ACTIVITY REPORT

APRIL – JUNE 2016

metropolis ●
World Association of the Major Metropolises
SECRETARIAT GENERAL

GENERAL QUARTERLY REPORTS

New organisation of the Secretariat General

The operations of Metropolis under the leadership of the new Presidency and new Secretariat General have led to a restructuring of the Secretariat General team in Barcelona, and one of the first steps in this process was to distribute staff to handle association members by region.

From now on, each member of Metropolis has a specific point person in the Secretariat General depending on the region where they are located, who they can contact for anything regarding their participation in the association. The point person for each region is currently as follows:

- Africa: Hélène Jourdan
- Asia: Agnès Bickart
- Europe: Mireia Zapata
- Latin-America and the Caribbean: Xavier Borrell
- North America: Teresa Oliver

In addition to fostering strategic alignment with the work of the Metropolis Regional Secretariats, this approach will allow us to provide better follow-up service to our members in a more personal, constant, fluid manner.
Likewise, this restructuring of the Secretariat General team also included assigning personnel specifically to institutional communications within Metropolis. This team, currently made up of Xavier Bermejo and Lia Brum, aims to improve internal and external communication at Metropolis, among members, partners and with the public interested in its contents, as well as strengthening the Metropolis brand in order to make it more recognisable worldwide. This will allow us to strategically manage the association’s official communication channels and products – the metropolis.org websites, the Metropolis social media profiles (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Youtube, Flickr), institutional promotional materials, etc.

**Metropolis corporate identity manual**

The communication team has detected that, over the history of Metropolis, association members and collaborators have created promotional materials (banners, brochures, postcards, etc.) and websites to spread the word about their activities with Metropolis. This practice has led to the use of the Metropolis brand in a highly varied manner, due to the lack of common guidelines.

Always striving to improve the Metropolis communication channels, in late May the Secretariat General hired a graphic design firm to develop a corporate identity manual for Metropolis. This manual will set the guidelines for strengthening the Metropolis brand and making our communications more coherent visually. This task will include revising the design of our logo, as well as that of our basic communication elements (general institutional brochure, bimonthly newsletter and quarterly activity report).

The final corporate identity manual will be shared at the upcoming Board of Directors meeting in October. From that point on, the guidelines for using the Metropolis brand must be used in all of the association’s communication products. Therefore, if you, as a member or collaborator of Metropolis, are considering producing any promotional materials with the Metropolis brand in the future, please contact your point person at the Metropolis Secretariat General and we'll be glad to help you.

**New Metropolis Women activities**

Under the leadership of Laura Pérez Castaño, city councillor for Feminism and LGTBI in the Barcelona City Council, the women of Metropolis are breaking new ground. Through an official letter signed by the President of Metropolis Women and the Secretary General of Metropolis, both cities in the network and individuals on the Board of Directors have been asked to get involved and commit to making Metropolis a global benchmark in metropolitan policies with a gender perspective in order to create and develop cities that are more just, equal and inclusive.

In May and June, the network coordination team (comprised of Mireia Zapata of the Metropolis Secretariat General and Silvia Lorente of the Barcelona City Council councillorship for Feminism...
and LGTBI) held meetings over the phone with Abidjan, Caracas, Athens, Dakar, Mexico City, Bogotá and Quito in order to agree on the general aims of Metropolis Women, its role in Habitat III and the Bogotá Board of Directors and find out about the gender projects underway in each of our cities. Likewise, they were notified about a strategic meeting to be held in July in Barcelona to build a work plan together from the aims agreed upon and to debate mobility and sustainability from a gender perspective in our metropolises.

**Membership dues payment status**

Metropolis currently has 137 members. As of 30 June 2016, 46 members have paid a total of €347,142.

We remind all Metropolis members that they must be up to date with yearly association dues.

The membership dues allow Metropolis to maintain and improve the activities and services it offers.

In this regard, a reminder was sent out in early January to the members that hadn’t yet paid their yearly dues.

