

**INTERVENTION OF THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND MUNICIPAL
AUTHORITIES CONSTITUENCY
(LGMA)**

AT THE OPENING PLENARY OF AWG-LCA

Bangkok Climate change conference

April 5th, 2011

**Delivered by Thomas Quero
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United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)**

Madam Executive Secretary,
Mister Chair,
Dear Delegates,

First of all, I would like to express to you our satisfaction to be here in Bangkok, participating to this supplementary session, organized early this year, showing the importance for parties and UNFCCC to make progress towards the implementation of the Cancun Agreements, and eventually reaching in Durban a new step towards a global, balanced agreement.

Last December in Cancun, thanks to your guidance, thanks to the strong will of the Mexican presidency and because of every party's positive spirit, it was possible to adopt the Cancun Agreement.

Local governments welcome firstly the clear mention of the role played by local authorities as recognized in the definitive LCA text, secondly - Para.7 of Dec.1/COP16 which defined for the first time the role of stakeholders, and in particular addressed local and subnational governments as "governmental stakeholders". This means a true recognition of the nature of local governments and their networks, but even more, it acknowledges the legitimacy of our mayors and the millions of citizens that already take action to fight climate change. This was the result of many years of intensive efforts, in particular through the Local Government Climate Roadmap since 2007 and many other initiatives of members of the LGMA constituency, UCLG, ICLEI, NRG4SD, and their local elected representatives.

Throughout their local action plans and their commitments, in particular the Mexico City Pact so far signed by 179 mayors and the carbonn Cities Climate Registry, local governments give a global response for measurable, reportable, and verifiable action. All around the world local governments have already taken targeted actions for the implementation of Cancun Agreements. For example, at the Local Climate Solutions for Africa meeting, held in Cape Town on 27 Feb - 3 March. A number of major African cities and their networks gathered in this initial African-wide preparation towards COP17 in Durban.

Mme Chair , We sincerely hope to see on the way towards Durban and beyond concrete implementation of role of local governments as governmental stakeholders at all fields including mitigation, adaptation, capacity building, finance technology transfer and at local, subnational, National and international level.