

**WORLD URBAN FORUM VI, NAPLES, ITALY**

**INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON SAFETY IN CITIES, 3 – 5 SEPTEMBER 2012**

**COMMUNIQUE**

**COMMUNIQUE ON SAFETY IN CITIES: TOWARDS THE URBAN FUTURE**

Preamble: Recognizing the increasing challenge of crime, and violence against women and girls, and men and boys, fostering sustainable development and urban safety, and acknowledging that urban safety and prevention are not yet considered high on the agenda of governments and donors, and in technical cooperation, We, the partners of the Safer Cities Programme, gathered at the World Urban Forum in Naples, Italy on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2012, to share the vision of safer and just cities for all, enhancing a culture of prevention.

As we seek to achieve this common vision, the following principles will guide our partnership:

**IN RELATION TO OUR WORK:**

1. We have a contribution to make to compile promising and good practices on policies, strategies, norms and institutional conditions related to urban crime and violence prevention within the context of sustainable human settlements, focusing on the respective roles and responsibilities of various partners; in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Understanding in particular conditions facing women and girls in these countries, the lack of or implementation of specialized legislations that favour women, and the strong need for urban policies that are gender sensitive.
2. We recognise that Local Governments, and their associations have a crucial leadership role to play in the prevention of urban crime –different forms of violence-- and the enhancement of urban safety and recognize too the need for enhanced cooperation between multiple levels of government that empower cities to address the issue of urban safety in a comprehensive way, that is citywide, community based, and recognizes the different experiences on violence and different perceptions of insecurity between men and women. In this respect, we will contribute and foster the leadership role of Local Governments, their capacity and responsiveness to communities, and men and women's needs and rights in terms of urban safety.

We recognize that violence against men is different from the one women suffer, and that both are urban safety issues. Therefore, urban safety policies have to include comprehensive responses on violence against women.

3. We understand and will tackle the causes of such phenomena in cities, through different entry points, but in a holistic way through multi-sectoral strategies. We recognize the institutional and social actors involved diversity.

4. We adopt a culture, gender and age, and socioeconomic and territorial characteristics specific analysis and a holistic citywide approach in our work.

#### **AS PARTNERS OF THE GLOBAL NETWORK ON SAFER CITIES,**

5. We commit to strengthening of national and sub-national capacities as the primary strategy for supporting cities in achieving a measurable improvement in the delivery of safety for urban citizens.
6. We urge increased international and national efforts in reducing and preventing the incidence of crime and violence in both public and private areas of cities, recognizing the continuum of violence and in the mobilization of increased financial resources in support of strategies for the prevention of urban crime and gender-based violence, including in particular the neglected issue of sexual harassment and violence in urban public spaces.
7. We would like to contribute and to strengthen UN-HABITAT's urban crime prevention and enhancement of urban safety initiatives, including those proposed in the Safer Cities Strategic Plan 2008-13. We also need to highlight the process of developing citizen safety policies in the different countries, if we only talk about "urban crime prevention" our governments think of specific areas, they do not think about violence against women in the public space.
8. We are committed to joint development of sustainable arrangements for partnership, networking and dialogue with and amongst partners and stakeholders supporting cities on the prevention of urban crime and enhancement of urban safety; and in joint programming for promoting an integrated approach to urban safety through normative development, tools development, capacity building, cultural change scaling-up of interventions and awareness raising and monitoring.
9. We are committed to sharing of information and to evaluation of the practices that we promote from governments and from social organizations.
10. We will contribute to the development of UN Guidelines on Safer Cities within the context of sustainable urban development, and engage in consultations with Member States, relevant United Nations bodies and other concerned stakeholders;
11. We will contribute to the development the urban safety monitor<sup>1</sup>; taking account of different observatories, and research produced in the regions that prioritize safe cities for women and

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<sup>1</sup> *The Urban Safety Monitor will harness the power of open data to strengthen evidence-based policy and practice in reducing urban violence and insecurity. Created by the Global Network for Safer Cities and UN-HABITAT, the Monitor will drive informed public policymaking and enhance local government transparency and accountability by enabling policymakers and civil society to benchmark the progress of cities toward equitable delivery of safety and security. It will spotlight success stories, inspire public and academic debate, and empower donors to deploy resources where they are most needed and effective.*

men and focus on sustainable development. In Latin America, systematized information by the Regional Observatory Cities, Violence and Gender, (Women and Habitat Network)<sup>2</sup>.

12. We will encourage Member States to consider, adopt, and strengthen, as appropriate, effective urban crime prevention responses, at the local and national level, for sustainable urban development, and to reinforce the coordination between security, safety and social and economic and national urban policies in order to build safer cities with diverse stakeholders.
13. We will encourage Member States to consider the prevention of crime and gender based violence, the building of urban safety in a gender sensitive way, and the fostering of social cohesion, as priorities to be incorporated into urban planning, management and governance policies;

### **IMMEDIATE STEPS**

We, participants gathered at the Sixth Session of the World Urban Forum in the City of Naples, Italy, from 3 to 5 September 2012, having deliberated on key elements on the development and implementation of safety approaches in cities recommend to the secretariat of UN-Habitat, the following areas for immediate action which will be evaluated at our next Cities Assembly meeting of the Global Network on Safer Cities (GNSC) at the World Urban Forum in 2014:

14. Laud the confirmation of Mayor Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon, Mayor of Mexico City by the UN-Habitat Executive Director as Chair of the Steering Committee for the GNSC for a term leading to the next session of the World Urban Forum and the Habitat III in 2016. We look forward to his leadership role, in collaboration with the secretariat of UN-Habitat Safer Cities Programme, to enter into negotiation with global and regional associations of local authorities to nominate credible Mayors as Regional Vice-Chairs for the same period of time to WUF VII; to work towards the establishment of a Safer Cities Trust Fund; and to work with the other structures of the GNSC in the development of the 2012 – 2016 Action Plan in the areas of tool development, training and capacity building, knowledge management, communication, advocacy and outreach.
15. Also, laud the confirmation of Dr. Franz Vanderschueren as Chair of the Advisory Panel of Eminent Personalities on Safer Cities by the UN-Habitat Executive Director.
16. Appreciate the decision of the UN-Habitat Governing Council to develop UN Guidelines on Safer Cities by 2016 which will include a set of urban safety indicators and standards. In particular, look forward to the elaboration of a consultative process of all partners in the development of these guidelines in line with the road map that will be articulated towards Habitat III Summit in 2016.

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<sup>2</sup> [www.ciudades,violenciasygenero.org](http://www.ciudades,violenciasygenero.org)

17. Propose that the UN Guidelines on Safer Cities draw on the UN Guidelines on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and normative frameworks contained, and include herein all the topical areas of discussion at this deliberation including the role of local and national government in safety interventions in cities; the integration of safety in the planning, management and governance of cities; the development of a multi-dimensional and gendered approach to urban safety; the inclusion of culture and age-specific contexts; and the articulation of safety as a quality of life issue in line with the overall agenda of the World Urban Forum VI.
18. Propose a specific focus on the establishment of Regional Centres of Excellence on Safer Cities.
19. Propose that these elements above inform the development of a draft resolution to the next session of the UN-Habitat Governing Council of member states that will meet in April 2013 in Nairobi.

**Made and agreed upon on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012 in Naples, Italy**