

**Local Authority statement on outcomes during the Rio2012  
PrepCom II**

**Delivered by Susanne Salz, ICLEI – Local Governments for  
Sustainability, on 7 March 2011**

Thank you, Chair.

The Local Authority Major Group has something to contribute to all three objectives and both themes.

Some of the progress to date was made at the local level, including by the thousands of Local Agenda 21 processes. We will come to Rio next year with a critical evaluation of these processes as well as proposed next steps.

One of the emerging issues the planet is facing is urbanization. Local Authorities are at the forefront of dealing with the challenges and opportunities urbanization poses.

We recommend that the Rio2012 outcome on a Green Economy includes a section on Green *Urban* Economy. Numerous Local Governments and Cities around the world are taking innovative actions. Many more could do so if they were better enabled and supported by international frameworks, national governments and other actors.

Local and subnational governments can be a crucial part of the global transition to a Green Economy, and many are already making it happen on the ground.

On the institutional framework for sustainable development, one of the issues we urge UN member states to consider is the multiplicity of actors in the world today. The governments of the world's sovereign states and the United Nations system continue to be the primary actors in the field of sustainable development governance. They can draw on important activities by other actors, such as business, local government and civil society. These non-nation-state actors significantly contribute to sustainable development. The institutional framework for sustainable development should take this into consideration.