HIGH LEVEL Bike Ride
Draft Concept Note

High-level Meeting on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda: 27 April 2022
(8.30am – 10.00am)

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 addresses 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 28th of April 2022 is an opportune moment to showcase progress and create greater awareness 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, Urban Pathways, 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
- Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, UNECE

**Proposed Programme**

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

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

9.00 am: Official Flag off

10.00 am: end of the cycle ride

(9.05 am: Media Statements / interviews with high level representatives)

**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.