

Forum: Economic and Social Council

Question of: Enhancing cities and communities in terms of sustainability

Submitted by: Republic of Korea

Co-Submitted by: United States of America, Commonwealth of Australia, Plurinational States of Bolivia, Dominion of Canada, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Republic of Finland, Federal Republic of Germany, Republic of Kenya, State of Libya, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Kingdom of Norway, Republic of Panama, Portuguese Republic



1 The Economic and Social Council,

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3 *Reminding* all nations that more than 50% of the world population live in cities right now and
4 70% of the world population is predicted to live in urban settlements by 2050,

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6 *Taking into account* the danger posed by climate change to various communities across the
7 world,

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9 *Alarmed by* the fact that cities account for 60-80 percent of energy consumption and 75
10 percent of carbon emissions despite occupying just 3% of the Earth's landmass,

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12 *Recalling* SDG 11, which is to “make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient
13 and sustainable”,

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15 *Deeply concerned* by the reality that more than 800 million people live in slums, and more
16 than half of the world's urban residents breathe air that is at least 2.5 times more toxic than
17 the safety limit,

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19 *Keeping in mind* that fresh water resources, sewage, the living environment, and public health
20 are all under strain as a result of rapid urbanization,

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22 *Recognizing* that more than a third of the world's urban population lives in slums, with slum
23 residents accounting for more than half of all city inhabitants in Sub-Saharan Africa,

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25 *Further believing* that people can succeed economically and socially in urban environments,
26 but this is only achievable in cities where land resources are not overburdened by
27 development,

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29 *Taking note* that unplanned urban sprawl, which occurs when cities expand beyond their
30 formal boundaries, may be harmful to national development planning and global sustainable
31 development goals,

32 Hereby resolves to,

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1. **Calls upon** all member states to focus on making public transportation more accessible and convenient such as, but not limited to:
 - a. cable cars as part of urban public transport systems to link hilly and often low-income urban communities to the city,
 - b. smarter commuting through apps to make services easier to use,
 - c. optimizing public transportation routes to minimize overlap and ensure coverage across the city in line with demand,
 - d. switching from diesel buses to electric buses **and hydrogen buses that use hydrogen produced by solar and wind power,**
 - e. deliver effective marketing campaigns to break down cultural barriers;

2. **Emphasizes** on the projects that take economic, social and environmental aspects into consideration;

3. **Encourages** all concerning nations to find and implement nature-based solutions in urban climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction such as but not limited to:
 - a. protecting pre-existing vegetation such as forests, **to their own measures,**
 - b. greened rooftops and streets that can better manage rainwater runoff and improve urban climate,
 - c. “sponge cities”, cities with open spaces that can soak up flood water and prevent disaster in ecologically friendly ways,
 - d. “vertical forests”, a vertical densification of nature,
 - e. increasing the amount of open public spaces to provide better air
 - f. establishing community networks to improve urban disaster resilience;

4. **Further invites** nations to collaborate with their citizens when enhancing cities and communities in terms of sustainability;

5. **Facilitates** a transition to environmentally friendlier private vehicles, by means such as:
 - a. improving already existing bicycle infrastructures,
 - b. providing charging stations across the city to support electric vehicles;

6. **Requests** member states to evaluate each for themselves which area from living, work, supply, disposal, education, recreation/activities, community, communication and transportation needs to be improved upon the most;

7. **Expresses** its hope in collaboration between cities, countries and international bodies in form of special government-supported committees in collaboration with NGOs that each tackle the social, economic and environmental problems regarding sustainable development;

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8. **Further recommends** all governments to implement a waste recycling system nationwide, ban problematic plastic items and packaging and research alternatives to plastic materials;
 9. **Calls** for the establishment of a UN campaign which raises the awareness of urban settlers on the importance of their role in enhancing cities and communities in terms of sustainability;
 10. **Promotes** the integration of cities and communities with technology through means such as, but not limited to:
 - a. the ability to operate or control various parts of the house using a smartphone,
 - b. providing mobile currency services,
 - c. internet-based innovations aimed at managing water challenges such as flood control, rainwater management, supply distribution, pipe leakage reduction and sanitation management;
 11. **Affirms** of the need to develop and proposes to establish a United Nations Agency to support countries that face hardships in enhancing cities and communities in terms of sustainability due to financial circumstances for:
 - a. the cause of knowledge and skill transfer regarding sustainable development of cities and communities
 - b. the cause of reviewing and assessing achievements of governments on national to local level;
 - c. the cause of closing the gap of the level of sustainability between less developed countries and well developed countries;
 - d. the cause of increasing privatization and technological advancements;
 12. **Encourages** industries to lay emphasis on renewable energy by:
 - a. incentivizing various industries to transition to clean and renewable energy
 - b. providing reduction in tax for electric vehicle
 - c. subsidizing the construction of renewable energy powerplant;
 13. **Asks for** the creation of a nutritious, safe, healthy, eco-friendly, affordable, and accessible sustainable nutrition system which will:
 - a. include principles for sustainable diets under the published reports by the Health Council of the Netherlands, Swedish National Food Agency, Green Food Project, Barilla Center for Food & Nutrition Foundation (BCFN), and so on,
 - b. increase public awareness on issues such as local and seasonal nutrition, reducing the consumption of animal products, obtaining more efficient food,
 - c. include various projects carried out with lawmakers and related institutions in order to develop new policies on sustainable nutrition,
 - d. be ensured that the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, and Livestock encourage communities,

120 e. provide training sessions for dietitians and health professionals on sustainable
121 nutrition and thus prevent foreseen hunger and related problems, and ensure the
122 continuation of a healthy diet;

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124 **14. Designates** banks to stop lending in order to prevent the construction of power plants
125 that produce energy with fossil fuels which:

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127 a. require high capital and bank loans are needed,
128 b. cannot be constructed since the equity of companies is insufficient under today's
129 conditions;

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130 **15. Accentuates** the necessity for governments to promote markets for sustainable energy
131 technologies within their respected countries, in order to ensure that their population
132 has sufficient access to these technologies.

