



**UN Major Group for Children and Youth**  
**Intervention at the Open-Ended Informal Consultative Meeting for Habitat III**  
**Introduction and Regional Perspective**

Overview of the main key recommendations and information on the development of the zero draft

25th April 2016

Thank you very much for giving us the floor.

On behalf of the UN Major Group for Children and Youth, in the context of the scope of the current conversation, we would like to present some broad views of the Children and Youth Partner Constituent group of the General Assembly of Partners. These are based on extensive global consultations with children and young people on every continent. In addition, we look forward to continuously engaging throughout the week.

It is wonderful to see that much of the discourse in this process is centered around the urgent need to make the New Urban Agenda 'People Centered' and implementable. This includes the agenda being *vehemently* rights based, highly gender responsive, and radically inclusive, participatory and rooted in decent work.

Someone even said that the 'city exists within society'.

Now, we want to specifically highlight two points.

First of all, very often, an indispensable component of the 'people centered' approach is overlooked.

This is inequality, specifically inequality within and between communities and types of human settlements. This broad message, should translate to specific indicators to monitor and correct these trends.

Additionally, the focus on people-centered is a good development and a huge step forward.

While taking this forward, we would like to highlight the need of not repeating the mistakes of an outdated development paradigm: A paradigm that does not contextualise development within the bounds of our planetary boundaries and environmental thresholds.

The New Urban Agenda will not be new and deliver on the promise of a new paradigm and achieve the SDGs, unless it is expressly qualified as "People Centered and Planet Sensitive."

In this regard, we would urge everyone to revisit and enhance the quote from the floor that said the "city exists within society," the city does not only exist with society, but it exists within a society that further exists within the natural environment and ecosystem.

Thank you for the floor and taking our considerations into account. We look forward to continuing this dialogue and sharing our views.