

HYBRID EVENT

GENEVA URBAN  
DEBATE

**Pandemic prevention,  
preparedness and  
response:  
what do local  
authorities bring to  
the global debate?**

**16 March 2022  
13:30 - 15:00 CET**

Villa Rigot  
1202 Geneva



As the international community embarks on a global debate to strengthen pandemic prevention, preparedness and response, it is important to consider the crucial work undertaken at municipal level to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic and to prevent and respond to possible future pandemics.

Given their capacity to foster a multi-stakeholder approach and the fact that they deal with many dimensions of “urban health”, municipal authorities are also deeply involved in the response to the pandemic which has been affecting our lives for more than 2 years now. Due to their proximity to their population, their knowledge and understanding of the local actors and context, cities and urban settings are crucial to prevent, prepare for, and recover from health emergencies.

**This Geneva Urban Debate explores:** Which municipal experiences are relevant for the next pandemic in terms of prevention, preparedness and response? Which ones are worth replicating or scaling up to strengthen global action against future pandemics? How can best practices translate into concrete decisions and policies to ensure better urban health?

Welcoming remarks: **Ms. Anh Thu Duong**, Co-Director, Geneva Cities Hub and **Mr. Graham Alabaster**, Chief, Geneva Office, UN-Habitat

Moderation: **Mr. András Szörényi**, Senior Policy Advisor, Geneva Cities Hub

### Speakers

- **Mr. Axel Graef**, Mayor of Niterói, Brazil
- **Ms. Begoña Villacís Sánchez**, Deputy Mayor of Madrid, Spain
- **Dr. Mpabwanamaguru Merard**, Deputy Mayor of Kigali, Rwanda
- **Mr. Graham Alabaster**, Chief, Geneva Office, UN-Habitat
- **Ms. Nathalie Roebbel**, Unit Head, Urban Health, WHO
- **Mr. Ludy Prapancha Suryantoro**, Unit Head, Multisectoral Engagement for Health Security, WHO
- **Mr. José Alvarez**, Policy Officer, United Cities and Local Governments
- **Dr. Lyda Osorio**, Universidad del Valle Cali, Colombia
- **Mr. Nicolas Gharbi**, Principal Advisor at the city of Madrid, Spain



Light  
refreshments will  
be served before  
the event  
(13h00)