within the framework of systems of cities, was also highlighted.
8. Among the priorities highlighted, it is worth mentioning the importance of ensuring decent work for all, facing the challenges of the technological transition, exploring what the right to work means in the post-COVID era and how to harness automation and innovation to ensure it benefits communities, in line with the need to strengthen the role of culture as the fourth pillar for sustainable development.
9. Reflecting on the need to broaden the mantle of "Opportunities for all" to address the growth of inequalities in the COVID-era, is key to develop a broader understanding of **time poverty** and equal access to time as a way to foster equality. The Council also addressed the importance of renewing the linkages between the pillars of the UCLG Peace Agenda, evolving our peace narrative ahead of the 2022 Congress in Daejeon.
10. The Policy Council has also focused on intergenerational dialogue as a vital element to address conflict mitigation, and understanding that dealing with peace issues means looking at climate risk and disaster preparedness in relation to infrastructure challenges.

### **Urban October and the Policy Council on Opportunities for All, Culture and City Diplomacy**

11. The Policy Council met in the framework of Urban October and introduced critical topics for the development of the UCLG Pact for the Future, building on previous meetings held in early 2021.

12. The session revolved around the issues of solidarity in connection to international action and to development cooperation, as well as city diplomacy as vital for peacebuilding, based on values and dialogue between different spheres of government. Participants also deepened the challenge of loneliness in relation to the use of public space, digital accessibility to ensure equal opportunities, and the new concept of “circular culture” included in the [Izmir Declaration](#) to protect rights and trigger society building in harmony with nature.
13. **The meeting also provided insights on the interlinkages with the work of other Policy Councils**, such as “Safer, Resilient and Sustainable Cities, Capable of Facing Crises”, and “Territorial Multilevel Governance and Sustainable Financing”.

### **The Policy Council in the 2022 UCLG Executive Bureau and the relation with the UCLG Peace talks**

14. In the framework of the 2022 Executive Bureau, the Policy Council co-led the session on “Municipal Peace Talks: Local Governments’ Roles and solidarity in times of international crisis”, in cooperation with the World Human Rights Cities Forum of Gwangju and the UN Special Rapporteurs.
15. On this occasion, the Policy Councillors and participants addressed the migration crisis, stating that it is local and regional governments who are on the frontline to support and integrate refugees. Humanitarian crisis, such as the one in Afghanistan, should not be forgotten on the international stage.
16. The Policy Council will continue to be engaged in the development of the UCLG Municipal Peace Talks. In particular, co-chair Jan Van Zanen hosted a session of the Talks in The Hague, with the conversation focusing on local approaches to peacebuilding, and bringing together the UCLG Regional Sections to debate about how to ensure the UCLG Peace Agenda is adequately reflected in the UCLG Pact for the Future.

### **UCLG Pact for the Future and Meetings with the Town Halls**

17. In September 2022, the UCLG Policy Council met with the UCLG Town Halls to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments prior to finalizing the policy papers before Daejeon. The Policy Council discussed with the Town Halls of the Global Commons and Caring Systems to provide feedback on their policy papers, and reflect on the issues of the global commons as a cornerstone for equality, and the role of peace in the framework of developing a sustainable peace, together with the partners of the Town Hall, which include the Global Platform for the Right to the City as well as Town Hall organizations including Cities Coalition for Digital Rights, Open Society Foundations, ACCORD, FAO and UNICEF.

## Item 3.3

✓ For information

### TERRITORIAL MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCING

#### Summary and recommendations

The Policy Council on Territorial Multilevel Governance and Sustainable Financing aims to look at the challenges and opportunities in boosting effective territorial and multilevel governance, and re-thinking and strengthening sub-national and public financing systems to reconcile financing with sustainability.

The Policy Council has addressed, since its creation, the notion of how to implement an integrated territorial approach to development, paying special attention to the issues of governance, decentralization and territorial cohesion through its close support to the research carried out as part of the reports of the Global Observatory on Local Democracy and Decentralization (GOLD reports) as well as on the localization of financing for sustainable development.

This document features the results of the discussions of this Policy Council, which will also feed the contents of the Pact for the Future, the renewed strategy for the World Organisation as from 2022 onwards.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the Report of the Policy Council on Territorial Multilevel Governance and Sustainable Financing.

#### Context

1. The local and territorial level is critical to rethink and to reshape governance systems into more inclusive ones. Responding to these calls and rebuilding trust between citizens, institutions and communities, at all levels, are determinant elements to achieving the global agendas. Citizens, and citizenship, through social movements and civil society, are increasingly calling for the transformation of governing systems. The UCLG Pact for the Future will be based on three axes: People, Planet, and Government. The axis on government calls for redefining governing in Partnership.
2. The Policy Council on Territorial Multilevel Governance and Sustainable Financing aims to look at the challenges and opportunities in boosting effective territorial and multilevel governance, and re-thinking and strengthening sub-national and public financing systems to reconcile financing with sustainability. The discussion will further feed the work of GOLD geared towards the establishment of follow-up and reporting by local and regional governments on the implementation of the global agendas. It also contributes to the call by UCLG to establish an International Panel on Sustainable Financing for Cities.



3. It has addressed, since its creation, the notion of how to implement an integrated territorial approach to development, paying special attention to the issues of governance, decentralization and territorial cohesion through its close support to the research carried out as part of the reports of the Global Observatory on Local Democracy and Decentralization (GOLD reports) as well as on the localization of financing for sustainable development.
4. The Policy Council is co-chaired by **Pablo Jurado**, President of the Consortium of Provincial Autonomous Governments from Ecuador (CONGOPE), Vice-President of UCLG for the Forum of Regions, and **Núria Marín**, Mayor of L'Hospitalet de Llobregat and President of Barcelona Provincial Council. The Policy Council also counts on the participation of 11 Policy Councillors.

### **Renewed priorities and objectives**

5. The Policy Council met in February 2021 to exchange on its priorities and discuss concrete proposals based on the renewed agenda of the Policy Council basing itself on access to local financing and emergency measures, and changes in governance and co-governance.
6. The Policy Councillors emphasized the importance of having a symbiotic relationship between different spheres of government based on the principles of subsidiary and proportionality, as well as co-governance mechanisms, to promote an enabling environment with a view to achieving aligned goals.
7. Addressing the rural-urban symbiosis and territorial approach as important bases for grasping demographic changes and the digital divide and guaranteeing cohesion by working within the framework of systems of cities was also highlighted.
8. Strengthening the political incidence of local and regional governments towards the national and international spheres with practical recommendations and data-driven analyses, in particular on the issue of the localization of financing for sustainable development was key. Enhancing and developing new multi-stakeholder partnerships involving national governments and the private sector to create an enabling environment for cities and regions to leverage finance was also identified as crucial.
9. The Policy Council also considered the need to reinvent governance from the perspective of growing emergencies, drawing lessons from the Emergency Governance Initiative for Cities and Regions jointly led by UCLG, Metropolis and LSE Cities.

