

Local Government Climate Change Leadership Summit

Copenhagen, Denmark
2-4 June 2009

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROADMAP:
BALI - POZNAN - COPENHAGEN



LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS CALL TO THE PARTIES IN COPENHAGEN

Local Government Climate Change Leadership Summit
4 June 2009 in Copenhagen

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Mayors and local governments, as the level of government closest to the citizens, are ready to take responsibility to tackle the climate change challenge by taking action to combat the rapid and dangerous rate of global warming as well as providing the necessary measures to adapt;

Recalling the UNFCCC COP decision on cities, local and regional authorities and climate change as drafted and presented at COP14 by the leading global local governments associations-United Cities and Local Governments, ICLEI-Local Governments for sustainability, World Mayors Council on climate Change, C40-Climate Leadership group, Metropolis, and their regional or national partners;

Mayors and local and regional governments, both urban and rural, unite to request that the negotiations include the following ideas in the negotiation texts, under the following headings:

I. Shared Vision

1. Post-Kyoto agreements should be:

a. **Far-reaching and transparent**, including ambitious, clear, legally binding reduction targets;

b. **Inclusive**, by recognising the experiences of all levels of government in the planning, implementation and monitoring of climate measures and strategies both in the short, medium and long term;

c. **Linked to the development strategies** of the developing countries, including appropriate action for mitigation, adaptation, technology transfer and finance;

d. **Mindful of** the principles of justice, equity and solidarity;

e. **Global**, through agreed action from all countries to combat climate change, mobilizing the capacities of all stakeholders for implementation;

2. In accordance with and respecting national constitutions and legislation, recognise the role of cities and local authorities in the implementation of National Climate Change Strategies and Action Plans, and should therefore facilitate the adoption by cities and local authorities of practices that support the implementation of these strategies and action plans, as well as supporting the consistency between local climate change strategies and action plans with National Strategies and Action Plans;

3. Cities and local authorities should be empowered with the capacities and the resources required to take necessary action at the local level and to support the Parties in their efforts to meet the agreed targets;

4. The absorptive capacity of aid by recipient countries should be strengthened by increasing capacity building initiatives for local and regional governments;

5. National Governments should honour their ODA commitments and deliver additional public finance for adaptation until other financial instruments become functional;

6. The provision of aid should be carried out in accordance with the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness;

7. The principle of subsidiarity should be applied when dealing with the impacts of Climate Change. Devolution of responsibilities should be matched with devolution of financial and human capacity;

8. The focus of UNFCCC should be complemented with an inclusive policy debate including all stakeholders. Regulatory, financial and operational functions should be entrusted to new regulatory institutions with balanced representation from the North and the South.

II. Regarding Adaptation

1. The role and experiences of cities local and regional authorities in the implementation of National Climate Change Strategies and Action Plans should be recognized in accordance with and respecting national constitutions and legislation;

2. Local capacity should be developed to contribute to the development and implementation of the national adaptation programme of actions (NAPAs);

3. Coordination mechanisms should be put in place which includes all spheres of government in the planning and implementation phase;

4. Inclusive governance should be seen as a main tool for climate action, particularly in its relation to reducing vulnerability;

5. Emergency and disaster preparedness plans should be developed based on adequate infrastructure and services, including resilient housing;

6. At least US\$1 billion of additional funds (not at the expense of currently ODA-financed programmes) should be mobilized to assist the vulnerable low income countries in climate actions.

III. Regarding Mitigation

1. Cities and local and regional governments should be included as key partners of the national government in the planning, implementation and monitoring of nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs);

2. Coordination mechanisms should be created to provide efficient mobility which includes all spheres of government in the planning and implementation phase;

3. Cities and local and regional governments should be involved in Technology Needs Assessments (TNA).

IV. Regarding Finance and Technology

1. Financial mechanisms should be directly accessible by cities and local and regional governments;

2. Carbon finance project frameworks should be simplified to enhance the usefulness to cities, in particular establishing reasonable monitoring requirements and allowances for appropriate combinations of methodologies;

3. Development of innovative approaches should be facilitated to allow affordable access to the best available technologies.

V. Regarding the Flexibility Mechanisms

1. Carbon markets and flexibility mechanisms in the post-2012 period should be revised, to allow cities and local and regional authorities better access to the global flux of carbon funds, including but not limited to the Adaptation Fund, the Technology Fund and other relevant financing options and ensure that existing financial mechanisms are efficient, effective and well-coordinated as well as accessible to actors at different levels. The management of implementation measures resulting from these mechanisms should be devolved to the lowest level of effective governance;
2. City-to-city cooperation and decentralized capacity development initiatives should be included as part of technology transfers and flexibility mechanisms;
3. Existing mechanisms should be efficient effective and well coordinated as well as accessible of actors at different levels and management should be devolved to the lowest level of effective governance.