World Local Government Climate Summit Joint Declaration 16 April 2025

Preamble

Gathering here at the World Local Government Climate Summit in Goyang City, Gyeonggi Province, Republic of Korea on 15 and 16 April 2025, endorsed by the ICLEI Presidium and Members of the Global Executive Committee;

We, the representatives of local and subnational governments, recognize that climate change is a global challenge with profound local consequences, and we express our deep concern about the direct threats that the climate crisis poses to the survival and prosperity of both present and future generations.

We acknowledge the severity of the climate crisis and declare that it must be addressed as an urgent issue at all levels of government.

We pledge that local and subnational governments will take the lead in implementing concrete actions and play a pivotal role in building a sustainable future.

Accordingly, we declare the following:

We officially commit to achieving carbon neutrality by mid-century and pledge to continuously collaborate in developing concrete action plans that supplement our national plans;

We strive to establish science-based climate policies that leverage advanced technologies and data to develop tailored climate adaptation and mitigation strategies that reflect local climate conditions;

We promote an inclusive transition to a climate-resilient economy for all, centered on renewable energy and decarbonized industries to enhance the sustainability of local industries and economic structures;

We establish an inclusive and transparent collaboration framework that enables the active participation of all stakeholders, including residents, civil society organizations, and businesses, to co-design and implement our local climate goals and actions;

We take the lead in protecting vulnerable groups, such as low-income individuals and the elderly, from the climate crisis and safeguarding local communities from climate-related disasters.

We recognize that nature can be a key solution to the climate crisis and accelerate the transition to a society that coexists in harmony with nature by implementing climate policies considering ecosystem conservation.

Blue: Gyeonggi, Orange: Malmö

We commit to support the incoming Presidency of COP30 in Belem in their efforts to revitalize the multilateral process at the UNFCCC. This will be done through empowering local and regional governments in multilevel action and recognizing their catalytic role in the global response to the climate crisis.

Finally, we are ready to contribute to achieving an ambitious outcome in Belém informed by the NDC's 3.0 and transparency frameworks. This includes the Baku to Belém Roadmap to USD1.3 trillion in climate investment and science based indicators and provisions under the UAE Framework on Global Climate Resilience tailoring local priorities.

This commitment is endorsed by the participants of the World Local Governments Climate Summit in Gyeonggi Province.