### **Urban October and the Policy Council**

10. The Policy Council on Multilevel Governance and Sustainable Financing met in the framework of Urban October and introduced critical topics for the development of the UCLG Pact for the Future, building on previous meetings held in early 2021 and in 2022.
11. The meeting gathered the Policy Councillors and partners and tackled the need to ensure financial resources for local and regional governments, which had suffered greatly under COVID-19 and how this could be achieved. The need to develop a broad consensus among spheres of government, empowering cities and territories to act and play a role in solving crises at the local level such as climate change, homelessness and lack of access to basic services; and a commitment to work among all spheres of government and with all actors were some of the key issues identified during the

session. Participants also identified critical links with the other Policy Councils, in particular that of Opportunities for All, Culture, and City Diplomacy, highlighting the intrinsic relation between multilevel governance and development cooperation.

12. Partners of the Policy Council identified the need for a multi-stakeholder response to the COVID-19 crisis, in particular with civil society. Participants also highlighted the need for financing to reach intermediary and smaller cities in order to continue providing critical infrastructure for basic services, and to renew tax frameworks to ensure a fairer distribution of wealth and a healthier service delivery environment.
13. In the framework of the Executive Bureau held in Seville in June 2022, the Policy Council also addressed the urgency to strengthen bottom-up multilevel governance and grassroots democracy, so that the needs of people are known and addressed collectively, from the local to the state level. Protecting and promoting local democracy in complex political contexts is key, since the failure of democracy echoes the failure of local governance. Global actions must be connected with the daily challenges of communities, to achieve the transformation by putting people at the center of local action.

### **UCLG Pact for the Future**

14. The Policy Council will remain instrumental in contributing particularly to the Axis Government of the Pact for the Future, but also linking up with many aspects of the Axis People and Planet.
15. In September 2022, the UCLG Policy Council met with the UCLG Town Halls to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments prior to finalizing the policy papers before Daejeon. The Policy Council on Multilevel Governance and Sustainable Financing met with the Town Halls of Trust and Government and Climate and Culture to provide feedback on their policy papers and reflect on the issues of decentralized cooperation and sustainable financing within their Town Halls in preparation for the UCLG World Congress. The policy council highlighted that to truly build multilevel governance, decisions need to be co-created and not simply taken. The governance that is needed is one that needs to be aligned with aspirations of communities and that multilevel governance starts with caring for people and for the planet.
16. The Policy Council will continue to promote co-creation and truly inclusive policy and decision-making as a pre-condition decentralization and multilevel governance. It will play a strong role in the push for the revitalization of the multilateral system that has local and regional governments at the decision making table and the strengthening of sustainable local finance at the center.

## Item 3.4

✓ For information

### SAFER, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES, CAPABLE OF FACING CRISES

#### Summary and recommendations

The Policy Council on Safer, Resilient and Sustainable Cities, Capable of Facing Crises has promoted the role of local governments in creating the Global Alliance on Urban Crises, and has worked to highlight the role local and regional governments can play in carrying out an ecological transition towards global resilience. The Declaration on Humankind Rights, adopted by the World Council in Durban, was first debated by the Policy Council.

This document features the results of the discussions of this Policy Council, which will also feed the contents of the Pact for the Future, the renewed strategy for the World Organisation as from 2022 onwards.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the Report of the Policy Council on Resilient Cities.

1. The Policy Council on Resilient Cities is co-chaired by **Fatimetou Abdel Malick**, President of Nouakchott Regional Council and President of UCLG-Africa, by **Johnny Araya**, Mayor of San José, President of FLACMA and Co-President of UCLG, and by **Sami Kanaan**, Mayor of Geneva and Chair of the UCLG Permanent Working Group on Territorial Prevention and Management of Crises, following their nomination at the UCLG World Council in 2020.

#### Ground work in the initial launch phase

2. The Policy Council has promoted the role of local governments in responding to periods of instability, including the sanitary crisis, but also the ecological, social and economic crisis, and has worked to highlight the role local and regional governments can play in carrying out an ecological transition towards global resilience.
3. In face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the world has shifted from the traditional understanding of resilience in cities and territories, towards a wide and urgent concept regarding the capacity of local and regional governments to prepare and respond to periods of distress, and particularly to improve the continued care and attention provided to the communities. The Policy Council has looked into different pathways to an ecological transition, which sets local and regional governments as transformative actors to develop global resilience.



4. The need to develop strong and sustainable local service provision has been a constant of the Council, strengthening partnerships with **UITP** on sustainable transport; and drive the way towards our advocacy on critical milestones such as COP26 or COP15.
5. During the meetings of this Policy Council in 2020 and 2021, Sherpas and Policy Councillors emphasized how the world is facing combined emergencies, as on **climate and health**, which confirms the fragility of existing systems and the perils of continuing to ignore accumulated and persistent inequalities and gaps. The current context adds a sense of urgency to act and compensate for the lack of structural resilience today, while building on the lessons and sacrifices of current generations to secure lasting endurance and the right of future generations to enjoy a safe, fair and resilient world.
6. In its initial phase, the Councillors have particularly stressed the following issues:
  - a) **Local service provision**, as the access to water, energy, internet, mobility, and others, is crucial for building resilience through a holistic lens, for example considering its direct linkage to the health system, as exposed by the pandemic.
  - b) **Food systems and security**, as well as **sustainable tourism**, as motors of local development and economic recovery.
  - c) **Global climate emergency**: floods, droughts, storms, hurricanes, ocean acidification, forest fires, etc., are expected to increase in intensity and frequency. Efforts at all levels will need to combine short- and long-term actions, targeting both mitigation and adaptation, observing the risks and differentiated impacts across continental regions and to those further behind.
  - d) Fostering the **collaboration with international organizations and humanitarian agencies** is welcomed to be stimulated by members of the Council, since it can help cities and territories to prepare and respond to crises, and also contributes to galvanizing the acknowledgement of cities and regions' role in crises prevention, management and recovery.
  - e) **Transportation and mobility** should be further considered on its unique function in response to crises, for example concerning logistics, access to food and services, leisure or the connectivity among cities and territories.
  - f) Building resilience in the aftermath of COVID-19 and other emergencies will require investments on **green infrastructure** and **nature-based solutions**, a unique opportunity to generate **decent jobs**, providing alternative to young generations and transforming the humankind relation with nature.

