

Barcelona, 19th June 2018

Object: Invitation to the working session “Making the Shift: Cities for Adequate Housing and Declaration of Local Governments for the Right to Housing and the Right to the City”

Since joining The Shift – an international movement to reclaim and realize the right to housing launched in 2016 by the Special rapporteur on Adequate Housing Leilani Farha – UCLG has gathered together local governments with the goal of amplifying their efforts made towards the realization of the right to housing. During the last Executive Bureau in Strasbourg (23-26 May), an initiative of a common Declaration for the Right to Housing was presented by the City of Barcelona to the Policy Council of the Right to the City.

The human right to housing, basic and essential human right, is under growing threat. Both national and local level governments face immense forces, such as real estate speculation, the growth of informal settlements worldwide, the lack of public housing, and urban segregation, which create tensions and barriers to the access of a safe, secure, adequate, and affordable home for all.

The 2018 HLPF will review SDG 11, which includes a specific target on housing. The preparatory meeting of the Global Taskforce (15th July) will define the key messages of the very first Local and Regional Governments’ Forum that will take place to emphasize the crucial importance of local action in implementing the global agendas. In this context, UCLG and the cities of its Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights, with the support and presence of the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing, has the pleasure to invite you to a special working session:

Sunday 15th July 2018, from 17:30 to 19:00

“Making the Shift: Cities for Adequate Housing and Declaration of Local Governments for the Right to Housing and the Right to the City”

Hotel One UN Millennium

This event intends to foster a debate on the Right to Housing and the Municipal Declaration promoted by the City of Barcelona in the framework of The Shift in order to strengthen local governments’ voices and commitments, explore concrete actions towards the realization of the right to housing and set the next steps of UCLG’s wave of action.

We hope to count on your participation and thank you for confirming your attendance to a.flety@uclg.org

Sincerely yours,

Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of UCLG
Ada Colau, Mayor of the City of Barcelona
Daniel Martinez, Mayor of the City of Montevideo
Patrick Braouezec, President of Plaine Commune
Manuela Carmena, Mayor of the City of Madrid
Leilani Farha, Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing