



XXII GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MINISTERS AND MAXIMUM AUTHORITIES OF HOUSING AND URBANISM OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Santiago, Chile
1 and 2 October 2013

DECLARATION OF SANTIAGO

Taking into account:

1. That the General Assembly of Ministers and High Level Authorities of Housing and Urbanisation of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI) is the main platform for the political convergence, regional coordination and cooperation on the subjects of housing and sustainable urban and territorial development, with the aim of gradually solving the human settlements problems of the Region.
2. That the cities are the result of the evolution of our territories; the dynamics of the societies; the physical space in which people develop, in search of access to basic services that are not present in the rural environment.
3. That we must reaffirm the right to the access to the city and its possibilities - the right to quality housing that contributes to overcoming the problems of poverty, vulnerability, segregation, and irregularity that affect the region; through holistic social housing programs and urban development that include access to financing and subsidies, urban land and housing that fosters comfort, security, health; potable water, electricity, and sanitation services, and facilities for education, health, recreation, access to community spaces and ensures the connectivity of these settlements to the city.
4. That the continuous growth of unplanned urban zones carries with it a consumption of natural, material, land and energy resources; and places a greater demand for infrastructure and urban services which otherwise could be utilized more efficiently.
5. That it is necessary to improve the quality of life and to contribute to the urban and social inclusion of the poorest segments of the population, particularly those who find themselves in informal situations.
6. That the region is susceptible to natural phenomena or events that place our urban centres at risk, particularly in the case of the risky locations and informal settlements located in vulnerable areas.
7. That it continues to be necessary to find alternatives to increase access to adequate housing, where the inhabitants are active participants in the social re-engineering.



8. That it is necessary to agree on standards and procedures that allow countries to manage common technical criteria on subjects pertaining to quality and productivity within the framework of social housing.
9. Guarantee that the goals of sustainable development from Rio+20 include urban issues.
10. That it is necessary to recognise the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) of the MINURVI region and peculiar problems which they encounter with regard to housing, urban planning and climate change such as sea level rise.
11. That it is necessary for governments to continue to be committed to goals 10 and 11 of objective 7 of the Millennium Development Goals, adopted by the United Nations' General Assembly during the 2000 summit.

Recognising:

1. The constant contribution and collaboration of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-ECLAC) in the implementation of the agreements of MINURVI, materialised in the support given to the elaboration of working papers, as well as the organisation of seminars and training courses.
2. The support given by the Regional Bureau of the United Nations Programme for Human Settlements (UN-HABITAT) to the tasks of MINURVI.
3. The noteworthy work of the countries that comprise the Executive Committee, in the 2012-2013 period, particularly Argentina that has been in charge of the Technical Secretariat of MINURVI.
4. The hospitality of the authorities of the Republic of Chile, and especially the excellent organisation of the meeting on behalf of the Ministry for Housing and Urbanism and of UN-ECLAC, in their capacity as hosts of this Assembly.

We, the Ministers and High Level Authorities of Housing and Urbanism of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, participating in this General Assembly.

Agree:

1. To foster the development of urban policies that aim at integrating the population of informal settlements, giving access to serviced lots with urban infrastructure, community facilities and environmental sanitation, and promoting the strengthening of their human and social capital.
2. To generate a virtual library on the web on the Management and Prevention of Disasters caused by natural events, based on the experiences of countries.