### **The Policy Council in the 2022 UCLG Executive Bureau**

7. Over the 2021-2022 period, the Policy Council made a leap forward in UCLG advocacy and strategy on ecological transition for global resilience, with the inclusion of a renewed approach and messages on nature, living systems and climate, as well as models of development, especially in the post-COVID era.
8. During the Executive Bureau on June 2022 in Seville, the Policy Council co-organized, with the UCLG Committee on Local Economic and Social Development, a session on "Local Economic Development for an Equitable Recovery". Councillors and participants called on the need to promote policies, especially at local and regional level, that reorient economic and productive models towards progressive systems and the strengthening of public services that guarantee equality, while designing and implementing equality policies aimed at eradicating inequalities and promote equal access to enjoyment of fundamental resources, notably through the improvement of care systems and public service provision.

9. Political will and knowledge of the territory were identified as key enablers to leave behind barriers that perpetuate situations of inequality and prevent progress towards a cohesive society, notably related to gender-based inequality.
10. The Policy Council recommended investing in social capital, in human capital, to generate more cohesive, strong, and sustainable societies and territories, as it is people who form the basis of the economy, employment and territorial growth.

### **UCLG Pact for the Future**

11. The Policy Council has already identified the triple environmental crisis of climate, extinction and pollution as reaching a point of no return. This Policy Council stressed in the previous years the need to completely transform our collective relationship with nature, and for local and regional governments to spearhead the development of a new vision for our common future where we re-analyse the values that shape our understanding as beings and development pathways are nature-positive and seriously address transactional inequalities.
12. The issue of Resilient and Sustainable Cities is expected to be one of the major cornerstone of the Pact, particularly in the redefinition of patterns of production and consumption that are currently unsustainable, and the need to urgently to be replaced by circular, regenerative and proximity models.
13. The climate emergency and resilience systems will also be high on the agenda of the Council, through whole-of-society approaches and for a transition to alternative energy systems needs to be a priority as a vital route to a more sustainable and just future.

### **Input to the UCLG Town Hall process**

14. In September 2022, the UCLG Policy Council met with the UCLG Town Halls to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments prior to finalizing the policy papers before Daejeon. The Policy Council on Safer, Sustainable and Resilient Cities met with the Town Halls of Trust and Government and Climate and Culture to provide feedback on their policy papers and reflect on the issues to advance an ecological transformation towards local-based global resilience and development models in harmony with our environments, within their Town Halls in preparation for the UCLG World Congress.
15. The Town Hall on Climate and Culture specifically highlighted how culture is a missing force in climate planning despite its transformative force as an enabler of social imaginaries and to strengthen resilience. They further recalled the unique position of LRGs to approach climate planning through collaboration with cultural voices and civil society.



## Item 3.5

✓ For information

### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

#### Summary and recommendations

The Policy Council on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda, launched at the UCLG World Council in November 2020, aims to look at the challenges and opportunities associated around the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, a critical corner stone for the development agenda and for the achievement of empowered, inclusive and resilient cities and territories.

In this first mandate, the Policy Council on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda has also ensured a stronger alignment with the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments, the recognised mechanism to monitor and report within the Quito Outcome Document.

This document features the results of the discussions of this Policy Council will also feed the contents of the Pact for the Future, the renewed strategy for the World Organisation as from 2022 onwards.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the Report of the Policy Council on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

#### Context

1. The New Urban Agenda is a critical corner stone for the development agenda. Empowered, inclusive and resilient territories, which are open and accountable to their citizens, are critical to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and all Global Goals.
2. The capacity to deliver and the evolution of national and international urban policies is critical both for the role of local governments in development but also for the space provided to the international municipal movement in development policies.
3. Launched in 2020, the new Policy Council on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda started its work in January 2021 with the objective of contributing to the Quito+5+1 milestone held in April 2022 at UN Headquarters.
4. The Policy Council on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda is co-chaired by **Carlos Martínez**, Mayor of Soria and Envoy of the UCLG Presidency on the New Urban Agenda; **Ilsur Metshin**, Mayor of Kazan, President of UCLG-Eurasia and President of the United Nations Advisory Committee for Local Authorities (UNACLA); and by the

South African Local Government Association (SALGA). The Policy Council also comprises nine Policy Councillors.

### **Ground work in the initial launch phase**

5. In its initial work, the Presidency, led by Ilsur Metshin, Mayor of Kazan and Chair of UNACLA, Carlos Martínez, Mayor of Soria and Envoy of the UCLG Presidency on the New Urban Agenda and Thembisile Nkadimeng, Co-President of UCLG, have highlighted the importance of continuing to link the New Urban Agenda with the rest of the Universal development agendas, and to strengthen our work with UN-Habitat and the G20 on territorial perspectives and subnational urban policies.
6. In its early deliberations in February and May 2021, the Council identified five key issues for the work the Council in the last semester of 2021 and first semester of 2022:
  - a) Allowing direct linkage with the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments as formal mechanism for review and follow-up in the run-up to Quito+5.
  - b) Ensuring articulation between the Policy Council and UNACLA when sharing input to the monitoring and review of the New Urban Agenda.
  - c) Stressing the link between the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially within the context of SDG 11 on sustainable cities.
  - d) Ensuring that the relevant data provided for and by local and regional governments is taken into account in the monitoring and progress of implementation of the agenda.
  - e) Guaranteeing the territorial perspective, and advocating for multilevel governance and the inclusion of local and regional governments in all processes related to the agenda.
7. These deliberations led to the adoption of a Technical Roadmap towards Quito+5, identifying the steps to construct the narrative from the Policy Council to the World Assembly and with the support of UNACLA, towards the UN High-Level Meeting.