**Participation in European Union calls**

In April, Metropolis joined the proposal submitted by the Blanquerna Foundation for a project to integrate immigrants into cities through culture. The proposal was submitted to the call for grants under the European Commission Creative Europe programme. The project is called BRIDGES. Building Refugees Ideas and Dreams to Grow European Societies. The results of this call will be announced in August.

Additionally, under the call for proposals for the European Commission DEAR programme (Development Education and Awareness Raising), Metropolis participated in the proposal submitted by ALDA (Asociación de Agencias Locales de Democracia). The project, under the name RAINBOW, aims to highlight the importance of the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) on a local level and identify ways to localise them. The results of this call for proposals will be announced in September.
PARTICIPATION IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF CITIES ALLIANCE
6-7 April | Brussels

As a member of the Cities Alliance, Metropolis was represented at the latest meeting of the General Assembly by Octavi de la Varga, our executive director.

The first part of the assembly dealt with issues associated with contents and focuses, noteworthy among which were the debates on the implications of Sustainable Development Goal number 11 and the evolution of the international agenda with an impact on local governments.

The second part of the assembly covered issues regarding the organisation and its statutes. This assembly ratified some agreements regarding membership and how different types of members are grouped, as well as how they are represented on the Board of Directors. The agreements reached are the result of a process that begun in 2013 when the headquarters moved from Washington to Brussels and the changes introduced in the Cities Alliance statutes in 2014.

Cities Alliance members are grouped into the following types: national governments, local governments, multilateral organisations, knowledge networks, organised non-governmental and private sector organisations. Each type of member has a specific number of seats on the board.

After the General Assembly, for the 2016-2019 period the Board of Directors will be chaired by former Secretary of State for International Development for the United Kingdom Clare Short. The other members are: Ghana (Ministry of Local Governments and Rural Development), South Africa (National Department of Human Settlements), Switzerland (Swiss State for Economic Affairs), United Kingdom (Department for International Development), UCLG, ICLEI, Shack/Slum Dwellers International (SDI), Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI), Omidyar Network, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), UN-Habitat and UNOPS.

It must be noted that Metropolis reached an agreement with UCLG to take over the two representatives of local governments at the midpoint of the term. Likewise, ICLEI will trade off with the Commonwealth of Local and Regional Governments.

TASK FORCE CITÉS UNIES FRANCE
2 May | Geneva

The city of Geneva and Cités Unies France invited Metropolis to the work meeting of the UCLG Task Force On Local and Regional Government Disaster Response held in collaboration with IMPACT Initiatives on 2 May 2016 in Geneva.

The UCLG Task Force was created in 2014 and its main aim is to promote and foster initiatives to strengthen the role of local governments in terms of crisis and risk management.

This meeting brought together members of the Task Force (local governments and associations of local authorities) NGOs, UN bodies and donors that participate in current debates on the evolution of the humanitarian-aid system. Their recommendations include
improving coordination among humanitarian players and local actors, which has been recognised as a top priority.

The meeting aimed to promote a platform to exchange ideas and recommendations on the mission and initiatives of the Task Force and initiatives and how to improve coordination among all those involved in crisis situations and/or fragile states. This meeting was also a chance to put the finishing touches on preparations for the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul.

At the event organised by the Geneva City Council, the secretariat of the Task Force presented a study conducted in collaboration with IMPACTI Initiatives on six local authorities that had recently been affected a crisis, one of which was at the meeting: the city of Bangui.

MEETING WITH METROPOLIS TREASURY
10 May | Brussels

Metropolis Secretary General Felip Roca and Executive Director Octavi de la Varga met with Mr Jean-Luc Vanraes, representative of the Brussels Capital Region and Metropolis treasurer, and Ms Anne Claes, director of international relations.

The meeting covered the association's budgetary and financial issues, as well as planning strategies for the future.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY GENERAL OF ALDA
30 May | Barcelona

The Secretary General of ALDA, the European Association for Local Democracy, visited the Secretariat General of Metropolis to tell us about ALDA and its projects.

ALDA was created in 1999, at the behest of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, to coordinate and support a network of agencies for local democracy that had been established in the early 1990s. ALDA's sphere of activity focuses mainly on Europe.

