



# MINURVI

Ministros y Autoridades Máximas de la Vivienda y el  
Urbanismo de América Latina y El Caribe

## THIRTY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MINISTERS AND HIGHEST AUTHORITIES OF HOUSING AND URBAN PLANNING OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Declaration of Cartagena de Indias, Colombia  
November 22 and 23, 2021

### **The Ministers and Highest Authorities of Housing and Urban Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean, participants in this General Assembly:**

#### **Considering that:**

1. The Forum of Ministers and Highest Authorities of Housing and Urban Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean (MINURVI), established in 1992, is a space for intergovernmental coordination and cooperation that promotes the sustainable development of human settlements.
2. In promoting the right of access to decent housing and sustainable urban development, MINURVI ratifies its will to fulfill the commitments framed in the UN 2030 Agenda and its sustainable development goals, the New Urban Agenda, and those agreed globally in the field of climate change and disaster risk reduction.
3. The recovery of the housing and urban development sector after the health emergency generated by COVID-19 requires continuing to deepen the ties of political, technical and financial cooperation between the countries of the region and the international agencies that support official development aid.
4. Mitigation, risk management and disaster response are an essential part of urban planning activities in the region and a necessary condition to promote sustainable development.
5. The health emergency generated by COVID-19 has exacerbated the conditions of poverty and inequity in the region, and therefore poses greater challenges for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. For this reason, access to preferential credits, greater cooperation with international organizations, the strengthening of multilateralism, an increase in external financing under fair conditions and the fulfillment of the commitment of the Official Development Agenda in the region is required.

#### **Recognizing:**

1. The relevance of the Forum of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, as a regional mechanism for monitoring the implementation of



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the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, as well as the World Urban Forum as a space for multi-stakeholder dialogue on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

2. The support provided by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN Habitat) in their joint role as Technical Secretariat of the Executive Committee of MINURVI.

3. The contribution of the network of non-governmental organizations formed by the Urban Habitat and Housing Practices Platform (UHPH, Urban Housing Practitioners Hub) in the development of the regional urban agenda, and that of other strategic allies of MINURVI, in the development of initiatives aimed at promoting urban development and access to housing.

4. The important interrelation that exists between housing, mobility and land use, and its potential role in facilitating mechanisms for generating and capturing value to achieve sustainable and inclusive urban development.

5. The importance of achieving greater cooperation between national and local authorities in urban development, as well as making visible the role of urban policies in reducing spatial inequalities and generating prosperity in cities and territories.

6. The work of the Colombian authorities, especially the Ministry of Housing and Cities in the leadership of the MINURVI presidency and the organization of this General Assembly.

**In accordance with the scope of the competences that correspond to each participating institution in this Assembly, we commit to:**

1. Continue promoting actions aimed at strengthening sustainable development, and the mitigation and prevention of climate change phenomena, through urban planning processes, land use regulation, and housing policies.

2. Promote the recovery of the housing sector during the post-pandemic, through actions aimed at expanding the coverage and affordability of housing solutions with access to drinking water and basic sanitation, and other services integrated into urban planning.

3. Promote the articulation of public policy, regulations, and investments to promote the role of housing and public services, in particular sanitation and mobility, as drivers of a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive recovery.

4. Continue supporting actions aimed at environmental sustainability, in light of current international commitments.

5. Optimize the mobilization and management of resources framed in the Official Aid for Development, through the articulated prioritization of projects that respond to the fulfillment of the sustainable development objectives.



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6. Continue developing efforts to strengthen the operation of the Cities Platform, aimed at monitoring the New Urban Agenda, assigning a focal point within each member country to facilitate the collection of information and its review and update.

7. Convene relevant public, private and civil society actors, in order to become aware of the need to intensify efforts, including greater budgetary resources if possible according to current fiscal conditions, in order to address the challenge of settlements informal and urgent lack of adequate housing that have aggravated the impacts of the pandemic.

8. Promote joint work towards the definition of statistical methodologies that are sensitive and in line with the reality of housing and urban planning in Latin America and the Caribbean.

