



INVITATION

Celebration of World Cities Day

“Better City, Better Life”

Cultural Diversity and Innovation for Sustainable Communities

**Thursday, October 31, 2019
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

**United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 11
New York**

Hosted by

**UN-Habitat, the NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY with the
Permanent Mission of Slovakia and the Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN**

Co-sponsored by

**The General Assembly of Partners, Habitat Civil Society Working Group,
NGO Major Group Urban Cluster, Huairou Commission, Humanitarian Focus Foundation,
Youth for a Better World/MMUN, Global Family, YUNO, UN2020, CoNGO, Consortium for Sustainable
Urbanization, Global Foundation for Democracy and Development, UNA-USA Council of Organizations**

**If you have registered for this meeting by the UN Security deadline of Oct. 28th –
you are required to bring your Gov. issued photo ID and look for our sign *“Better City, Better Life”*
to pick up your Special Event Pass from 9:00AM to 10:00AM at the UN Visitors Entrance
on First Ave. between 45th & 46th St. at UN Headquarters, NY –**

For nearly 75 years, the United Nations has stood for a better life for the citizens of the world in accordance with its Charter that pledged in Article 55a to promote “higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development.” To this end, our meeting will celebrate the ways in which the UN and its associated agencies and programs have worked with stakeholders to produce better cities, that is, places that are inclusive of stakeholder engagement from civil society to private sector for safe, resilient, and sustainable cities while celebrating the diversity of culture and innovation in our urban environments as we approach the World Urban Forum (WUF10) in 2020 and the UN 75th Anniversary.

Agenda

10:00h Welcome and Moderator

Ms. Margo LaZaro, President and Chair, NGO Committee on Sustainable Development-NY

10:05h Opening

Mr. Christopher W. Williams, PhD, Director of the UN-Habitat New York Liaison Office

10:10h Reflections from Member States

- ❖ **H.E. Ambassador Dr. Michal Mlynar, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the United Nations**
- ❖ **H.E. Ambassador Dr. Christoph Heusgen, Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations**
- ❖ **H.E. Ambassador Mr. Georgi Velikov Panayotov, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations**
- ❖ **H.E. Ambassador Mr. Lazarus O. Amayo, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations**

10:30h Intro and Dialogue on the urban dimension on UN 75th Anniversary Celebration

**Mr. Fabrizio Hochschild Drummond, Special Adviser on the Preparations for the Commemoration of the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the United Nations and
Mr. Christopher W. Williams, PhD, Director of the UN-Habitat New York Liaison Office**

10:50h Panel / interactive dialogue on Cultural Diversity and Innovation for Sustainable Communities

- ❖ **Dr. Eugénie L. Birch FAICP, RTPI (Hon.), Co-Director of Penn Institute for Urban Research and President of the General Assembly of Partners**
- ❖ **Dr. Andrise Bass, BSCJ, MBA, Ph.D, Founder of Humanitarian Focus Foundation and Vice President of ASPAFrique, Climate Reality Mentor**
- ❖ **Mr. Isaac Reshad, Managing Director of Global Access Partner, LLC**
- ❖ **Ms. Nidhi Gulati, Program Manager at Project for Public Spaces**
- ❖ **Ms. Jaya Kader, AIA, LEED AP, Founding Principal of KZ Architecture**
- ❖ **Ms. Amanda Nesheiwat, Town of Secaucus, New Jersey and UN Representative of Foundation for Post-Conflict Development**
- ❖ **Ms. Manal Kahi, Co-Founder and CEO of Eat OffBeat**

12:45h UN@75 Engaging All Stakeholders

- ❖ **Mr. Jeffery Huffines, Senior Advisor to UN2020 on behalf of CIVICUS**