At the meeting, Antonella Valmorbida explained that ALDA is a civil society organisation devoted to promoting good governance and citizen participation on the local level that stresses activities that foster cooperation between general society and local authorities.

ALDA has more than 180 members, including local authorities, associations of local authorities and civil society organisations. Likewise, most of the work the association does is based on multilateral, decentralised cooperation, which is its area of expertise. This method involves several parties to build solid alliances between local authorities and civil society organisations.
OECD WORK MEETINGS
6 June | Paris

Metropolis Secretary General Felip Roca and Executive Director Octavi de la Varga had several work meetings with representatives of public governance and territorial development at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Specifically, they met with the Head of the Partnership and Governance Monitoring Division to see how the methods the OECD has developed in governance can be applied in large cities and metropolitan areas. Afterwards, in the meeting with the Head of the Division of Regional Development Policies, they discussed issues regarding development indicators and models for large metropolises.

The OECD proposed planning a future collaboration in the near future.

MEETING WITH FMDV
7 June | Paris

Metropolis Secretary General Felip Roca and Executive Director Octavi de la Varga met with the Executive Director of the Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV) Mr Jean-François Habeau.

At the meeting the parties discussed the priorities of both organisations and ways in which they can work together. They agreed to begin a process of analysing joint and coordinated work methods for the future.
SEOUl METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT VISITS SECRETARIAT GENERAL
23 May | Barcelona

The Deputy Mayor of Seoul (Mr Seoung Chang Ha) and his delegation travelled to Barcelona to meet with the Secretary General of Metropolis and representatives of the Barcelona City Council. The meetings were fruitful, sharing the priorities Metropolis has set in line with the 2030 urban agenda and preparations for Habitat III.

At the offices of the Barcelona City Council, Mr Ha met with Deputy Mayor of Barcelona Gerardo Pisarello and the head of International Relations for the city, Mr Pablo Sánchez. The meeting was also a chance for the team of the Metropolis Secretariat General – Secretary General Felip Roca, Executive Director Octavi de la Varga and Knowledge Manager Agnès Bickart – to present the opportunities currently available to boost Seoul’s participation in Metropolis.

Our Secretary General asked the Deputy Mayor of Seoul to show greater leadership in preparations for Habitat III and Metropolis training activities, as it is based at the Seoul Human Resources Development Centre (SHRDC). Seoul has been very active in implementing citizen-participation processes in public policy and the parties agreed at this meeting to work to find more synergies for exchanging projects to give young people the skills they need.

The Deputy Mayor also expressed the commitment of the Seoul Metropolitan Government, which is a member of the Metropolis Board of Directors, to be present at the upcoming statutory meeting in Bogotá in October.

Recognising Seoul’s leadership in metropolitan governability (with more than 25 million inhabitants), Felip Roca encouraged the SMG to play an active role in Habitat III on behalf of the association.

Finally, the meeting in Barcelona was a good opportunity to promote the 3rd International Guangzhou Award for Urban Innovation and to encourage Seoul to submit its initiatives.

Visit from representatives of the Seoul Metropolitan Government.
WORKSHOP ON URBAN MANAGEMENT
14 – 22 June | Seoul

The Seoul Human Resources Development Centre (SHRDC) organised a Metropolis training programme on urban management with participants from Bangkok, Beijing, Guangzhou and Hanoi. The programme focused not only on sharing Seoul's urban management policies, but also on sharing the challenges and strategies in urban management facing all the participating cities.

In this intensive workshop, 13 participants had the opportunity to reflect on the next steps to take in developing our metropolises. They reached the conclusion that the future of urban management lies in transitioning from renovation and regeneration projects towards those focusing on preservation, maintenance and improving our communities.

The programme consisted of theory-based presentations and field visits to two urban regeneration projects being conducted by the Seoul Metropolitan Government: “Dasi (Again)•Sewoon” and "Chang-dong 61 Platform". They used action-plan and group-discussion methods so that each city could share its challenges and concerns with the rest.
PREPCITY 3
2-4 May | Berlin

Berlin co-organised the work and reflection meeting with Metropolis, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation and the Berlin Technical University. This event culminated in a reflection process that began with “PrepCity 1” (Buenos Aires, May 2015) and “PrepCity 2” (Mexico City, March 2016), bringing together government representatives, members of Metropolis, experts, representatives of international agencies and civil society.

