

World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments

19 September

11:00 – 13:30 / 15:00 – 18:00 ET

Conference Room 3

I. Context

Every year, the organized constituency of local and regional governments, gathered in the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments (GTF), engages in numerous initiatives highlighting how the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development remains a daily priority for Mayors and Governors around the world.

In support of multilevel and inclusive governance, the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments is proposing to hold a World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments on Thursday 19 September 2024, ahead of the 2024 Summit of the Future. The objective of this self-organized session is to rally the presence of local and regional governments at the Summit, to present the outcomes of the UN Secretary-General's Advisory Group's on LRGs, and to elevate the political commitment of the local and regional government constituency in relation to the outcomes of the Summit of the Future.

The message from this session supports the SG's Our Common Agenda on networked multilateral strategies that reinforce the UN's central role in the system, ensuring a strong foundation fit for purpose with active participation from global, local, and regional leaders. The session will also contribute to actionable strategies within local and regional competencies, across the Action Day themes relating to digital, peaceful, and sustainable futures. The Global Taskforce's session will be supported by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), along with UN-Habitat, and other members of the Local 2030 Coalition.

Goals of the session

- o This Assembly, convened by the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, will gather local and regional government leaders, with national governments from around the world to discuss and inform of their contributions to the "Our Common Agenda" and the outcomes of the SG's Advisory Group on LRGs.
- o The World Assembly will elevate political commitment by mayors and governors, including the members of the Advisory Group, and expand this commitment to all representatives of the Global Taskforce. This will ensure a united front in maintaining momentum at the local level for the "Our Common Agenda" and future agreements.

Agenda

High-Level Opening 11:00 am

- **Session 1: Digital Futures and Localization 11: 20 am**
 - **Political Commitment:** Declaration of commitment to digital transformation at the local level
 - **Actions for Implementation:** Identifying key actions for digital infrastructure, digital literacy, and smart city initiatives
 - **Multilateral Strategies:** Collaborative strategies with the UN system and member states to enhance digital futures

- **Session 2: Peaceful Futures and Localization 11:55 am**
 - **Political Commitment:** Affirmation of local governments' role in promoting peace and security
 - **Actions for Implementation:** Developing action plans for conflict prevention, peacebuilding, social cohesion and democracy
 - **Multilateral Strategies:** Engaging with the UN and member states on joint peace initiatives and capacity building

- **Session 3: Sustainable Futures for All and Localization 12:30 pm**
 - **Political Commitment:** Pledge to advance sustainable development goals at the local level
 - **Actions for Implementation:** Formulating strategies for climate action, sustainable urban development, and social inclusion
 - **Multilateral Strategies:** Partnerships with the UN and member states to support sustainable practices and policies

Afternoon Sessions:

- **Session 4: Priorities Agreed by Local and Regional Governments 3:00 pm**
 - Discussion on the key priorities identified by the Advisory Group
 - Presentation of the final report and its recommendations

- **Session 5: Boosting Collaboration Between the UN and Local Governments 3:45 pm**
 - Exploring mechanisms for effective collaboration between local governments and UN Resident Coordinators
 - Best practices and case studies of successful local-UN collaborations

- **Session 6: Enhancing a seat at the table 4:30**
 - Strategies for ensuring inclusive representation of local and regional governments in the multilateral system
 - Panel discussion with UN officials and local leaders

- **World Local and Regional Leaders listen to youth 5:15 pm**

- o Mayors and young leaders will come together to discuss rebuilding trust and restoring hope through meaningful youth engagement at local and regional spheres.
- **High-Level Closing 5:45 pm**