### **Concrete recommendations towards the UN High-Level Meeting on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda, Quito+5**

8. During the second part of the year 2021 and the first part of the year 2022, the Presidency of the Council, focused its work on sharpening its recommendations towards the UN High-Level Meeting, based on the inputs of the Councillors and the Sherpas.
9. The results of the deliberations focused on different aspects of the local and regional governments perspectives towards the implementation of the New Urban Agenda:
  - a) The New Urban Agenda and the pandemic: it has often been local and regional governments, supported by their associations and networks across the world, who worked tirelessly at the frontline caring for their communities and protecting their rights and health via local public service delivery, underpinning health measures,

and ensuring the livelihoods of workers. This was addressed within the reporting during the New Urban Agenda.

- b) Care at the centre of local service provision: the New Urban Agenda needs to build upon the display of care provided by local and regional governments over the past years. Care is a dimension that needs to be incorporated into any and all policy decisions, starting by protecting our communities' health and access to healthy territories.
  - c) The New Urban Agenda and the Rights: The right to safe and affordable housing, to healthcare, to basic services, to a clean environment, to quality public education, are as necessary now as they were when the New Urban Agenda was adopted. Access to housing remains a challenge, inequalities have risen, and urbanization is not providing equal opportunities to all, but in many cases, it is hampering access to services.
  - d) The New Urban Agenda and the necessary acceleration of localization: the Policy Council emphasized that the New Urban Agenda is an accelerator of the implementation of the SDGs, and that the 2030 Agenda remains a framework fit for transformation of our systems, but that it cannot happen without localization: their effective implementation from the bottom-up. It also underlined the role of local monitoring, through voluntary local and subnational reviews (VLRs and VSRs) of the Sustainable Development Goals implementation. These mechanisms are a testament to the political will to actually contribute to systemic changes that need to be triggered to leave no-one and no place behind, for bottom-up transformation, and an inspiration to monitoring processes of the New Urban Agenda.
  - e) The New Urban Agenda, effective implementation and multilateralism: The Policy Council reaffirmed the necessity of developing a system in which local and regional governments are fully engaged by holding a permanent seat at the decision-making tables representing their communities and for a strong international community and updated UN system that reflects the current context, including local and regional governments in all stages of decision-making processes giving a more direct representation of communities and including the value and potential of city diplomacy for a renewed multilateral system. The Councillors recommended national governments involved in the New Urban Agenda to support the engagement of our constituency, as a cornerstone for the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals and the achievement of the vision of the UNSG's Common Agenda.
10. A Special Session of the Policy Council meeting took place in November 2021 on the New Urban Agenda within the framework of the Metropolis Congress. The session was dedicated to taking stock of the achievements of the constituency towards Habitat III and its first five years, emphasizing the recommendations made by the constituency on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda in 2021, and reflecting on the recommendations of the UCLG-LSE-Metropolis initiative on Emergency Governance. The outcomes of the session provided input towards the work of the constituency at the High Level Meeting in New York in 2022.
11. In the framework of the UCLG Executive Bureau organized in Seville in June 2022, the Policy Council highlighted the importance of discussing the New Urban Agenda from a bottom-up perspective and in synchronization with the other global agendas. Local governments need to build back better and differently and to bring shared commitments into effective actions. To achieve this, the New Urban Agenda is a key lever for the acceleration of the agendas and for policy coordination among all actors. Furthermore, the Policy Council emphasized that rebuilding trust amongst the

institutions and with the citizens is critical to engage in a dialogue as we move forward to achieve sustainable urban development.

### **UCLG Pact for the Future**

12. The Policy Council will remain instrumental in contributing particularly to the Axis Government of the Pact for the Future, but also linking up with many aspects of the Axis People and Planet.
13. In September 2022, the UCLG Policy Council met with the UCLG Town Halls to learn from the perspective of local and regional governments prior to finalizing the policy papers before Daejeon. The Policy Council on the New Urban Agenda met with the Town Halls of Trust and Government and Climate and Culture to provide feedback on their policy papers and reflect on the issues of decentralized cooperation and sustainable financing within their Town Halls in preparation for the UCLG World Congress. The policy council highlighted that the New Urban Agenda's achievement rests on ensuring no one and no place is left behind and that listening to civil society and promoting care at the center of policy is key. Councillors also highlighted the need for the New Urban Agenda to reflect the perspective of the Global South.
14. As a continuity of the work carried out in the two first years of mandate, the Policy Council will put mutual trust at the core of the agenda for an effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Rebuilding trust between citizens, institutions and communities, at all levels, will be an essential precondition to achieve the New Urban Agenda.
15. The Policy Council will continue to promote co-creation and truly inclusive policy and decision-making as a pre-condition for holistic governance leading to effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda. It can also focus on how to deploy new mechanisms of multilevel governance while enhancing the protection of the global commons.
16. The Policy Council can play a strong role in the push for the revitalization of the multilateral system and the development of an interurban system of small, intermediary and large cities and metropolises, strengthening the urban-rural continuum, to ensure that the next generations benefit from placing local democracy at the centre of development.

## Item 4

✓ For information

### THE UCLG PEACE PRIZE

#### Summary and recommendations

The UCLG Peace Prize generates international public attention local governments that implement strong initiatives in ensuring sustainable and peaceful development. Local governments that have implemented an innovative and high impact approach towards peace-building and the creation of dialogue are eligible for nomination. In addition to worldwide exposure and recognition, the winning local government receives a financial award to strengthen its peace projects and/or to facilitate learning exchanges with other local governments facing similar challenges.

The prize also aims to contribute to a full acknowledgement of the important but often overlooked role of local governments as peace building actors who strive to create or maintain dialogue, thus generating a more effective approach to conflict resolution, and is a critical instrument of the UCLG Peace Agenda, allowing to showcase local and regional governments as spaces of peace.

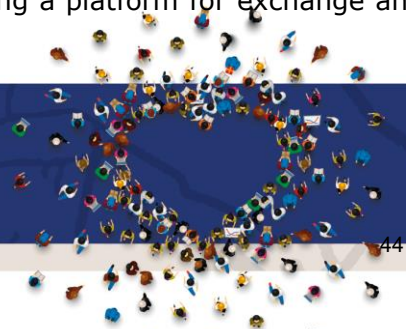
This document presents the process followed for the third edition of the UCLG Peace Prize.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Take note** of the process for and finalists of the prize.
2. **Encourage** members to disseminate information on the prize and the initiatives presented.

