

THE C40 CITIES CLIMATE LEADERSHIP GROUP MAYORS SUMMIT

JOBURG 2014

Q&A DOCUMENT: On the C40 Cities Mayors Summit

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:

THE 2014 C40 CITIES CLIMATE LEADERSHIP GROUP MAYORS SUMMIT

Q: What is the 2014 C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group Mayors Summit?

A: The C40 Cities Mayors Summit brings together mayors from across the world for three days to advance urban solutions to climate concerns. It takes place every second year, the last time being held in 2011 in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The C40 Cities Mayors Summit is delivered by the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) and the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) Cities Program.

Q: When and where will the C40 Cities Mayors Summit be held?

A: Led by Michael Bloomberg, the C40 Chair and Mayor of New York City, and Executive Mayor of City of Johannesburg Councillor Mpho Franklin Parks Tau, the fifth biennial C40 Cities Mayors Summit takes place from Tuesday the 4th to Thursday the 6th of February 2014 in South Africa and is hosted by the City of Johannesburg (CoJ).

Q: Who will attend?

A: Senior officials and mayors from over 63 leading cities around the world, will come together to discuss the climate change challenges facing their cities, and share insights based on the actions they've taken to reduce GHG emissions. Around 700 urban and climate change leaders from around the world will join mayors in a series of roundtable discussions and working sessions to focus on the themes of GHG measurement and adaptation.

Q: Why is this Summit important?

A: The C40 Cities Mayors Summit will focus on how cities are developing and implementing innovative solutions to some of the most pressing climate and resource issues facing the world today. The Summit will highlight a wide range of successful on-going projects from around the world, including building efficiency standards, sustainable transport measures, delta cities partnerships, and other green growth practices and programmes. It will enable mayors to share challenges and successes, and identify opportunities for collaboration - all with the goal of making measurable advances on projects in cities that achieve meaningful reductions in emissions. Mayor Tau called the Summit 'a historic moment for Johannesburg' but it will also be a historic moment in the precedent-setting path cities are paving in the search for climate solutions.

Q: What exactly is the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group?

A: The C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) is a network of large and engaged cities from around the world, committed to implementing meaningful and sustainable global

climate-related actions. C40 takes vigorous action in addressing climate change by developing and implementing policies and programs that generate measurable reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and climate risks.

Q: What is the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group role or mandate?

A: C40 promotes cooperation, common standards and communication between city leaders. The C40 takes decisive and immediate action on the creation of procurement policies and alliances to accelerate the uptake of climate-friendly technologies and influence the marketplace. It further accelerates the C40 members' efforts to reduce carbon emissions and improve the quality of life in their cities.

Q: When was the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group established and how many members does it have?

A: C40 was created in 2005 by former Mayor of London Ken Livingstone. The network quickly grew to 40 cities, and thus the name C40 was born. It has now around 63 city members. In 2006, Mayor Livingstone invited the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) to become its delivery partner, greatly strengthening both organisations with a shared sense of purpose and an efficient support network for delivering world-class projects that optimise emissions reductions.

Q: What is on the 2014 C40 Cities Mayors Summit's agenda?

A: The event will feature a series of roundtable discussions and working sessions that will spur city driven climate actions and outcomes for all cities involved. The plenary discussions will be data-driven and outcome focused, addressing topics: Adaptable and Resilient Cities, Building Liveable Cities, and Socio-Economic Development of emerging megacities. The summit promises to continue advancing the progress cities have already made in the face of climate change.

Q: Why the theme 'Towards resilient and liveable megacities - demonstrating action, impact and opportunity'?

A: Over the coming decades, the need to build capacity for greater resilience will require our cities to develop strategies for coping with the future shocks and stresses to urban infrastructure systems associated with climate change. This will include increasing city's abilities to better respond and adapt to the economic, social, and physical stresses they will face as they confront the challenges of increasing energy scarcity, climate change, and population growth.

Q: What does 'resilient and liveable megacities' mean in reality?

A: With ever increasing trends in urban consumption and production practices, a call for action to mitigate climate change is often seen as a way to foster sustainable development. Considerable attention is now being paid to determine what urban sustainability would include. Developing the capacity for greater resilience will also involve cities in a complex web of economic, planning, design and development decisions, that in combination, must be designed to transform current highly energy-intensive urban economic systems into much less energy-intensive and much less carbon-intensive ones. Achieving GHG reduction targets (proceeding down the path to carbon neutrality) within the necessary timeframe, will require coordinated effort from all levels of government, corporations and individuals.

Q: What else will be presented during the Summit?

A: The handover to the new C40 Chair will commence. The C40 will release the 2nd volume of its global report 'Climate Action in Megacities', publishing the latest results of a three-year seminal research effort under the leadership of C40 Chair, New York City Mayor Michael R Bloomberg. The report will document gathered and benchmarked data on the actions and

powers of cities to address the sources and risks of climate change, and the progress and leadership of cities made in this regard.

Q: What are some of the outcomes expected from the Summit?

A: In alignment with the C40 policy goals of ensuring better cooperation and having common standards, the 2014 C40 Cities Mayor Summit will contribute towards reinforcing policies and programs, measuring progress one versus another, and building stronger relationships between global cities for greater impact.

Q: What are some of the challenges of climate change implementation and combating?

A: Combating climate change requires increased investment and increased public awareness. Cities are responsible for keeping crime down, responsible for providing a good education, responsible for transportation, responsible for attracting businesses, and making the cities welcoming in terms of parks and cultural institutions and clean streets. Getting citizen's buy-in and sourcing finance are the biggest challenges.

Q: What new programs can be expected from CoJ?

A: Please refer to the 'CoJ actions on climate change mitigation' fact sheet.

Q: What does it mean for CoJ to host such an important event?

A: As a foremost business city attracting foreign investment and strengthening global economy participation, Joburg's reputation as a premier destination for international meetings conferences and exhibitions will receive a major boost when hosting global summits like this.

Q: What does this Summit mean for the man on the street?

A: Hosting the event is a clear recognition of the growing role that Africa, and the global south, can play to find solutions to the most pressing issues facing the globe. Climate change is not an issue that affects only the industrialised countries of the northern hemisphere, it's an everyday reality for the people of Africa in rapidly expanding cities and rural areas faced with the consequences of dramatic changes in weather patterns, resulting in threats to crops and livestock and their ability to survive. The summit will highlight key measurements that each one can take in mitigating climate change.

Q: When will the next Summit be held?

A: [TBA]