9. Delegate the Executive Committee the following tasks:

a) Advance in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda, in particular Goal 11: "Make cities more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable"

b) Support the operation of the Cities Platform, as a tool designed to follow up on the New Urban Agenda and the Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as its sub-regional equivalents.

c) Continue developing cooperation, dialogues and south-south and inter-regional exchanges, as well as the collaborative work spaces that have been developed through workshops, forums and other virtual tools for knowledge management, whose valuable contribution has been demonstrated in the exchanges held during the pandemic.

d) Develop a work plan, within a period of no more than ninety (90) days from the adoption of the present document, to carry out the transition between the incoming and outgoing Presidencies of the organization, as well as to schedule forums, technical meetings and other regional coordination mechanisms.

e) To include the following amendments to the organization's current regulations:

**Article 7:** The Executive Committee is the organ responsible for promoting the implementation of the decisions between the meetings of the General Assembly and shall be composed of a minimum of six (6) members, and a maximum of eight (8), depending on the nominations made by the member countries of the General Assembly, as follows:

a. The representative of the country elected to preside over the Executive Committee.

b. The representative of the country that presided over the Executive Committee in the previous period.



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c. Up to six (6) representatives of the Member States of the General Assembly, ensuring at least one (1) per sub-region, as defined in Article 4.

**Article 10.** It is incumbent upon the General Assembly: (...)

(..) b) To elect the State which shall preside over the Executive Committee, which at the same time shall host the next meeting of the General Assembly.

**Article 12.** The General Assembly shall meet annually and shall be presided over by the Minister of State or Highest Authority of the host State.

**Article 21.** It shall be the responsibility of the host State to defray the expenses corresponding to the annual meeting of the General Assembly, including its virtual transmission, and excluding the expenses related to the transfer and stay of the respective national delegations.

9. In response to the official request sent by the Secretariat of Housing of Puerto Rico to the Member States of the General Assembly, in which it expresses its intention to become a member of MINURVI, and considering the provisions of Article 9 of the current regulations, it is agreed to grant the status of collaborator that allows special guests to participate on a regular basis in the Forum of Ministers and Highest Authorities, with voice but without the right to vote.

**In accordance with the results of the voting carried out within the framework of this General Assembly, it is agreed that:**

- Chile will hold the presidency of MINURVI for the period 2021-2022.
- Ecuador will serve as Vice President of MINURVI for the period 2021-2022.
- The Executive Committee will be composed of the following countries: Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Cuba, Uruguay, Costa Rica and Dominican Republic.

Note: Exceptionally, during the assembly, the Ministers and/or Highest Authorities of Housing and Urbanism of Latin America and the Caribbean or their delegates agreed to the participation of Ecuador as Vice President of the Executive Committee for the period 2020 -2021.

**Signed by the Ministers and/or Highest Authorities of Housing and Urban Development of Latin America and the Caribbean or their delegates who attended in person the 30th General Assembly of MINURVI in Cartagena, Colombia:**



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**Jonathan Malagón González**  
Minister of Housing, City and Territory  
Ministry of Housing, City and Territory of Colombia  
Outgoing President of MINURVI



**Felipe Andrés Ward Edwards**  
Minister of Housing and Urban Development  
Ministry of Housing and Urbanism of Chile  
Incoming President of MINURVI

**Irene Campos Gómez**  
Minister of Housing and Human Settlements  
Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements of Costa Rica  
Outgoing Vice President of MINURVI

**Darío Herrera Falcones**  
Minister of Urban Development and Housing  
Ministry of Urban Development and Housing of Ecuador  
Incoming Vice President of MINURVI

**Carlos Bonilla Sánchez**  
Minister of Housing, Habitat and Buildings of Ecuador  
Ministry of Housing, Habitat and Buildings of the Dominican Republic



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**Rodolfo Rafael Santa María Razzeto**

Deputy Minister of Housing and Urban Planning  
Ministry of Housing, Construction and Sanitation of Peru

**Melina Castro Urquiza**

General Director of Urban Development, Land and Housing  
Secretariat of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development of Mexico  
Mexico

**Mirna Quinderé Belmino Chaves**

Deputy Secretary of the National Housing Secretariat of Brazil  
Ministry of Regional Development of Brazil

**Anelis María Marichal González**

General Director of Territorial and Urban Planning  
Institute of Physical Planning of Cuba

**Daniela Martínez López**

Deputy Minister of Housing  
Ministry of Housing and Land Use Planning of Panama