#### Background

1. In situations of conflict, local governments have an important role to play: they have to ensure that service delivery for citizens is in place despite the difficult context, and they need to promote and facilitate peace as an alternative to violent conflicts. Supported by UCLG and its members, this edition of the UCLG Peace Prize has been made possible by contributions, both financial and in terms of content, by the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), the City of The Hague, VFonds, the Dutch peace NGO PAX and VNG International, within the framework of the UCLG Policy Council on Opportunities for All, Culture and City Diplomacy: Keys to Sustainable Development and Peace.
2. The prize generates international public attention by putting the spotlight on inspiring initiatives from local governments around the world in ensuring sustainable and peaceful development. The prize also aims at creating a platform for exchange and inspiration.



3. In addition to worldwide exposure and recognition, the winning local government will receive a financial award to strengthen its peace projects and / or facilitate learning exchanges with other local governments facing similar challenges.

### The jury

4. The jury of the UCLG Prize is composed by representatives from the world of local government and conflict prevention/peace-building:
  - **Mr. Wim Deetman**, The Netherlands, Former mayor The Hague, former chair of the UCLG Committee on City Diplomacy
  - **Mr. Jerome Gama Surur**, South Sudan, Former Governor of Eastern Equatoria
  - **Ms. Katarina Kruhonja**, Croatia, Peace activist and Director of the Centre for Peace, Non-violence and Human Rights
  - **Mr. Tarik Kupusović**, Bosnia and Herzegovina, former Mayor of Sarajevo
  - **Prof. Janne Nijman**, The Netherlands, Chairperson of the T.M.C. Asser Institute, Professor of History and Theory of International law at the University of Amsterdam
  - **Prof. Thulisile Nomkhosi Madonsela**, South Africa, Professor of Social Justice Stellenbosch

### The process

5. The UCLG Peace Prize 2022 edition was officially launched in December 2021 in The Hague. The launch marked the start of the application period during which eligible local governments could submit their initiatives. The prize is open for award to local governments who either themselves work for peace and conflict resolution in their own area, or provide positive assistance to local governments in conflict and fragile areas, which includes pre-and post-conflict situations, but also areas that have experienced peace for decades. The prize is awarded to a local government as an institution, not to individuals. There may well be cases where local governments work together on a peace initiative, and in such cases the prize could be awarded to them jointly. This may for example include cooperation between a conflict-hit local government and its external partner city. The Peace Prize is open to any subnational government that falls within UCLG's own interpretation of the term "local government". Broadly speaking, this means that a local government is a subnational government defined as such by its own country's constitution or legislation. Any nominated initiative should have taken place at least partly within the 3 years prior to application.
6. Local governments could submit their application using a standardised application form, and add annexes in the form of photos and/or videos. Applications have first been reviewed by the technical Evaluation Committee. This committee ensures background checks on strong applications, collects more information where needed, and rates all applications on the following criteria:
  - The impact and effectiveness of the initiative in favour of peace – how did it promote peace in the community – **25 points.**
  - The broad replicability or learning potential of the initiative for other local governments in similar situations – **15 points.**
  - The degree of demonstrated innovation or creativity shown in the design of the initiative – **15 points.**
  - The sustainability for the future of the initiative – **10 points.**
  - The degree to which the initiative is embedded in the local government organisation – **10 points.**

- The degree of difficulty, complexity or danger of the situation faced on the ground by those involved in the initiative – **15 points.**
  - The general clarity and details of the information provided about the initiative – **10 points.**
7. In total, the above criteria provide for a maximum score of **100 points** for nominated projects. All applications and their particular scorings will be shared with the Jury of the Peace Prize. The Jury takes note of the scorings but these only serve to inform them, and the Jury can select any finalist and winner they see fit, independent of the scorings. Through digital meetings and requests for information from strong contenders, the Jury selects a shortlist of five finalists.

### **The finalists**

8. The jury has selected the following five finalists:
- a) **Mersin, Türkiye:** Developing the Social Cohesion Centre to support integration, intercultural learning and peace education.
  - b) **Mishiha, Burundi:** Through Growing Peace Clubs in schools, supporting the development of youth into responsible and trustworthy members of society.
  - c) **Monterrey, Mexico:** Reducing youth recruitment by criminal groups, through helping teenagers dealing with trauma by offering psycho-social support and socio-productive workshops.
  - d) **Palmira, Colombia:** Implementing a comprehensive approach to violence prevention focused on working with youth by prioritizing resources through the PAZOS project.
  - e) **Recife, Brasil:** Promoting citizenship, human rights, a culture of peace, and access to justice in disadvantaged areas through COMPAZ community peace centers.

### **The award ceremony**

9. The winner will be announced on 13 October during the UCLG General Assembly. A publication will be developed highlighting the best practices that this process has collected.
10. The finalists and the winner of the Peace Prize will present their cases during the World Congress, in a session on 14 October that will also serve to lay the groundwork for the future of the Award.

## Item 5

✓ For adoption

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATUTORY AFFAIRS ON THE ELECTORAL PROCESS

#### Summary and recommendations

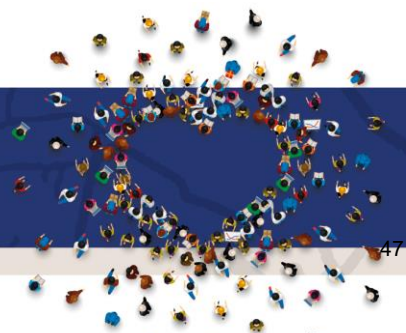
During this item, the Committee on Statutory Affairs will present an oral report on the latest recommendations concerning the electoral process following the meeting of the Committee in Daejeon on 12 October.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Adopt** the report and recommendations of the Committee on Statutory Affairs.

#### For recollection

1. As per the UCLG Constitution (art. 33-38), the General Assembly appoints members of the World Council from among the local government members, after considering a report from the Committee on Statutory Affairs in relation to the validity of elections for this purpose to be duly held within each world region, as set out in the Electoral Procedure Rules.
2. The General Assembly deals with all matters placed on its agenda by the World Council.





## Item 5 – Annex 1

✓ For information

### ELECTORAL PROCESS

#### Summary and recommendations

Our 7th UCLG World Congress will see the renewal of the Governing Bodies and the Presidency of the World Organization, which will be elected for a three-year term on 10-14 October in Daejeon, South Korea.

The call for Presidency is a global exercise that is carried out through an open call to all members, which was approved during the World Council in Barcelona. The call was announced in March 2022, and candidatures were to be submitted by 1 August 2022.

Although UCLG is a fierce defender of its democratic system and has always held electoral processes for its leadership, the Organization encourages seeking consensus whenever possible.