This event featured more than 60 participants from 9 Metropolis member cities (Brussels, Belgium; Buenos Aires and Rosario, Argentina; Guangzhou, China; Hyderabad, India; Johannesburg, South Africa; Montreal, Canada; Mexico City, Mexico; and Quito, Ecuador), as well as other global metropolises like Nairobi (Kenya), Sydney (Australia), Washington and New York (USA).

Based on the work done in the previous sessions and case studies, it was shown that the NAU must take into account the following issues:

- Understanding cities as complex players and not just municipalities or delimited urban areas.
- Recognising the importance of a renewed social contract that sums up the idea of the “Right to the City” (incorporating the urban system as part of this contract).
- Including culture as a transformative element.
- Committing to the conditions necessary for the NUA to have an impact: capacities, mandates and resources.

Additionally, they proposed a series of principles to improve cities tied to sustainability, the economy, culture and governance.

Finally, the whole PrepCity process also allowed participants to identify a series of methods to monitor and implement the city’s achievements under the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals.
Public leadership, citizens and the right to the city. Open spaces vs Gated communities
4-5 April | Barcelona

The Metropolis Women International Network participated in the Habitat III Thematic Meeting: Public Spaces organised by UN Habitat and the Barcelona City Council.

Under the framework of this event, President of the Metropolis Women International Network Laura Pérez Castaño moderated a thematic session entitled “Public leadership, citizens and the right to the city. Open spaces vs Gated communities”, with 80 participants including representatives of cities, regions and countries, as well as other interested parties, such as civil society organisations, international bodies, academics, students, the private sector, etc. The debate stressed the role of localness, including all parties involved, in ensuring citizen's rights and sustainable development in our cities. Likewise, it called for a feminist discourse and more gender mainstreaming in the conceptualisation and execution of urban and metropolitan policies; policies with people, understood through their diversity, at the core.

The main conclusions of the session were:
- The right to the city forces us to look to diversity (differences in life cycle, origin, income, culture, etc.) and stop thinking of cities as lifeless monoliths that are indistinguishable.
- The right to the city and housing are inseparable and at the heart of evolution.
- We must ensure the right to the city, to the habitat and to housing (not only declaring it important and necessary) and not subordinate these rights to funding and the private sector.
- Gated communities, which can lead to increased segregation of the space by age and gender, aren't the solution to conflicts cities are facing but the result of ignorance of the causes behind them.
- They way in which cities conspire against human rights: in the past 20 years, cities have grown three times more than the urban population. This phenomenon has created less compact cities with poorer access to basic public services.
- National policies don't address the reality and dynamics of cities, which have developed in a more irregular way than the countries as a whole.

Additionally, the network Presidency and Coordination took advantage of these days to meet and make contact with other entities and bodies: UN Habitat Gender Hub, Women in Cities International, UN Major Group for Children and Youth, Huairou Commission, Sao Paulo Department of Human Rights and Citizenship, etc.
SEMINAR: EUROPEAN METROPOLISES: STRATEGIES AND GOVERNANCE
23-24 May | Paris

The city of Paris, in collaboration with INTA (International Urban Development Association), organized this seminar to discuss the phenomenon of metropolisation in the main cities of Europe, following the recent creation of the metropolis of Greater Paris (Métropole du Grand Paris).

Held yearly since 2012, the fourth edition of this conference focused debate on the relationship of the metropolises with their surroundings and their citizens, and especially the challenges of a polycentric management.

Anne Hidalgo, mayor of Paris and president of Métropole du Grand Paris, opened the day revealing her concern about the possible loss of the democratic features of the city of Paris. With the creation of an institution of metropolitan scope, the population of 2.3 million inhabitants of the city has expanded to 7 million, and according to the Mayor it is essential that democratic traditions be maintained.

