

We, Mayors of the World,
coming from 22 cities in 19 countries and all continents
gathered in Bonn, Germany, together with our respective partners at
the Resilient Cities 2010:
1st World Congress on Cities and Adaptation to Climate Change,
are dedicated to confirming our commitment to globally coordinated
local climate action.

Thereby, We, Mayors of the World,

Recall

that adapting to climate change is a key concern for human settlements in both developed and developing countries, and devastating consequences, particularly affecting urban poor, will increase dramatically, if appropriate measures are not implemented at the local, subnational, national, regional and international levels,

Recognize

that Bonn, Germany's United Nations City, has developed a culture of shared experience and interdisciplinary dialogue on global sustainability, which has led to a tradition of Mayors Conventions on crucial issues and to new approaches to cooperation between local governments and their partners on all levels,

Express our concern

with the failure of the 15th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC to deliver a strong, comprehensive and global post-2012 climate agreement in Copenhagen in December 2009,

Recognize the opportunity presented by

Resolution GC22/3 on cities and climate change, adopted on 1 April 2009, by the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT,

the initiative of the City of Bonn, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and World Mayors Council on Climate Change to host an annual global platform on urban resiliency and adaptation to climate change,

The Nairobi Work Programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change for highlighting the role and potential of local governments,

the "Making Cities Resilient" campaign of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in 2010-2011

efforts of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to convene an expert group meeting on human settlements infrastructure and climate change, so that outcomes can ensure a more comprehensive analysis of the human settlement issue in the forthcoming 5th Assessment Report,

Express our confidence

that commitments of cities and local governments worldwide will continue to lead global climate action and 21 November 2010 World Climate Summit of Mayors that will be convened in Mexico City will advance the global climate advocacy of local governments,

We, Mayors of the World, declare to the global climate community 10 Action Points listed below;

1. Climate change is real, global and immediate. Our cities are at risk. Local level adaptation is essential.
2. Many cities around the world are already developing and implementing local adaptation strategies to solve local problems caused by impacts of climate change, in the absence of a binding global commitment on adaptation.
3. Local adaptation strategy must support local sustainable development and improves the quality of life of our inhabitants, in particular the urban poor, who are most vulnerable to impacts of climate change.
4. Local knowledge and capacity are essential assets for global adaptation to climate change and can be mobilized immediately.
5. Budgets and capacities of local governments in both the developed and in the developing world must be strengthened sufficiently to address climate adaptation.
6. Local governments need direct access to financing mechanisms and technical resources from all levels – multilateral, national and local – in order to implement strategies and initiatives to manage a changing climate.
7. Local leadership must be empowered to ensure global climate action.
8. Global partnerships between multilateral institutions, national governments, the private sector and civil society, as well as urban-rural, and intercity cooperation, are critical for success in adaptation to climate change at the local level. We commit to seeking dialogue, cooperation and partnership with all stakeholders, whenever and wherever possible. The Nairobi Work Programme of the UNFCCC is an example to be continued.
9. Cities must have a stronger voice and presence in global climate negotiations. Without the successful participation of cities and local governments, national governments fail to meet the emission targets and actions that must be included in a global climate treaty.
10. On the eve of COP16 in December 2010, the World Climate Summit of Mayors, to be held in Mexico City on 21 November 2010, will bring mayors together to create an innovative international mechanism for the advocacy and action of local governments at COP16 and beyond.

The “Making Cities Resilient Campaign” of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction in 2010-2011, launched at the Mayors Adaptation Forum 2010 demonstrates local leadership and raises awareness of how our efforts to reduce disaster risk are making our cities safer and more resilient.

ICLEI, WMCCC, UNISDR and partners of the Resilient Cities 2010 congress will extend their collaboration for further implementation and monitoring of the Campaign to raise urban adaptation on the agenda of global climate governance.

Enhancing global advocacy to improve the resilience of local governments to climate change will be one of the primary action areas of the World Mayors Council on Climate Change which is committed to disseminating the Bonn Declaration of the Mayors Adaptation Forum globally and to providing an annual review of progress.

Adopted unanimously on 30 May 2010, in Bonn, Germany, and declared by Marcelo Ebrard Mayor of Mexico City and Chair of World Mayors Council on Climate Change