

Statement by ISOCARP/ GAP
Follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda
Friday 29 April 3-6 pm

Madam co-chair

Thank you for giving us the opportunity again to speak on behalf of ISOCARP and GAP. I would like to join member states and my civil society colleagues in congratulating you as co-Chair, members of the H3 Bureau, the S-G of the Conference Dr. Clos, and the H3 secretariat in organising this incredibly important, open and inclusive dialogue. We hope that this lays the foundation and establishes precedence for the rest of the H3 process, including the Conference itself in Quito, and for future intergovernmental processes.

I would also like to recap some of the key words and themes we have heard in the past week which we as planners and urban professionals wholeheartedly support – the focus on urban and territorial planning, an integrated approach, housing at the centre, the informal economy, disasters and crises, decentralization and good urban governance. I would also like to commend the emphasis laid by many member states and stakeholders on a rights-based, people-centred, planet-sensitive approach. This in fact very much in line with the proposal of the General Assembly of Partners, whose outcome document is being finalized as we speak and will be submitted to the Bureau and Dr. Clos next week. The GAP Document, titled *Partnerships for the New Urban Agenda*, lays out a set of core principles and ethical values that should underpin the Agenda and our collective efforts towards sustainable urbanization over the next two decades, for example:

- Rights-Based and People-Centered
- Socially Inclusive and Rooted in Decent Work
- Gender Responsive
- Planet Sensitive
- Just and Participatory
- Grounded in Subsidiarity

In listing these principles, I would like to recall and support the call of Lana Winayanti from Indonesia on the first day, where she urged us to work together towards a common set of ethics and moral values for a sustainable urban future. We would also like to align ourselves with other member states, e.g. Brazil, Thailand, Norway, Colombia, Canada, South Africa, Zambia, among others, who have committed themselves to many of these principles.

I would also like to flag two other key elements of the GAP outcome document and what it calls the post-Habitat III architecture.

- First, the creation of an open multi-stakeholder Post Habitat III Coordination Mechanism that seeks to support and facilitate the implementation, accountability, follow-up, and review of the New Urban Agenda. This would build on the intellectual and social capital created by the preparatory process for

Habitat III and the associated engagement of all stakeholders' structures, including the GAP, the Habitat III Policy Units, the Habitat III Regional and Thematic Conferences, etc.

- Second, an investment advisory committee, a multi-stakeholder committee to advise on all investments made by international financial institutions for urban infrastructure and development to ensure that funding decisions match the priorities agreed to in the New Urban Agenda, and to ensure transparency and accountability to the public and communities impacted by these projects.

I would also like to echo the call from Thailand and G77 for a clearly articulated set of indicators to monitor the implementation of the New Urban Agenda – what we cannot measure, we will not be able to improve, manage or change. And we as stakeholders and partners stand willing and ready to fully participate in the very important process of monitoring and review.

We urge the member states to give serious consideration to these propositions, among others, as you explore truly innovative ways of doing business in the post-Habitat III era.

Thank you for your attention.

Delivered by
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