



**LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES (LGMA)  
CONSTITUENCY  
OF SUBNATIONALS, TOWNS, CITIES AND REGIONS**  
at UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE BAKU (COP29), NOVEMBER 2024



## **LGMA COP29 HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT STATEMENT**

### **Delivered by**

Marjorie Kauffmann,

Secretary of Environment and Infrastructure for the State of Rio Grande do Sul,  
Brazil,

and

Vice-President of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

Excellency's, colleagues,

It's my honor to speak to you today on behalf of the people and State of Rio Grande de Sul in Brazil, ICLEI and the LGMA Constituency.

In May 2024, the state of Rio Grande do Sul suffered the worst climate catastrophe in its history, a flood that affected 95% of its municipalities.

We know across the world many cities and regions are facing such realities of climate emergency almost every year.

It is crucial that disaster prevention and response efforts to be coordinated between national and subnational levels, with more flexible resource flows for extreme events. Our climate action plan, with the support of ICLEI, is being developed with and for the 497 municipalities that make part of the state of Rio Grande do Sul.

At COP28 in Dubai, Parties are urged for multilevel action and CHAMP Initiative formulated a fantastic model for its implementation.

We therefore celebrate the inclusion of recognition of climate federalism and the CHAMP initiative as an instrument for implementing the new Brazilian NDC.

To COP29 in Baku, hundreds of towns, cities and regions under the LGMA Constituency proposed 3 asks; accelerate multilevel action, finance urbanization and integrate climate action to under sustainability.

The Local Governments and Municipal Authorities (LGMA) Constituency has been representing local and regional governments at the processes under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since the first Conference of Parties (COP) in 1995. The LGMA also represents the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments. ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability acts as the Focal Point of LGMA.

<https://www.cities-and-regions.org> - [lgma@iclei.org](mailto:lgma@iclei.org)



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This means phasing out fossil fuels quickly and keeping the promises.

We also need climate finance that focuses on grants, not loans, so that all levels of government can have a fair transition.

And we need to build synergies between mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity to create a healthier planet.

The LGMA endorses COP29 MAP Initiative and Truce Appeal.

But we must also ensure Baku leaves a concrete legacy.

The LGMA calls for COP29 negotiated outcomes to kick-off a process in Baku to seize opportunities of sustainable urbanisation for climate action to be presented and agreed at COP30 in Belem.

Only through a multilevel effort will we be able to mitigate the impacts of climate change and ensure a safer and more sustainable future for all.