The Conduct of Elections, based on the UCLG Constitution, Electoral Process Rules, and Practice of the World Organization, was developed in order to guarantee a sound process. It was adopted by the Executive Bureau held in Montevideo and updated by the Executive Bureau that met in Seville in June 2022. The updated Conduct of Elections was immediately after shared with the membership and published on the UCLGMeets platform.

In order to accommodate the reality of a large number of candidatures for all posts, the Committee on Statutory Affairs has made the proposals summarized as follows:

- The Committee on Statutory Affairs has recommended that **all candidates should discuss possible agreements and propose a ticket (a proposal for a full Presidency) based on negotiations.**
- In the case that voting is needed, **the Committee on Statutory Affairs recommended that voting should take place in two rounds for the post of President only.**
- After the General Assembly appoints the World Council on 13 October 2022, a brief session to formally establish the World Council will be held. During this session, **the first round of voting will be organized for the President of UCLG.**
- After this first round, **the two candidates with the most votes will remain and will be invited to compose their ticket, including five co-presidents** (who can be selected from the list of candidates for the Co-presidency and for the Presidency), **a Treasurer and the Chair of the Standing Committee on Gender Equality.**
- On 14 October, during the formal session of the World Council, **the second round of voting will be organized to elect the President of UCLG and his/her presidential ticket.**

**The General Assembly is invited to:**

1. **Take note** of the proposed electoral process.

**Recalling the rules**

1. **Composition:** As per the UCLG Constitution (art. 58) the Presidency of UCLG comprises the President and up to five Co-Presidents plus the Chair of the Gender Equality Committee.
2. The Presidency is elected by the World Council from among local government members for a renewable term between two ordinary sessions of the General Assembly.
3. At least one of the above office-holders must come from an individual local government member; at least one must come from a national association, and at least one must come from a member of the Metropolitan Section. The President and Co-Presidents act on behalf of the World Organization, not of a specific Section.
4. **Eligibility:** Members of the Presidency shall hold a local electoral mandate; they must also be at the head of a) a local government or b) a national association of local governments.
5. In the case offices described under a) or b) are lost; their function within the Presidency will terminate at the date of the next meeting of the Executive Bureau.
6. The Executive Bureau shall announce the vacancy and holds the responsibility of organizing the process for electing his/her replacement, should the need arise.

**State of candidatures**

7. In its meeting in The Hague on 22 September, the Committee on Statutory Affairs confirmed that **four candidates (1 female and 3 male candidates) have been received for the post of President**, in alphabetical order by surname:
  - **Mr. Uğur Ibrahim Altay**, Mayor of Konya – Individual member
  - **Ms. Carolina Cosse**, Mayor of Montevideo – Individual member / Metropolis member
  - **Mr. Jang-Woo Lee**, Mayor of Daejeon – Individual member
  - **Mr. Jan Van Zanen**, Mayor of The Hague, President of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG) – Local government association
8. The Committee confirmed that **nine candidates (1 female and 8 male candidates) have been received for the post of Co-President**, in alphabetical order by surname:
  - **Mr. Uğur Ibrahim Altay**, Mayor of Konya – Individual member
  - **Mr. Johnny Araya**, Mayor of San José – Individual member
  - **Ms. Carolina Cosse**, Mayor of Montevideo – Individual member / Metropolis member
  - **Mr. Altay Kulginov**, Mayor of Nur-Sultan – Local government association
  - **Mr. Jang-Woo Lee**, Mayor of Daejeon – Individual member
  - **Mr. Li Mingyuan**, Mayor of Xi'an – Individual member

- **Mr. Bekhe Stofile**, Chairperson of Matjhabeng Local Municipality, President of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) – Local government association
  - **Mr. Jan Van Zanen**, Mayor of The Hague, President of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG) – Local government association
  - **Mr. Berry Vrbanovic**, Mayor of Kitchener, President Emeritus of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) – Local government association
9. The Committee confirmed that **two candidates (1 female and 1 male candidates) have been received for the post of Treasurer**, in alphabetical order by surname:
- **Ms. Asmaa Rhalalou**, Mayor of Rabat – Individual member
  - **Mr. Berry Vrbanovic**, Mayor of Kitchener, President Emeritus of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) – Local government association
10. The Committee confirmed that **two candidates (2 female candidates) have been received for the post of Chairperson of the UCLG Standing Committee on Gender Equality**, in alphabetical order by surname:
- **Ms. Fatimetou Abdel Malick**, President of Nouakchott Regional Council – Individual member
  - **Ms. Carolina Cosse**, Mayor of Montevideo - Individual member / Metropolis member
11. The eligibility of all candidatures has been confirmed by the Committee on Statutory Affairs.

### Conduct of elections

12. Although UCLG is a fierce defender of its democratic system and has always held electoral processes for its leadership, the organization encourages seeking consensus whenever possible. The very pillars of the organization are built on trust, respect and a willingness to collaborate based on inclusive agreements. In fact, members of the Committee on Statutory Affairs encouraged all candidates to discuss possible agreements and propose a ticket (a proposal for a full Presidency) based on negotiations.
13. Building on the experiences of previous Congresses members and candidates are encouraged to consider that beyond the formal presidency positions there are other possible leadership roles (such as the Policy Councils' membership, special envoys and rapporteurs) that will need to be fulfilled to accompany the ambitious work programme of the World Organization.
14. The Committee on Statutory Affairs recommended to follow the Conduct of Elections and organize voting in two rounds.
- After the General Assembly appoints the World Council on 13 October 2022, a brief session to formally establish the World Council will be held. During this session, **the first round of voting will be organized for the President of UCLG.**
  - After this first round, **the two candidates with the most votes will remain for the second round.**
  - The candidates selected after the first round are then invited to **compose their ticket, including up to five co-presidents** (who can be selected from the list of candidates for the Co-presidency and for the Presidency), **a Treasurer and the Chair of the Standing Committee on Gender Equality.**

- On 14 October, during the formal session of the World Council, **the second round of voting will be organized to elect the President of UCLG and his/her presidential ticket.**
15. The conduct of elections, updated by the Executive Bureau in Seville, is available in annex 2.