During the conference, several European cities shared their views on metropolisation. Alfredo Fioritto, professor at the University of Pisa, said that, in Rome, the relationship between the centre and the periphery could be an issue of identity; Pierre Mansat, representative of Métropole du Grand Paris, said that the position of Paris with regard to the cities on its outskirts reveals a balance of power due to the centralisation of the state in the capital city.

Mireille Ferri, director of the International Workshop of Greater Paris (Atelier International du Grand Paris), a scientific group of architects, planners, researchers and experts whose mission is to conduct research, development, improvement and animation related to the issues of the greater Paris area, shared her special vision for metropolises as a space for projects and strategic reflections without limits, where the streets are meeting points and travel routes of daily journeys.
Finn Geipel, professor at the Technical University of Berlin, said the challenges of rebuilding a city like Berlin after World War II has been a real problem, especially after the Berlin Wall was torn down, leaving two completely opposite cities in terms of urban planning.

The city of Amsterdam presented its metropolitan area, which was established ten years ago, and explained the difficulty of developing a city located 6 metres below sea level, and the challenges of affordable housing for all, when the centre city it is very expensive and inaccessible.

Gemma Calvet, of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area, presented the transparency agency that she heads up, which was created out of the desire to fight corruption, implement financial control and transfer information from the metropolitan institution to related entities.

Finally, at the closing plenary session, the speakers noted that there is a general tendency to speak of a gap between a metropolis and its metropolitan area, but they are really continuous. One of the most common conclusions on the phenomenon of metropolisation is that although the political space of the metropolis is constantly changing, its administrative structures are not yet able to accompany these changes.

UCLG EXECUTIVE BUREAU
25-27 May | Kazan

Metropolis represented large metropolises and regions of the world at the UCLG Executive Bureau, with meetings heavily geared towards statutory issues, on this occasion, as a result of the new Presidency and elections to be held in October 2016. Likewise, the event became an forum for preparatory debate ahead of the Habitat III conference.

In terms of political decisions, the event recognised the great work carried out by the Global Task Force (GTF), which Metropolis has been a member of since it began, and explained how it has advanced in a report presented to the members (available here). Likewise, all members were encouraged to attend the 2nd World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments that will be held in Bogotá and Quito. All of this work strives to create a Global Agenda of Local and
Regional Governments that will contribute to the Habitat III process and document the work of the GTF and the 2nd World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments.

Additionally, participants stressed the need to actively prepare for COP22 in Marrakech, which will deal with implementing the agreements and commitments from COP21 held in Paris in November.

Regarding statutory issues, the Committee on Statutory Affairs reminded those present that the election period will culminate in Bogotá, where a new World Congress will be established and a new Presidency will be chosen from the candidates nominated in Kazan and Johannesburg. Metropolis as the metropolitan section of the UCLG will put forth candidates in Bogotá (22 seats) to bring a metropolitan vision to the UCLG strategic and action lines.

The Financial Committee expressed the need to restructure the system through which membership fees are paid to the organisation, particularly regarding those made through the sections. Addressing this need, sections like ASPAC put forth a proposal. In the end, the Committee called on a group of 3 members (Honorific Auditor, Lisbon and the Treasurer) to work on a proposal to be presented in Bogotá.

Likewise, they highlighted preparation for the network’s Global Congress in Bogotá, for which three main lines have been established: meetings of the statutory bodies, the political and representational side of the meetings and, finally, networking. As part of this summit, Metropolis will hold an extraordinary Board of Directors meeting on 14 October 2016.

It was also announced that the summit will include the ceremony to award the UCLG City of Bogotá Peace Prize.

UCLG, from the discussions arising from Kazan, is embarking on a period of reflection (2016-2022) to define the organisation’s strategic lines. Metropolis will be ensuring the viewpoint of metropolitan governance is included throughout the process.

The document with the decisions taken by the Executive Bureau in Kazan is available here.
This workshop was organised by the Department of Urban Development and the Environment of the Senate of Berlin, in collaboration with Metropolis and the UCLG, under the framework of the German Habitat Forum.

