



Communauté métropolitaine
de Montréal

Press Release

MONTRÉAL THEMATIC MEETING Adoption of the Montréal Declaration on Metropolitan Areas

Montréal, October 7, 2015 – Gathered in Montréal for the *Montréal Thematic Meeting on Metropolitan Areas*, representatives of local governments, UN Member States and civil society have adopted the *Montréal Declaration on Metropolitan Areas*. The statement's aim is that metropolitan areas are recognized in the New Urban Agenda to be adopted during the Habitat III Conference in Quito, in 2016.

The Mayor of Montréal and President of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal, Mr. Denis Coderre, welcomed the adoption of the declaration: "Today metropolitan areas state clearly and unequivocally that they are key players and that they are part of the solution to achieve the goal of sustainable urbanization. The New Urban Agenda to be adopted in Quito will be the urban policy roadmap of UN Member States for the next 20 years. It is therefore important to recognize the need to establish action mechanisms at the scale of metropolitan areas. I invite Dr. Joan Clos, Secretary-General of Habitat III, who honoured us greatly with his presence during the two days of the Meeting, to support us so that the declaration goes through the UN competent bodies and is taken into account in the New Urban Agenda for the 21st century."

The Montréal Declaration stresses the importance of metropolization and of the challenges that must be met in order to achieve the sustainable development goals that were adopted by the UN in September. To meet these challenges and transform our metropolitan areas, this declaration recognizes that metropolitan cooperation partnerships must be implemented across metropolitan areas.

The Declaration received support in particular from the World Association of the Major Metropolises (Metropolis), United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Network of Metropolitan Areas of the Americas (RAMA), the Big City Mayors' Caucus of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the Canadian Commission for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV).

To follow up and promote the *Montréal Declaration on Metropolitan Areas* and its inclusion in the New Urban Agenda, a committee will be set up. This committee will be composed of the Chairs and Co-Chairs representing UN Member States, local governments and civil society at the *Montréal Thematic Meeting on Metropolitan Areas*.

For more information, visit the Web site of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal: <http://cmm.qc.ca/evenements/montreal-thematic-meeting-on-metropolitan-areas/>

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