PROGRAMME OF THE GLOBAL OBSERVANCE

Theme: Financing sustainable urban future for all

Tuesday, 31 October 2023
Venue: Address Hotel, Üsküdar, Istanbul – Türkiye
As of 30 October 2023

Interpretation available in Turkish and the six official United Nations languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish) and International Sign Language.

WCD 2023: MORNING SESSION

High-level opening

Location: Address Hotel, Üsküdar, Istanbul – Türkiye | Time reflected: UTC+03

11:00 – 12:00
Opening by the Masters of Ceremony, Ms. Andrea Sanke and Mr. Alican Ayanlar
• Cultural performance by Ms. Büşra Kayıkçı
• Video screening
• Statement by the Mayor of Üsküdar, Hon. Hilmi Türkmen
• Statement by the President of the Union of Municipalities of Türkiye, Hon. Yücel Yılmaz
• Statement by the Minister of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change, Türkiye, Hon. Mehmet Özhaseki
• Video message of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. António Guterres, to be introduced by the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Policy, Mr. Guy Ryder
• Statement of United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif
• Keynote speech by Her Excellency Emine Erdoğan, First Lady of the Republic of Türkiye and Patron of World Cities Day 2023

12:00 – 12:10
Short break: Dignitaries depart. Guests are kindly requested to remain seated.

12:10 – 12:25
Presentations on financing sustainable urbanization
• Video on the Sustainable Human Settlements Foundation
• Video on Urban October and its theme
12:25 – 13:10  Speeches by international speakers

Moderator: **Ms. Katerina Bezgachina**, Chief of Communications and Media Section, UN-Habitat

1. Statement by the Vice Chair of the UN-Habitat Executive Board, **H.E. Ambassador Jean Kimani**
2. Statement by the World Cities Day 2022 host, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Rural Development of the People’s Republic of China, **Hon. Dong Jianguo**
3. Statement by the United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Road Safety, **Mr. Jean Todt**
4. Statement by the Chairman of the State Committee on Urban Planning and Architecture of the Republic of Azerbaijan, **Hon. Anar Guliyev**
5. Statement by the Managing Director of Malaysia's Pilgrim Fund, **Mr. Azman Mokhtar**
6. Statement by the Secretary-General, United Cities and Local Governments, **Ms. Emilia Sáiz**
7. Statement by the Stakeholder Advisory Group Enterprise of UN-Habitat, **Ms. Alice Charles**

13:10 – 13:15  Shanghai Manual presentation

13:15  Masters of Ceremony close the morning session

13:30 – 14:20  Lunch break

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**WCD 2023: AFTERNOON SESSION**

**World Cities Day 2023 roundtables**

**WCD 2023: ROUNDTABLE 1**

**Financing sustainable future for all**

**Follow the livefeed on UN Web TV:** [Here](#)

**Join Meeting via Zoom:** [Here](#)

**Webinar ID:** 89029774841  |  **Passcode:** 311023

**Time reflected:** UTC+0

**Location:** Address Hotel, Üsküdar, Istanbul – Türkiye

14:30 – 16:00  Master of Ceremony: **Mr. Neil Khor**, Special Advisor to the UN-Habitat Executive Director, and Director, External Relations, Knowledge and Innovation

Moderator: **Mr. Dyfed Aubrey**, Senior Human Settlements Officer and Lead, SDG Cities, UN-Habitat

Panelists:

1. **Mr. Hootan Yazhari**, Chief Investment Officer, United World Infrastructure and EarthTag Technologies
2. **Ms. Alice Charles**, Director, Cities, Planning and Design, ARUP
3. **Mr. Christian Kunz**, Chief Strategy, Innovation & Ventures Officer, Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC)
4. **Mr. Güzhan Gülay**, Assistant General Manager, Borsa İstanbul, Türkiye

**Showcase on Financing Sustainable Urban Development**

- **Mr. Dinesh Nambiar**, Chairman Lendlease Malaysia

16:00 – 16:30  Coffee break
WCD 2023: ROUNDTABLE 2
From waste to wealth

Location: Address Hotel, Üsküdar, Istanbul – Türkiye
Time reflected: UTC+03

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16:30 – 18:00
Moderator: Mr. Andre Dzikus, Chief of Urban Basic Services, UN-Habitat

Panelists:
1. Mr. Muhammad Yunus, – Yunus Environment Hub and member of the United Nations Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Zero Waste
2. Mr. Ibrahim Yumakli – Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Government of Türkiye
3. Mr. Murat Kurum - Head of the Environment Committee, Government of Türkiye
4. Ms. Catalina Velasco, Minister of Housing, City and Territory of Colombia
5. Ms. Hakima El Haite - Climate scientist, entrepreneur and politician and member of the United Nations Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Zero Waste
6. Mr. José Manuel Moller – CEO Algramo and Vice chair of the United Nations Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Zero Waste
7. Ms. Lara van Druten – CEO, Waste Transformers and member of the United Nations Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Zero Waste
8. Ms. Heidi Solba – President and Head of Global Network, Let’s Do It World
9. Mr. Valentin Lavaill – Senior Project Manager, Middle East, Roland Berger Middle East, and member of the Waste to Zero, United Arab Emirates.

CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE GLOBAL OBSERVANCE OF WORLD CITIES DAY 2023

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18:00 – 18:30
Closing statement by the President of the Union of Municipalities of Türkiye, Hon. Yücel Yılmaz

20:00
Evening programme