

## HYDERABAD DECLARATION ON SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENTS, CITIES AND OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR BIODIVERSITY

We, mayors, governors and other high-level officials meeting in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India, from October 15 to 16, 2012, at the occasion of the *Cities for Life: City & Subnational Biodiversity Summit*:

*recognize* previous key meetings of local and subnational authorities for biodiversity, which have paved the way for this meeting, including the complementary “URBIO” scientific network conference linking science to policy, and its “Mumbai Declaration” adopted on 11 October, 2012;

*reiterate and insist* that local authorities have a critical role to play in implementing the objectives of the CBD and thereby assist national governments in preventing the continuation of biodiversity loss, and we renew our commitment to pursuing this goal;

*renew* the appeal made, at the City Biodiversity Summit, held in parallel with the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the parties to the CBD in Nagoya, Aichi, Japan, in 2010, to all local governments of the world and their citizens, as well as the CBD Parties and the international community, to support us in this endeavor;

*recognize* the importance of decision X/22 and the associated *Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity 2011 - 2012*, which provides guidelines for cooperation between national governments and their local and subnational authorities;

*recognize* that significant progress has been made with regard to the *Plan of Action*, by local, subnational and national governments and the organizations, networks and others supporting them, and appeal to national government to accelerate efforts to cooperate with them and to assist in the mobilization of funding, to achieve these aims.

We furthermore support the parties’ adoption of an additional decision, at COP 11, on Engagement of Other Stakeholders, Major Groups and Subnational Governments. Complementing the proposed decision, we hereby commit to playing our part in:

- continuing, individually and as networks of local governments, to implement innovative initiatives such as those highlighted in the *Cities and Biodiversity Outlook*, and which complement the *Plan of Action*;
- working with national governments and others in the development of local and subnational biodiversity strategies and action plans, and mainstreaming biodiversity into land-use and climate change adaptation and mitigation plans, in line with equivalent national level plans, to ensure harmonious and coherent implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020* and the *Aichi biodiversity targets*;
- making use of indicators, and indicator systems such as the *Singapore Index on Cities’ Biodiversity*, to monitor the state of biodiversity at the local and subnational level, partly as a contribution to national reporting to the CBD;
- and supporting the activities of the *Global Partnership on Local and Subnational Action for Biodiversity*.

Local and subnational authorities’ support will be further demonstrated through response strategies to complement the Plan of Action.

We thank the Government of India, the Government of Andhra Pradesh, and the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation for hosting the *Cities for Life: City and Subnational Biodiversity Summit 2012*. We hope that the next COP host city will continue the successful examples demonstrated by Curitiba, Bonn and Aichi/Nagoya, providing cities and local authorities worldwide with an essential opportunity to engage with one another and contribute, globally, to the movement towards stemming the tide of biodiversity loss.