

**SEVENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT ASSEMBLY  
(UNEA-7)**

**8 - 12 DECEMBER 2025**

**NAIROBI, KENYA**

**Local Authorities Major Group Intervention:**

**MEAs Dialogue 1: Signed, Sealed, Delivered? Turbocharging MEA  
implementation through whole-of-government and whole-of-society  
approaches. 10 December 2025**

DELIVERED BY: KAMELIA KEMILEVA (GCH) AS PART OF THE LOCAL  
AUTHORITIES AND MAJOR GROUP

**Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Colleagues,**

I'm from the Global Cities Hub, a member of the Local Authorities Major Group. I would like to express our gratitude for this dialogue with Member states and other stakeholders.

During this entire session of UNEA-7, we have worked closely with Member States, representatives of local and regional governments, and their networks. We discussed issues spanning all levels of government and all MEAs, and reported on these discussions during the opening of the UNEA plenary. Across all debates, there was strong agreement: a whole-of-government approach, embedded in a robust multilateral and multilevel framework, is essential for implementation of all MEAs.

Allow me to present several concrete best practices, as requested, in which local and regional governments are already playing a crucial role:

- Building on the statement of the executive secretary of the UNECE, Barcelona convention, biodiversity COPs, and in the BRS MEA – the participation and the role of LRGs is more and more prominent
- In the Aarhus convention, there is a room for submissions to the compliance body,
- In the Climate COP the LMGA constituency is more and more active, through initiatives such the one supported by Brazil on Beat the Heat and others, including through initiatives such as CHAMP.

- Zero waste initiatives where states are practicing an inclusive approach, such as Türkiye and others, are good examples too.

These instances illustrate a broader truth: Local and regional governments are not just executors — they are indispensable partners.

Therefore, we believe that win-win cooperation across all levels of government in every Member State is not merely desirable — it is essential to ensure full and effective implementation of MEAs.

I thank you.