The workshop brought conclusions to the ideas and results obtained through the Metropolis forums prior to Habitat 3, known as PrepCity, which aim to reflect on the different elements to be taken into account in the New Urban Agenda and work on proposals to put them into practice.

This time, in Berlin, the Principles for Better Cities were presented as a general framework for social life and the human condition. It includes four social domains, each divided into seven subdomains.

- Positive ecological sustainability
- Positive economic prosperity
- Positive political governance
- Positive cultural commitment

As a result of the work carried out, the following conclusions were reached: “political governance” and “cultural commitment”, unlike “economic prosperity” and “ecological sustainability”, are not dealt with as key aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In addition to co-organising the “Cities as actors” workshop, Metropolis and the Senate of Berlin had a booth in the exhibition area of Metropolitan Solutions (Berlin, 31 May – 2 June), where they presented

The Berlin Recommendations for the Cities of Tomorrow from the German Habitat Forum, which brought together more than 1,000 people from cities around the world, are available here.
ROLE OF EUROPEAN LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS IN HABITAT III PROCESS
21 June | Brussels

Metropolis Executive Director Octavi de la Varga was invited to participate in the joint seminar organised by PLATFORMA and the European Parliament in Brussels on the role of European local and regional in the Habitat III process.

The seminar featured representatives from PLATFORMA, the European Parliament, UN-Habitat, the European Commission, networks of local governments and civil society organisations.

The Executive Director of Metropolis contributed an overview of the work of the Global Task Force and of the work done by Metropolis through the Prepcity initiative, led by Berlin. He highlighted the enabling elements to develop an urban agenda: skills, resources and mandates. As well as the main proposals from Metropolis for better cities: environmental sustainability, economic prosperity, political governance and cultural commitment.

WORKSHOP CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: STRATEGIES, ACTIONS AND CHALLENGES
20-21 June | Liverpool

Participants: Barcelona Metropolitan Area, Grand Lyon and representatives from Circles of Climate and Berlin

Liverpool City Councillor Malcolm Kennedy welcomed the participants and explained the origins of the city of Liverpool and the need to do more for cyclists and pedestrians. Councillor Kennedy also highlighted the need for experts to make things simple for decision-makers on issues such as climate adaptation.

The first day included presentations on: climate risks and adaptation initiatives in Liverpool, incorporation of green infrastructure into the development at Wirral Waters Merseyside regeneration project, coastal management of Sefton coastal dunes and the Climate Local Authority Support Programme project (CLASP).

The first field trip involved a visit to Alder Hey Hospital to reflect on the concept and vision of the hospital and all the sustainability measures foreseen as well as the innovative climate adaptation measures incorporated into the building design. The second field trip involved taking the ferry across the Mersey River to the Wirral and having afternoon tea at the Woodside Home Café while listening to two presentations: Mr Paul Nolan, the Director of Merseyforest, explaining the Wirral Waters Development Scheme and how green infrastructure supported regeneration and helped to adapt and mitigate climate change; and Ms Alisa Gibson presenting the CLASP project and how advice on climate adaptation was provided to local authority members and officers.

The second day started with two presentations: Mr Paul James from Western Sydney University presented the latest progress in the No Regrets Charter and Ms Alison Ball from ARUP presented Liverpool's participation in the Rockefeller Foundation City Resilience Index. This was followed by a debate regarding future opportunities for continuing the collaboration among the partners, possible dissemination activities related to the project and the final output from the project to be distributed both online and as a publication at the final seminar.
Finally, Mr Bruce McCormack gave a general overview on one on Africa’s largest informal settlement and set it within the context of rapid population growth in Africa and urban growth. He also focused on issues related to the ‘Now’ principle in the No Regrets Charter.
NORTH AMERICA

Atlanta
Guadalajara
Mexico City
Montreal
Monterrey
Puebla
Toronto

Focal Point
Regional Secretariat
To be appointed
Secretariat General
Teresa Oliver

Board of Directors Members
President
Denis Coderre
Mayor of Montreal
Regional Vice-president
Miguel Ángel Mancera
Chief of Government of Mexico City
SECOND WORLD ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS
15-16 May | New York

Under the framework of preparations for the United Nations conference on urban settlements, Habitat III, Metropolis Secretary General Felip Roca participated in the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments and the following Informal Hearings with United Nations member states. For the first time in history, the United Nations has recognised local governments as specific, key stakeholders in defining large-scale urban challenges to be included in the new urban agenda that will be adopted this October in Quito.

