

LOCAL AND SUBNATIONAL GOVERNMENTS COALITION TO END PLASTIC POLLUTION



H.E. Amb. Luis Vayas Valdivieso
Chair
of the Intergovernmental Negotiating
Committee (INC) on Plastic Pollution

14 November 2024


**Subject: Inclusion of Local and Subnational Governments in the Plastic Pollution Treaty /
Draft language for the current “non paper”**

Your Excellency,

We, the undersigned representatives of the Local and Subnational Governments Coalition to End Plastics Pollution, who are representing the interest of local and subnational governments worldwide, write to express our strong commitment to supporting the adoption and the implementation of international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution (*the Plastic Pollution Treaty*) and to advocate for the critical role of local and subnational governments as active actors in this endeavor.

Local and subnational governments are at the forefront of combating plastic pollution, particularly in waste management and pollution prevention across all stages of plastic’s lifecycle. In most countries, they are the primary administrators with competencies and budgets on environmental and waste management. For this reason, we firmly believe that local and subnational governments must be recognized and included as key actors in the Plastic Pollution Treaty.

This recommendation aligns with our longstanding involvement in global environmental processes, including active integration in the Paris Agreement and the Kunming-Montréal Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as in collaboration with the Secretariats of the Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, and Minamata Conventions. It is a natural continuation of our work in these frameworks, reinforcing the essential role of local and subnational governments in addressing environmental challenges worldwide. If we want to ensure that the multilateral environmental agreements are effectively and ambitiously implemented on the ground, we need to reflect local and subnational governments. These negotiation processes require a whole of government and a whole of society approach.





Our Coalition, which is committed to advancing the recognition of local and subnational governments in the negotiation, adoption, and future implementation of the Plastic Pollution Treaty, remains highly interested in being a part of this process.

We respectfully submit in the attached annex a few elementary yet essential additions to the current “non paper” which are easily applicable to any further iteration of it as the negotiations go on, which we believe will substantively enhance the inclusion of local and subnational governments in the Treaty’s success.

We extend our sincere thanks for your leadership and remain fully available to meet with you at your convenience to further discuss these proposals. We also assure you that our Coalition will continue regular contact with your office to support and engage in the concluding stages of the negotiation and adoption of this landmark Plastic Pollution Treaty and wish you full success in your further steps towards the adoption.

With great appreciation for your attention to this critical matter,

Sincerely,

Gino Van Begin

Secretary General
ICLEI – Local Governments for
Sustainability

Emilia Saiz

Secretary General
United Cities and Local Governments

Gabriel Boichat

Head of the Delegation to Switzerland
Government of Catalonia

Jean Lemire

Special Envoy
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Kamelia Kemileva

Co-directrice
Global Cities Hub

Cc/ INC secretariat

