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Eugenie L. Birch, FAICP Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research Chair, Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning

To: Member States Second Preparatory Conference for Habitat III Nairobi, Kenya

From: Eugenie L. Birch, Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research Co-Director, Penn Institute for Urban Research

Ruplaie C. Dirch

Bert Smolders was authorized to speak on behalf of the University of Pennsylvania. Here is his statement:

Madam Chair

My name is Bert Smolders. I am speaking on behalf of the University of Pennsylvania, an urban university founded in the 18th century. Academic institutions with their strong research and instructional capacities have much to contribute to the New Urban Agenda. The University of Pennsylvania with its internationally renowned Institute for Urban Research pledges to support the Habitat III processes.

We are eager and enthusiastic members of the World Urban Campaign and give our full support to the General Assembly of Partners.

Thank you