

**LGMA Speech for the Climate Segment of the
High Level Conference of the
United Nations,
Doha, 2012**

**Delivered by
Mr Dantec, Municipal Councillor of Nantes and
spokesperson on Climate for UCLG**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am here today to address you on behalf of Mayors, Presidents of local and sub-national governments and local elected representatives who work on a daily basis to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and construct a sustainable world.

By addressing ourselves to you, representatives of national governments, we would like to not only recall the challenges of this issue and your responsibilities, but also to support you in your capacity to look beyond exclusively national interests and work toward a global agreement that meets the stakes of these challenges. Through our daily action, we will allow you to reach ambitious national objectives to reduce emissions and to adapt plans. The experience of the past ten years has revealed that countries that have advanced most in this field are those who have been able to count on the determined action of their local and sub-national governments.

We must now go further. In Cancun two years ago, you officially recognised the importance of our role through a strong mention in the preamble of the long term action text. In the framework of the agreement discussions in Durban, what we must construct is a true partnership, both institutional and financial. This perspective was clearly highlighted in the final declaration of RIO+20 and the example of the COP decisions on biodiversity could serve as inspiration in this case.

We are mobilised and united, the Mexico Pact at global level, the pact of Mayors in Europe, the adapted Charter of Durban are furthermore examples of our mobilisation. We have precise proposals to make to account for CO2 emissions in our territories, to finance sustainable urban development in the North and in the South, to develop the best adapted policies by associating inhabitants, by combining all our experiences,...

In concrete terms, we request that you include a specific chapter in your work programme of the Durban agreement and take note of the numerous declarations of national governments in favour of taking our action into account in the post 2015 agreement.

Through the decisions of thousands of local elected representatives, we have the key capacities to rapidly reduce the emission of CO2 globally. We trust that you have the drive to make this an important element of the ambitious global agreement that is required to meet the challenges of climate change.