

European Cyclists' Federation at the
afternoon plenary of the prepcomm 2 on
Wednesday, 15th of April 2015 in Nairobi.

Marcio Deslandes on behalf of the European
Cyclists' Federation - partner of the World
Urban Campaign.

Honourable Chair, Member States and Guests,

Thank you for giving the opportunity to the
European Cyclists' Federation to speak in
this prepcomm 2 for the Habitat 3
conference. I'm here today representing the
European Cyclists' Federation and our new
network World Cycling Alliance. We are a NGO
based in Brussels representing cycling
groups all over the world and we work
already for a while to make more people
cycling more often. Our main area of work is
active mobility and specially on cycling as
a sustainable mean of transportation. We
work with different stakeholders for better
policies and regulations for cyclists in
cities.

Mobility plays a big role in urban
development nowadays and therefore it is an
important point in the new urban agenda.
However, I think it's a common opinion that
sustainable urban development cannot go
without the topic 'active mobility'. For
that I am here today to ask all the

authorities to take serious consideration on adding the importance of cycling as the cleanest and most sustainable mean of transportation to the new urban agenda.

When I look at the SDGs we are all talking about here today. It makes me realise how we can fit cycling in many of them. For example, if we talk about health, we should be aware of the benefits brought to people who exercise 20 minutes a day, so if you use your bicycle as your main mean of transport, you are likely to be healthier. A city can be more productive with the use of the bicycle and create more active jobs deliveries and other services made by bikes for example. Not mention the CO2 savings. Cycling and slow transport are also a key to a safer city. Accidents in traffic keep growing and it will only decrease if we work for more a slower and safer city where kids, elderly and all citizens can feel safe. These are only a few examples of the benefit of the bicycle as a mean of transportation.

Dear Mrs. Chair, Taking into consideration what I just said, I would like to ask the Habitat 3 secretariat to add the importance of active mobility, cycling and walking, into the new urban agenda for the Habitat 3 conference.

Thank you!