## Item 5 – Annex 2

**UCLG CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS  
FOR THE 2022 WORLD CONGRESS IN DAEJEON  
Adopted by the 2019 Executive Bureau in Montevideo  
Amended by the 2022 Executive Bureau in Seville**

1. The *Conduct of Elections* recalls the main rules to be followed in the electoral process and the procedures of the elections themselves during the Congress.
2. The *UCLG Constitution and Electoral Procedure Rules* are the reference documents for the organization of elections, together with the recommendations of the Committee on Statutory Affairs.
3. Due to the great reach and diversity of its network, UCLG usually seeks broad consensus in the appointment of its representatives. However, its vocation of inclusivity and transparency also envisages the possibility of several candidatures for a single post or event. This document summarizes how elections are organized.

### **Electoral process: Who elects who?**

4. The World Council is appointed by the General Assembly from a list previously agreed and recommended by the Committee on Statutory Affairs at the advice of the Sections.
5. The Executive Bureau is appointed by the World Council within its members according to the list agreed at the General Assembly.
6. The election of the Presidency takes place at the World Council.

### **Calls for candidatures**

7. The call for candidatures is facilitated by the World Secretariat following the instructions of the Executive Bureau, at the recommendation of the Committee on Statutory Affairs. The calls for candidatures are attached to the Electoral Calendar defined by the Executive Bureau at the proposal of the Committee on Statutory Affairs.

### **Key electoral rules**

8. According to Article 7 of the Constitution, UCLG membership is open to two types of local government members:
  - Cities and individual local governments.
  - National local government associations.



9. According to Rule 5 of the Procedures, each type of local government member shall be entitled to at least 30% of the seats in the World Council and Executive Bureau, even if its actual percentage is less.

### ***Gender equality***

10. According to Rule 5, no gender should represent less than 30% for 2019. For the 2022 process, it is recommended to comply with a strict minimum of 30%.
11. This rule should also be applied to the Presidency and Vice-Presidencies.

### ***Eligibility***

12. Only members up to date with the payment of membership fees will be eligible. The deadline for payment of membership fees was set as 30 June. The Secretaries General of the Sections received an eligibility reference with the launch of the Electoral Process, indicating the members that, according to the records of the World Secretariat, are able to be nominated as per up-to-date membership fee payments.
13. In virtue of the Constitution, representatives of the Governing Bodies must hold a political mandate from a local government.
14. According to Rule 5.6 of the Electoral Rules of Procedure, under the UCLG Constitution a political mandate is to be understood as: ***A mandate fulfilled by a political representative: a person holding a public office, being part of a deliberative body in charge of defining and implementing public local or regional policies.***

### **Voting rights**

15. **Only members officially appointed to the World Council** and up to date with their membership fees have the right to vote. Should the official member not be able to attend, his/her official substitute, duly appointed to the World Council, will have the right to vote.
16. **An official member appointed to the World Council cannot be the substitute of another member in the same governing body.**
17. **A substitute can be appointed to represent up to two official members**, granting him/her the right to cast two votes, on behalf of the two members he/she substitutes.
18. **An official member representing two different entities can have two votes**, on behalf of the two entities he/she represents.
19. **There are no proxies** and therefore only members in the actual representation lists, adopted by the General Assembly, are able to vote.
20. Both official members and substitutes must be political representatives, as described above.

### **Conduct of elections in situ: Voting ballots**

21. The voting ballots are designed and distributed by the World Secretariat.

22. They are distributed to the previously-appointed World Council members at the end of the General Assembly.
23. One voting ballot will be distributed to each member (principal or substitute) of the World Council upon presentation of their ID and his/her letter of acceptance of nomination.
24. There will be registration tables organized by continent in order to facilitate distribution.
25. Ballots are personal and cannot be transferred to other representatives.
26. There may be ballots of different colours to be used for different decisions or opportunities.

### **Casting the votes**

27. Voting will take place during the relevant item of the Council.
28. Ballot boxes will be placed in the same room where the Council meeting is taking place.
29. **Should the number of candidatures received for the post of President exceed four it will be necessary to organize the votes in two rounds.**
30. In this case, the **first round** of voting will take place immediately after the General Assembly. A brief session will be held to formally establish the newly appointed World Council. Voting members of the World Council will then be invited to cast their votes to elect the President of UCLG.
31. After counting the votes, **the two candidates with the highest numbers of votes remain for the second round.**
32. The candidates selected after the first round are then invited to **compose their ticket, including up to five co-presidents** (who can be selected from the list of candidates for the Co-Presidency and for the Presidency), **a treasurer and a deputy treasurer.**
33. The **second round** of voting will be decided by majority of votes casted and will take place during the formal session of the World Council. Voting members of the World Council will be invited to cast their votes to elect the President of UCLG and his/her presidential ticket.

### **Composition of the presidential ticket**

34. The following criteria should be sought as far as possible to reach a balanced ticket:
  - a) **Geographical balance:** ensure, as far as possible, a balanced regional representation in the Presidency team.
  - b) **Gender balance:** ensure, as far as possible, the most balanced representation between female and male elected officials in the Presidency.
  - c) **Representation of different types of membership:** according to article 58 of the Constitution, the Presidency should include at least one individual local government member; at least one from a national association; and at least one

from the metropolitan members. In addition to article 58, a special mention was made to include intermediary cities members.

### **Vote counting**

35. The vote counting will take place during the meeting by a *sub-committee* of the Committee on Statutory Affairs (the Electoral Oversight Committee), which will include five representatives of at least three Sections and a member of staff of the World Secretariat (composition subject to agreement of the Committee on Statutory Affairs).
36. Candidates or representatives of candidates subject to election are able to participate as observers only.
37. The number of ballots cast and the registered votes will be announced and checked.
38. The results of the vote will be transmitted to the Chair of the Session and the UCLG Secretary General.
39. The Chair of the Session will announce the results to the World Council at a moment of their choice according to the agenda, and preferably by the end of the meeting.
40. It will be up to the chair to inform of the detail of the results.

### **Electoral governance and key rules**

#### ***Rules***

41. The *UCLG Constitution and Electoral Procedure Rules* as amended in Chicago in 2010 and in Montevideo in 2019 respectively, are the reference documents for the organization of elections, together with the recommendations of the Committee on Statutory Affairs.

