

Local Authority Opening Statement
First Preparatory Committee Meeting of UNCSD
17 May 2010

Thank you Co-Chair. We appreciate the recognition of the importance of stakeholders and Major Groups which has been expressed this morning.

Local Authorities will be very actively involved in Rio+20. Many Local Authorities have implemented Local Agenda 21. We now need to critically evaluate these processes to learn lessons for the future.

Cities are at the centre of the green economy. Urban areas are where many of the green economy ideas are being tested and implemented.

An efficient institutional framework needs to enable local authorities worldwide to continue and scale up the solutions they are already pioneering and implementing. The global and national frameworks need to support and enhance these ongoing efforts.

We look forward to fruitful discussions and progress in the coming days.