3. To guarantee and secure the continuity of the countries participation in the meetings of the Programme for Habitat Quality and Productivity, fostering the development of a robust and coherent legal framework as regards to operation, habitability, durability, and security, as well as the utilization of sustainable materials and construction systems that promote the development of local industries.
4. To establish homogenous methodologies and indicators that allows comparison of the performance of cities, in order to optimise regional strategies and support their strengthening through cooperation.
5. Reduce the environmental impact on cities in an integrated manner through territorial ordinances.
6. To encourage access to sustainable design and construction of quality housing, within the urban context, with access to services, infrastructure and facilities that foster the building and restoration of social ties.
7. To respond to the housing demand with a multiplicity of production, financing, subsidy tools, that address security of tenure in different forms.
8. To develop strategies for the prevention of risks and the management of emergencies in human settlements, *vis-à-vis* natural disasters, and to develop building technologies in order to reduce the risks through a variety of actions that include the analysis of potential disasters, the vulnerabilities, the adoption of appropriate standards of construction designs, technologies and building regulations, both in mitigation and in adaptation.
9. To supply information requested of the different research and working groups in a timely manner via collaborating organizations or via the Technical Secretariat, with the aim of moving forward in the development of useful documents to facilitate the decision making process by member countries.
10. To continue the analysis of best practices regarding urban planning, housing development, and infrastructure systems that conform to cities.
11. Work on National reports for incorporation into a document being developed for presentation at Habitat III.

To commit the MINURVI Executive Committee with the following tasks:

- a. To plan the participation of MINURVI in the VII World Urban Forum, to be held in the city of Medellín in April 2014.
- b. Continue to work on the following thematic areas:
 - Rental Housing and Subsidies to be prepared by Jamaica and Uruguay



- Prevention of Disasters Costa Rica
- Revitalization and rehabilitation of urban housing stock with emphasis on informal settlements – Brazil

Reports will be incorporated into the development of a document to be presented at Habitat III

- c. Countries should maintain their commitment to reducing the housing deficit; UN-Habitat has committed to provide support and proposed to create a space at the World Urban Forum to facilitate discussions by international experts.

The governments represented in MINURVI commit themselves to working with the Secretary General for Habitat III and agencies leading the preparation of Habitat III in the region (UN-HABITAT/ROLAC and UNECLAC) to effectively move forward in the production of national reports and to support the elaboration of the regional report. We equally invite UN-HABITAT/ROLAC and UNECLAC to make a value-added proposal to the technical papers of MINURVI in the logic of a New Urban Agenda from Latin America towards Habitat III and towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

To Integrate the Executive Committee, until the XXIII MINURVI ASSEMBLY, with the following composition:

The sub-region of Central America and Mexico shall be represented by Mexico, and Panama and the latter shall act as focal point of the sub-region.

The sub-region of the Caribbean shall be represented by Cuba and Jamaica and the latter shall act as a focal point for the sub-region.

The sub-region of South America shall be represented by Paraguay and Uruguay and the latter shall act as a focal point for the sub-region.

Countries designated as focal points commit themselves to work in order to increase the participation of sub-region's countries in the activities of Technical Secretariat.

The Host of the XXIII MINURVI General Assembly will be determined by the executive committee which will be organized by the Technical Secretariat by way of a virtual or personal forum.

In Santiago de Chile, on the 2nd of October 2013.



<p>Lydia Mabel Martínez de Jiménez Head of National Housing Policies. ARGENTINA</p>	<p>Denis St. Elmo Kellman Minister of Housing and Lands BARBADOS</p>
<p>Inés da Silva Magalhães National Secretary of Housing of the Ministry of Cities BRASIL</p>	<p>Rodrigo Pérez Minister of Housing and Urbanism CHILE</p>
<p>Luis Felipe Henao Minister of Housing, City and Territory COLOMBIA</p>	<p>Roy Barboza Vice-Minister of Housing and Human Settlements COSTA RICA</p>
<p>Oris Fernández President of the National Institute for Housing CUBA</p>	<p>Harry Adam Executive Director of the Unité de Construction de Logements et de Bâtiments Publics HAITI</p>



<p>Morais Guy Minister of Transport Works and Housing JAMAICA</p>	<p>Alejandro Nieto Undersecretary of Urban Development and Housing of the Secretary of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development MEXICO</p>
<p>Yasmina Pimentel Minister of Housing and Territorial Ordering PANAMA</p>	<p>Francisco Knapps Minister- Executive Secretary of the National Secretary of Housing and Habitat PARAGUAY</p>
<p>Francisco Beltrame Echeverría Minister of Housing, Territorial Ordering and Environment URUGUAY</p>	