#### ***Key actors of the electoral process***

- **The World Secretariat;** as facilitator of the process.
- **The Committee on Statutory Affairs;** providing the recommendations to conduct the elections.
- **The UCLG Governing Bodies;** providing political oversight of the recommendations of the Committee on Statutory Affairs.
- **The political representation of the Sections;** providing oversight in each region and Section.
- **The Secretariats of Sections;** as facilitators of the implementation of decisions.
- **The Electoral Oversight Committee.**

#### ***Responsibilities of the World Secretariat***

- a) Providing all relevant documents for decision of the Committee on Statutory Affairs.
- b) Informing the Secretariats of the Sections of the decisions of the Committee on Statutory Affairs.
- c) Informing the membership of the Electoral Procedure Rules.
- d) Publishing the agreed calendar of elections.
- e) Facilitating the Conduct of Elections.



### ***Responsibilities of the Committee on Statutory Affairs***

- a) As per the Electoral Procedure Rules, the Committee on Statutory Affairs should guarantee that the principles and requirements set out in the framework of elections are complied with.
- b) The Committee should also encourage consensus and good practice within world regions throughout the process.
- c) The task of the Committee will be to:
  - Provide the framework for the elections, including the clarification of the boundaries of each defined world region and safeguarding the percentages relating to the different types of member represented as well as coordination among the different members in the respective Section;
  - Revise the candidatures and nominations according to the eligibility criteria;
  - Approve the proposals from regional Sections, based on a high degree of consensus of members within the defined world region;
  - Ensure the validity of the results of elections and resolve any significant disputes over the conduct of elections in a world region; in serious cases by requiring a new election to be held for that world region, if necessary.
- d) The Committee is further tasked with reporting to the General Assembly and World Council on the electoral process and its results.

### ***Responsibilities of the Sections***

- a) According to the requirements of the Electoral Process, the Sections are invited to provide the following information before the deadline, in order to enable the Committee on Statutory Affairs to prepare its report to the General Assembly.
- b) The following materials are to be submitted according to an agreed calendar:
  - A letter summarizing the arrangements made for the electoral process;
  - The list of nominations for the Section;
  - One contact form duly filled in per nominee;
  - A letter by each nominee agreeing to be part of the UCLG Governing Bodies.
- c) Sections will need to actively follow up with members to ensure that eligible nominations are put through, by ensuring compliance with the following issues:
  - Allocation of seats by Section and type of member;
  - Gender equality;
  - Eligibility.
- d) Sections should aim to present nominations built on consensus and to include all the members of UCLG in the region under their responsibility in the process.
- e) Where a Section exists within a defined world region, it shall have responsibility for coordinating the electoral process and for liaison with the Committee on Statutory Affairs. If there is more than one regional Section per region, they shall have the duty of co-operating to ensure that the electoral process is properly carried out.

### ***Responsibilities of the Electoral Oversight Committee***

42. As agreed by the 2021 World Council, the Electoral Oversight Committee is appointed at the beginning of the electoral process, to support the World Secretariat and the Sections.
43. The tasks of the Electoral Oversight Committee include:
  - a) Accompanying the electoral process through the works of the Committee on Statutory Affairs.
  - b) Supervising the practical arrangements of the placement of the ballot boxes.
  - c) Supervising the casting of votes.
  - d) Receiving reports on the distribution of ballots.
  - e) Counting of votes.
  - f) Comparing the casting of votes and the report of the distribution of ballots.
  - g) Preparing a report to be presented to the Chair of the World Council containing the electoral results and accounting for any incidents undertaken.

## Item 6

✓ For adoption

### APPOINTMENT OF THE UCLG VICE-PRESIDENTS NOMINATED BY THE SECTIONS

#### Summary and recommendations

According to the decentralized structure of the World Organization and as established by article 62 of the UCLG Constitution, the nominations for Vice-Presidents of UCLG are put forward by the UCLG Sections and Forum of Regions following agreements within the respective Sections.

#### The General Assembly is invited to:

1. **Ratify** the nominations for Vice-Presidents of UCLG.

#### Nominations proposed by the Sections

1. **AFRICA:**  
**Mr. Oumarou Dogari Moumouni**, Mayor of Niamey
2. **ASIA-PACIFIC:**  
**Mr. Ashok Kumar Byanju Shrestha**, Mayor of Dhulikhel, President of the Municipal Association of Nepal
3. **EURASIA:**  
**Mr. Aysen Nikolaev**, Head of Sakha Republic
4. **EUROPE:**  
**Ms. Carola Gunnarsson**, Lord Mayor of Sala, Vice-President of the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR)
5. **MIDDLE EAST AND WEST ASIA:**  
**Mr. Yücel Yilmaz**, Mayor of Balıkesir
6. **LATIN AMERICA:**  
To be confirmed
7. **NORTH AMERICA:**  
**Ms. Taneen Rudyk**, Councillor of Vegreville, President of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
8. **METROPOLIS:**  
**Ms. Claudia López**, Mayor of Bogotá, President of Metropolis
9. **FORUM OF REGIONS:**  
To be confirmed



**Item 7**

✓ For adoption

**APPOINTMENT OF THE UCLG WORLD COUNCIL**

**Summary and recommendations**

In accordance with the mandate provided by the UCLG Rules to supervise the electoral process of the World Organization, the Committee on Statutory Affairs has defined a framework for elections. It further defined a calendar of elections in close coordination with the UCLG Sections and it has met three times throughout 2022 in order to revise progress.

**This document presents the preliminary proposed nominations for the World Council by each Section, pending final revision by the Committee on Statutory Affairs meeting in Daejeon on 12 October. New lists will be shared via the UCLGMeets platform should there be changes to the original nominations.**

The total number of seats is 342.

**The General Assembly is invited to:**

1. **Ratify** the nominations for the World Council.

1. You will find in separate annexes the nominations received through the Sections and the summaries of nominations.

1. **Africa**
2. **Asia-Pacific**
3. **Eurasia**
4. **Europe**
5. **Middle East & West Asia**
6. **Latin America**
7. **North America**
8. **Metropolitan**

2. It is worth recalling that, as agreed by the Executive Bureau, in the transition aiming to build up the representation of regional governments in UCLG, it was decided that nominations of regional governments would be encouraged within each Section and that a dedicated Vice-Presidency would be created to ensure visibility and a political voice for this type of member.



**Distribution of seats:**

<b>Sections</b>	<b>World Council</b>	<b>Executive Bureau</b>
Africa	45	15
Asia-Pacific	66	23
Europe	73	23
Eurasia	36	12
Middle East & West Asia	35	12
Latin America	39	13
North America	24	8
Metropolitan	21 + 1 VP	7 + 1 VP
Forum of Regions/UCLG Regions	1 VP	1 VP
Host of the World Secretariat: Barcelona	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>116</b>