

Statement from the American Planning Association

Good afternoon Mesdames Chairs:

I am Eugenie Birch, member of the American Planning Association and a Fellow of its College of Fellows. The American Planning Association has 40,000+ members in the US and abroad. It promotes sustainable urbanization that it believes will be brought about through city and regional planning having a balanced approach incorporating local knowledge and experience gained through meaningful citizen participation and expertise based on evidence-generated knowledge. It believes that the comprehensive nature of planning, taking into account environmental, social and physical elements, will lead to just and equitable communities of lasting value.

The APA is an enthusiastic member of the World Urban Campaign and an eager participant in its special initiative, the General Assembly of Partners. The APA hopes that the member states will recognize the General Assembly of Partners as a significant mechanism for stakeholder involvement in the Habitat preparatory process and conference.

Thank you.

Eugenie L. Birch FAICP
Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research
Department of City and Regional Planning

Chair, Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning

co-Director, Penn Institute for Urban Research

University of Pennsylvania
210 S. 34th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104