

Third session of the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments: Mayors and Governors commit to Habitat III

What is the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments?

The Second World Assembly is the mechanism through which the local and regional government constituency has made its joint inputs to the Habitat II and III processes.

- The **first session** of the Second World Assembly was celebrated in New York, on the 15th of May 2016, in the Framework of the Habitat III Local Authorities Hearings.
- The **second session** will be celebrated on the 14th October from 14:00 to 15:30 during the World Summit of Bogotá. It will see around 800 participants adopt a joint statement by local and regional governments to the Habitat III Conference.
- The **third session** of the Assembly will be held on the 16th October from 15:00 to 18:00 in the framework of the Habitat III Conference in Quito.

Third session of the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments, Quito

WHAT: Over 300 local and regional leaders, representing different global networks of local and regional governments, will gather at the Third session of the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments to submit their joint statement to the Habitat III Conference and commit to contribute to the achievement of the New Urban Agenda.

WHERE: Casa de la Cultura, Avenida 6 de Diciembre, Quito, Ecuador

WHEN: Sunday, 16th October from 15:00 to 18:00

FORMAT: Given the limited time available and the strong presence of elected officials, the World Assembly will consist of three elements, running in parallel:

- The Second World Assembly itself, taking place in the Habitat III Agora space
- A TV set broadcasting discussions and inputs by elected officials
- A signing ceremony for elected leaders to sign the World Assembly statement and their commitment to deliver the Habitat III

1) **The Second World Assembly** will consist of scripted **interventions of approximately 1.5 - 2 minutes from Mayors and Governors**, based on the text of the joint Statement to Habitat III. Our constituency will be the focus of the event.

2) The **TV set** will be situated a minute away from the Agora. It will be produced in close collaboration with Habitat III, which will allow longer statements and interviews with a smaller number of mayors. The interviews will be broadcast live and will also be included in the audiovisual documentary of the World Assembly.

3) The **Signing ceremony** for all mayors will be jointly organized by the GTF and Habitat III. It will allow mayors to sign both their commitment to contribute to the achievement of the New Urban Agenda and the Declaration of the Assembly. This will be organized in a separate podium that will be filmed and gather all the signatures of the members of the constituency.

Presence of partners

It is envisaged that national government, principals of international institutions and civil society will be seated strategically during the Assembly and their presence and support throughout the process acknowledged in the audiovisual materials but also at strategic moments in the signing ceremony and TV set.

Post Quito documentation

The recordings of these segments will be packaged and will be used in the GTF Lounge as well as retransmitted at the Closing Ceremony of the Habitat III Conference on Thursday. They will also provide us with a rich resource of content to use following the event.

Statement of the Second World Assembly

The text, the political response of local and regional governments to the New Urban Agenda, is divided into three sections that seek to highlight:

- 1) The main **achievements** of our advocacy work in the New Urban Agenda
- 2) The **commitments** to action of local and regional governments going forward
- 3) Our main **demands** on the international community regarding a renewed global governance structure and improved global financing for local investment

The World Assembly in the New Urban Agenda

In a landmark achievement for our constituency, ***the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments is acknowledged in paragraph 8 of the New Urban Agenda*** adopted at Habitat III, in which UN Member States say “We acknowledge the contributions of national governments, as well

as the contributions of sub-national and local governments, in the definition of the New Urban Agenda and take note of the second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments”.

Significantly, paragraph 169 calls for continued collaboration with the World Assembly in the follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda, stating “We note the importance of continuing to engage in the follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda with sub-national and local governments associations represented at the ***World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments***”.

The World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments, which is convened and facilitated by the Global Taskforce, will act as ***the political voice of local and regional governments in the follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda***.

GTF lounge

The Global Taskforce will facilitate a Lounge for local and regional governments at the entrance to the Habitat III Agora. The lounge, which will be ***the hub for our constituency*** at Habitat III, consists of a chill-out area where delegates can relax and have a coffee, a small space for presentations, and the offices of the GTF network staff.