On 16 May, Vice-president of Metropolis and Mayor of Barcelona Ada Colau and Co-president and Mayor of Johannesburg Parks Tau defended the essential role cities and large metropolises play in the international agenda, stressing the need to include local governments in tackling the challenges of the new urban agenda. The message conveyed by the two mayors was seconded by Mauricio Rodas, mayor of Quito and member of the Metropolis Board of Directors, in stressing the importance of localising sustainable development goals and participating not only in implementing but also in defining the urban policies that national governments will adopt in Ecuador.

In speaking at the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments, Felip Roca, on behalf of Metropolis, called for the final declaration of Habitat III to include a metropolitan viewpoint, which is key to structuring the sustainable development goals in the territory. In this regard, he linked this demand to the declaration signed in Montreal in October at the thematic meeting on metropolitan areas to pave the way for Quito. He also included the conclusions of PrepCity III Cities as Actors, which pay particularly close attention to the need to give cities the necessary abilities, mandate and financial and economic resources, which are essential to truly implementing declarations and agreements.
LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Belo Horizonte  Guarulhos  Minas Gerais  San Salvador
Bogotá  Guayaquil  Montevideo  Santiago de Chile
Brasilia  La Habana  Porto Alegre  São Paulo (City)
Buenos Aires  La Paz  Quito  São Paulo (State)
Caracas  Maracaibo  Rosario  Zulia
Córdoba  Medellín

Focal Point
Regional Secretariat
Marcos Campagnone
São Paulo (State)

Secretariat General
Xavier Borrell

Lia Brum

Regional Vice -president
Jaime Fuentealba
Regional Counselor and President of the International Comission of the Regional Council Santiago de Chile

Mauricio Rodas E.
Mayor of Quito

Copresident
Samuel Moreira
Head of Government of São Paulo (State)

José Fortunati
Mayor of Porto Alegre

Horacio Rodríguez Larreta
Head of Government of Buenos Aires

Head of Government of São Paulo (State)
NEW REPRESENTATIVES IN THE STATE OF SÃO PAULO
5 May | São Paulo

Given the changes to the political structure of the State Government of São Paulo, from May de 2016 Metropolis will have two new representatives in its statutory positions for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Mr Marcos Camargo Campagnone, project manager at Emplasa (São Paulo Company of Metropolitan Planning), State Government of São Paulo, is the new Metropolis Regional Secretary for Latin America and the Caribbean. Mr Campagnone is taking over for Ms Rovena Negreiros, who held the position from 2010 to 2016.

On the Metropolis Board of Directors, Mr Samuel Moreira, new Chief of Staff for the State Government of São Paulo, has taken over as Co-president from his predecessor Mr Edson Aparecido.
SPORT, YOUTH AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

This Metropolis initiative, led by the city of Barcelona and promoted jointly by the cities of Barcelona, Buenos Aires and Medellin, has once again taken up its work in April and May 2016, after the various electoral changes in all three cities over the past months.

The process has now begun to open a simultaneous call for proposals in all three cities, which aims to select activities promoted by organisations, sports associations and clubs, or institutions with youth inclusion as the core goal, as well as social intervention through sport in disadvantaged areas of the three cities. The call will recognise initiatives already underway and new ideas that can be put in motion in the middle or long term. The panel of judges that will assess the initiatives submitted is chaired by the Secretary General of Metropolis.

At the same time, other projects under this initiative will also be underway: network of opinions, project archive, in order to complete these tasks by the event to be held in Barcelona in spring 2017.
AFRICA

Activities in the framework of Metropolis in Africa have not been detected during this quarter. For more information on the activities of the members of this region, please visit our website.