



6th Global Biodiversity Summit of Local and Subnational Governments

Statement presented to the CBD COP 14 Plenary by Dr. Cathy Oke, First Vice President of ICLEI on the *Sharm el-Sheikh Communique for Local and Subnational Action for Nature and People* 2018

Yesterday, local and subnational governments and our partners convened here the **6th Global Biodiversity Summit of Local and Subnational Governments** in parallel to COP 14.

I am pleased to present here the highlights of the *Sharm El-Sheikh Communique for Local and Subnational Action for Nature and People* adopted at our Summit.

We know that urgent action is needed to save people, nature and our planet as we hit the 1.5°C climate wall and may soon reach tipping points that will cause irreversible destruction to nature and ultimately to humankind.

As the FUTURE is URBAN, our constituency of all levels of subnational governments is ready to accelerate our Action Roadmap towards the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, in support of the global Roadmap Process of the Parties.

We want Sharm el-Sheikh to be remembered as **a key meeting on the pathway towards bending the curve**, and we want Beijing to give momentum to biodiversity at the same level Paris gave to climate.

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It is here that the *Sharm el-Sheikh to Beijing Action Agenda for Nature and People* was announced and where the process for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework has commenced, and we are pleased that this process recognizes **local and sub national governments' important contributions** in this journey.

We welcome Parties and other actors to join in supporting and partnering on these with us, and hereby

Call on Parties to:

- strengthen the catalytic role of all levels of government to contribute nature-based solutions,
- accelerate and enable our full participation in preparing National Biodiversity Strategies and associated action plans,
- unlock available resources, capacity building and knowledge transfer to support, mainstreaming biodiversity actions in our regions and our cities,
- enable and promote the implementation of the previous COP decisions related to local and subnational governments and to ensure the flow of decisions continues in future COPs,
- increase efforts to collaborate with the other global governance processes such as Rio, the New Urban Agenda, SDGs, and
- support the efforts of the UN Secretary General's 2019 UN Climate Summit's work stream on nature-based solutions.

We commit the summary of our **6th Global Biodiversity Summit of Local and Subnational Governments, including the full Sharm el-Sheikh Communique** to the Executive Secretary, requesting her to distribute it to all Parties.

Finally, we look forward to convening further parallel Summits to the CBD COPs in partnership with the CBD Parties, and look forward to seeing you in Beijing.

Thank you.