



## **Paris City Hall Declaration A decisive contribution to COP21**

We, cities and regions' leaders from the five continents, gathered at the City Hall of Paris on Friday, December the 4<sup>th</sup>, reaffirm our commitment to tackle climate disruption.

We declare solemnly that climate change is our common challenge and that advancing climate solutions is a shared responsibility, and a matter of rights, equality and social justice. An effective, global response to climate change presents one of the greatest economic opportunities of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, will protect public health, and strengthen sustainable development mindful of human rights and women's empowerment.

We recognize that human-caused climate change already harms millions of citizens and its impact will last for decades. Continuing on the same high greenhouse gas emissions trajectory will result in disaster for our children, the environment and global biodiversity. Climate change action is the only path forward. Given that cities around the world are home to half the global population and their activities generate 2/3 of global greenhouse gas emissions, local and regional leaders have an increasingly important role to play in charting the course to a low carbon future.

We — the undersigned mayors, governors, premiers, and other local government leaders — commit collectively to:

- Advance and exceed the expected goals of the 2015 Paris Agreement to be reached at COP 21 to the full extent of our authorities;
- Produce and implement participatory resilience strategies and action plans to adapt to the rising incidence of climate-related hazards by 2020;
- Deliver up to 3.7 gigatons of urban greenhouse gas emissions reductions annually by 2030 — the equivalent of up to 30 % of the difference between current national commitments and the 2 degree emissions reduction pathway identified by the scientific community;
- Support ambitious long-term climate goals such as a transition to 100 % renewable energy in our communities, or a 80 % greenhouse gas emissions reduction by 2050;
- Engage in partnerships among ourselves and with global organizations, national governments, the private sector, and civil society to enhance cooperation and capacity-building programs, scale-up climate change solutions, develop metrics and promote innovative finance mechanisms and investments in low-emission projects across the world.

To reach these ambitious goals, we look forward to supporting a COP21 Paris Pledge for Action and will strengthen the ongoing initiatives of cities and regions' networks, in particular the Compact of Mayors, the Covenant of Mayors, and the Compact of States and Regions. We will support the UN NAZCA platform and the Local Government Climate Roadmap to ensure the visibility of these initiatives. Additionally, we recognize that our jurisdictions require increased access to climate finance, budget authority, and stronger legislative capacity to maximize climate change action, and we call for the empowerment of each level of government to make its maximum potential contribution toward climate change progress.

Under the Lima Paris Action Agenda and in accordance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, we will coordinate our climate action over the coming year to prepare the HABITAT III Conference. Together, we join with global organizations, national governments, the private sector, and civil society to deliver a common response to climate change that will protect our planet.

