

30<sup>th</sup> September, 2019

## Dear METROPOLIS Members,

On behalf of the Guangzhou Foreign Affairs Office and Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation, I would like to convey my warmest greetings to you and sincerely invite you for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop for Thought Leaders featuring the theme of "Urban Regeneration: The way to Vibrant City" on 2-6 December, 2019.

Since 2012, the Guangzhou Award has been successfully held for four cycles, soliciting over 1000 initiatives from over 480 cities worldwide. The enthusiasm of participation and repertoire of wisdom gave birth to the biennial Workshop for Thought Leaders which is conceived and designed to help policy and decision makers learn from outstanding innovations in urban sustainable development. Co-hosted by Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation, METROPOLIS Regional Secretariat of Asia Pacific, UCLG ASPAC, UCLG Urban Innovation Community, UCLG-ASPAC Standing Committee Women in Local Governments (SCWLG), and organized by Sun Yat-sen University, this high-level policy seminar includes lectures, panel discussions, case studies, site visits and action planning. In the context of emerging city groups and greater metropolitan regions, urban renewal nowadays are at the same time empowered by better technologies and modern industries, and challenged with the need to adopt more innovative and cooperative model of development with neighbouring cities. In this year's workshop, we are going to provide a platform for city leaders, experts and practitioners to share innovative policies, strategies and practices for urban regeneration





that invigorate cities for a more vibrant future. With the participation of SCWLG, our discussion shall also be guided by SDGs on women welfare and cover an important sub-topic on "Family Friendly Urban Planning and Urban Regeneration".

Once again, I have great pleasure to invite you or your senior representative to join us in this solution-oriented workshop. With your active participation, I firmly believe that it could better help to address challenges facing urban regeneration and enhance sustainable urban development. Enclosed please find the brief introduction and the application form of the workshop. Please kindly note that **we will cover the local transportation and four-night accommodation for one representative from each city**. For inquiries, please feel free to contact the Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation (Tel: +86 20 87354209, Email: info@guangzhouaward.org).

Dear colleagues, I appreciate your continuous support to the Guangzhou Award and hope to enhance our friendship and cooperation further. I look forward to meeting you in Guangzhou!

Yours sincerely,



LIU Baochun

Director General of Guangzhou Foreign Affairs Office Secretary General of Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation Regional Secretary of METROPOLIS Regional Secretariat of Asia Pacific

