

## Side event

### The High-Level Meeting on the New Urban Agenda

#### Advancing the NUA by building on the global momentum to reclaim streets for pedestrians and cyclists

##### Purpose

As the UN General Assembly meets to discuss the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda on 28 April 2022, it is timely to reflect on the role that governments have played in reducing the imbalances and inequalities in the provision of safe, inclusive and accessible walking and cycling infrastructure as well as access to public transportation and provide solutions for closing the gap.

##### Details

Date: 27 April 2022

Time: Lunch/Afternoon (time to be confirmed)

Possible Venue: Hybrid event at Scandinavian House OR Ford Foundation (for 10 to 25 participants)

Organizer: ITDP and UN-Habitat Urban Basic Services Section

Potential partners: Friends of Transportation, Placemaking X, UN Road Safety Fund and Urban Pathways partners.

Registration link: to be created

Webcast link: will be shared

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##### Background

It has been 6 years since the New Urban Agenda was adopted in Quito, Ecuador, at the Habitat III conference. The document represents a shared vision for a better and more sustainable future and emphasizes that well-planned and well-managed urbanization can be a powerful tool for Sustainable Development. UN-Habitat is working together with governments, civil society organizations, foundations, the private sector and other United Nations entities to implement the New Urban Agenda and to address the imbalances and inequalities in the provision of basic services including transport amongst other things.

The High-level meeting of the General Assembly to assess progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda taking place at the United Nations Headquarters on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 is an opportune moment to highlight the successes in achieving the NUA and creating greater awareness of the efforts of local authorities to improve the lives of people that live in the city. The NUA is an action-oriented document which sets global standards of achieving the urban Sustainable Development Goal (SDG 11), and rethinks the way we build, manage, and live in cities.

In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic underscored long-standing inequity and unsustainability in how we move around our cities. Now is the time to radically rethink that reality. Resilient, equitable transportation systems must be centered around public transport, integrated with walking and cycling. This requires that national and local governments and planners have the tools and guidelines to make walking and cycling the safe, inclusive and affordable option in cities.

This side event aims to highlight the importance of cycling infrastructure to achieving safe, equitable, resilient and sustainable cities. Like energy, stormwater, and sewage systems, cycle networks must be carefully planned, implemented, and maintained to truly guarantee livability and equitable access to the city. Representatives from local and regional governments and partners will share their experiences promoting cycling as a basic urban service that enables more resilient, equitable transportation systems.

### **Programme**

The proposed event structure is as follows:

- Welcome Remarks by Hosting Member State (5 mins) OR Mr. Jean Todt, UN Special Envoy for Road Safety
- Inspirational Statement by Michael Replogle or Paul White (10 mins)
- Video Statement (Jakarta, Indonesia)
- Panel discussion on “The Cycling Project – Implementing the NUA” moderated by Dana Yanocha, Head of Cycling Cities, ITDP, with the following speakers (30 mins):
  - Claudia López Hernández, Mayor of Bogotá, Colombia OR Eduardo Paes, Mayor of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
  - Areli Carreon, Bicycle Mayor of Mexico City
  - Manuel de Araújo, Mayor of Quelimane, Mozambique
  - Michael King, Urbanist & Traffic Calmer
  - Fiona Bull, Physical Activity, WHO
- Question & Answer moderated by ITDP (20 mins)
- Interactive Session using Mentimeter to get a sense of people’s views on safe and inclusive mobility in the city as well as identification of key priority areas, moderated by UN-Habitat (10 mins)
- Moving towards a set of key messages to be tabled at the HLM, moderated by UN-Habitat (15 mins)
- Concluding Remarks by Andre Dzikus, Chief, Urban Basic Services Section OR Cecilia Andersson, Lead, Urban Mobility, UN-Habitat (5 mins)

The Side event will contribute to discussions around reducing inequalities, sustainable urban development, climate action and reducing GHG’s, recovery post-covid.

# HIGH LEVEL Bike Ride

## Draft Concept Note

**High-level Meeting on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda: 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022 OR 27 April? (9am – 10.30 am)**

### Background

It has been 6 years since the New Urban Agenda was adopted in Quito, Ecuador, on 20 October 2016 at Habitat III. The document represents a shared vision for a better and more sustainable future and emphasizes that well-planned and well-managed urbanization can be a powerful tool for Sustainable Development. Since its inception and in line with its Strategic Plan, UN-Habitat has worked together with governments, civil society organizations, foundations, the private sector and other United Nations entities to implement the New Urban Agenda and to address the imbalances and inequalities in the provision of sustainable transport and infrastructure.

With nearly 70% of the world population projected to be urban in 2050, UN Habitat, have long promoted the idea that planned urbanisation is force of development and shared prosperity.

The High-level Meeting of the General Assembly to assess progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda taking place at the United Nations Headquarters on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 is an opportune moment to showcase progress and create greater awareness of the of the efforts of local authorities in New York to improve the lives of people that live in the city through better mobility. Building on the momentum of COVID-19, various cities expanded their walkways and cycle lanes. A high-level bike ride shall be organised to raise awareness on the need for sustainable mobility, road safety and green recovery among high level participants and to inspire them to take action.

### Organising partners

UN-Habitat, ITDP Cycling Cities, Department of Transport New York, Member State

### Key Stakeholders

The attendees for the bike ride are intended to be delegates of the General Assembly; local and national governments; organising partners. High Level participants may include (tbc):

- Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN-Habitat

- Ms. Heather Thompson, CEO of ITDP
- Mr. Michael Replogle, Founder, ITDP & Former Deputy Commissioner for Policy, NYC DOT
- Mr. Jean Todt, UN Special Envoy for Road Safety

## Proposed Programme

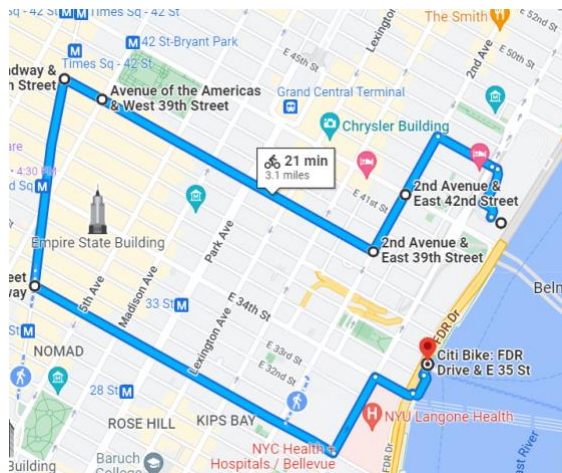
8.45 am: Meeting point at UN Headquarters; distribution of bicycles

9.00 am: Statements by High Level Participants (Host City, Member State, Organising Partners)

9.15 am: Official Flag off

10:00 am: end of the cycle ride

## Proposed Route – Manhattan



1. **Manhattan loop** - 30 min cycling, 15 min at stops = 45

**min total**

**Start at UN HQ**

**End at 34th St Ferry Terminal**

**[continue**

**to Queens/Brooklyn] or UN HQ**

**[complete ride]**

**Stops at Bryant Park, Herald Square, Greeley Square Park.**