



# GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PARTNERS

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## NAIROBI DECLARATION

Adopted 13 April 2015

Nairobi, Kenya

We, the constituent members of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP)<sup>1</sup>, a special initiative of the World Urban Campaign mandated to last until the end of the Habitat III Conference in Quito, Ecuador in October, 2016, convened our inaugural meeting on 13 April 2015 in Nairobi, Kenya. The aim of the GAP is to support stakeholders' engagement and contribution to the Habitat III Conference and in particular to the New Urban Agenda.

We recognize the Habitat Agenda as an important milestone guiding the development of human settlements in a rapidly urbanizing world.

We recall that the Habitat Agenda was, in part, the result of inputs from stakeholders and dialogue between stakeholders and member states during the preparatory process and at the Habitat II Conference held in Istanbul in 1996.

We note that the urbanization process in the past twenty years has further expanded and accelerated, particularly in the developing world, such that by 2050 at least two-thirds of the world's population is expected to be living in urban areas. As well as being sources and sites of exacerbated inequalities and conflicts, cities are also hubs of opportunity and drivers of prosperity.

We are convinced that the New Urban Agenda to be effective must ensure a vision of sustainable and inclusive urbanization. Such a vision should be built upon a foundation of shared views, experiences, knowledge, capacities of a wide range of stakeholders, and should guarantee, with accountability, the rights and freedoms for all to access the benefits of urbanization.

We are committed to a deliberative process, building on The Future We Want, The City We Need and the future Framework for Post 2015 Development, and to a roadmap that includes inputs

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<sup>1</sup> As organized in fourteen Partner Constituent Groups, namely, (i) Local and subnational authorities; (ii) Research and Academia; (iii) Civil Society Organizations; (iv) Grassroots organizations; (v) Women; (vi) Parliamentarians; (vii) Children and youth; (viii) Business and Industries; (ix) Foundations and Philanthropies; (x) Professionals; (xi) Trade Unions and Workers; (xii) Farmers; (xiii) Indigenous People; (xiv) Media.



provided by the Partner Constituent Groups, Urban Thinkers Campuses, and thematic, regional and other relevant meetings.

We are guided by our Constitution, adopted 13 April 2015, and draw our membership from partners of the World Urban Campaign, the major groups according to Agenda 21, and other organizations with missions compatible with our aim. We have organized ourselves into Partner Constituent Groups and will meet regularly before the Habitat III Conference to strengthen engagement.

We are further committed to:

- Developing common positions to help constitute the New Urban Agenda with a focus on key principles and thematic areas;
- Proposing a set of prioritized actionable recommendations, supported by evidence and proven urban solutions, which will help international, national, sub-national and local stakeholders to implement and monitor the New Urban Agenda;
- Advocating for and publicizing outcomes and collective positions that emerge during the GAP process to the Habitat III Conference and associated programs and processes, via all available channels; and,
- Suggesting strategies for the implementation and monitoring of the New Urban Agenda after Habitat III through, inter alia, the World Urban Campaign.

We urge member states to:

- Recognize the General Assembly of Partners as a significant mechanism for stakeholder involvement in the preparatory process towards Habitat III;
- Acknowledge the outcomes and collective positions emerging from the General Assembly of Partners as described above;
- Involve stakeholders in all deliberations and preparatory processes leading to the Habitat III Conference and the New Urban Agenda, including meetings and formal opportunities for dialogue with member states;
- Include stakeholders as official members of their respective national delegations; and,
- Support the General Assembly of Partners through every available means.



*Signed:*

*Dated: 13 April 2015*

*President of GAP: Eugenie L. Birch*

*Vice-President of GAP: Shipra Narang Suri*

*Chairs/interim Chairs of Partner Constituent Groups present:*

*(i) Local and sub-national authorities*

*(ii) Research and Academia*

*(iii) Civil Society Organizations*

*(iv) Grass-roots Organizations*

*(v) Women*

*(vi) Children and Youth*

*(vii) Business and Industries*

*(viii) Professionals*

*(ix) Trade Unions and Workers*

*(x) Media*