



CENTRE for
LiveableCities
SINGAPORE



SINGAPORE STATEMENT ON COMMONWEALTH CITIES IMPLEMENTING THE 2030 AGENDA ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

We, the mayors and local government representatives from cities across the Commonwealth, meeting in under the auspices of the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, CLGF, on the occasion of *Cities 2030-Vision, Leadership and Public Service Excellence*, Singapore, 5-6 October 2015:

Appreciative of the facilities and hospitality, provided by our co-hosts, the UNDP Global Centre for Public Service Excellence and the Centre for Liveable Cities, Singapore;

Saluting World Habitat Day 2015 and conscious of the preparations to develop the New Urban Agenda in anticipation of Habitat III in 2016 in recognition that a majority of the SDG targets and indicators are applicable at urban level;

Acknowledging the adoption by the United Nations of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its recognition of the role of cities and local governments in the new sustainable development goals, the SDGs, especially SDG 11 to 'make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, SDG 16 on effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, as well as in respect of the means of implementation, set out in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the provisions for sub-national follow-up and review of the SDG;

Encouraged by the statement of the UN Secretary-General of 24 September 2015 that cities are at the heart of many global challenges and opportunities and that mayors will have a critical role in the implementation of the entire spectrum of the 2030 Agenda;

Endorsing the local government commitment to implement the SDGs contained in the CLGF Gaborone Declaration- Local Government Vision 2030, the Declaration of Cities' Commitment of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Statement of the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments 'All SDGs are Local';

Convinced that the establishment of the new Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Network, CSCN, by the CLGF, provides a valuable and practical vehicle for our cities and other Commonwealth cities to join together to help set, implement and monitor the SDGs and assist us in developing the necessary capacity for this task;

Commit to:

1. Inform our citizens and communities about the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and engaging with central and provincial government, development partners, academia, civil society and private sector partners to ensure the application and localisation of relevant SDGs in our own areas of jurisdiction.
2. Focus on core areas of need, including making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; creating effective, accountable and inclusive institutions; promoting economic growth and employment; building resilient infrastructure; and addressing climate change, with special attention to the needs of cities in least developed countries and small island developing states.
3. Share knowledge and know-how on successful strategies to implement the 2030 Agenda among the CSCN membership and through direct city-to-city partnerships.
4. Work with CLGF, UNDP-GCPSE, CLC Singapore and other partners to develop the necessary technical skills and capacity to help set, implement and monitor the SDGs, thereby ensuring a bottom-up approach to sustainable development.
5. Cooperate with CLGF and through the CSCN to realise the pledges of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for scaling-up international cooperation to strengthen the capacities of municipalities and other local authorities, to give support in implementing resilient and environmentally sound infrastructure, to support local governments to mobilise revenues, strengthen debt management and municipal bond markets and help subnational authorities to finance necessary investments and promote lending from financial institutions and development banks, deal with risk mitigation and holistic disaster risk management in line with the 2015 Sendai Framework.
6. Make use of CLGF's unique central and local government membership to promote partnership between mayors and ministers to implement the 2030 Agenda, with a view to ensure that the concerns of cities and their specific developmental and financial needs are adequately recognised in national policy-making, including through appropriate legislation and, where applicable, constitutional recognition, in line with the *Commonwealth Aberdeen Principles on Local Democracy and Good Governance*.
7. Take up membership, where applicable, of CLGF and its CSCN and mandate the Mayors of Kingston and St. Andrew, Jamaica; Strovolos, Cyprus and Windhoek, Namibia to form the steering committee of the CSCN, and cooperate with the CLGF Board and Secretary-General in developing its membership, organisation and work programme in line with the aims and objectives set out above.

Singapore, 6 October 2015