

**Aide Memoire**  
**Getting to the new normal: the role of local government in building  
sustainable communities in a post COVID-19 world**

**Webinar series**

**Wellington, New Zealand on 24 - 25 August 2020**

The COVID-19 pandemic is regarded as the most significant threat to social and economic welfare that the world has faced this Century, and probably since at least World War 1. Apart from its immediate impact on the lives of those infected with the virus, mostly older and vulnerable citizens, it has forced countries into mandatory lockdowns that have devastated not only local economies but seriously weakened the world trading system itself. Now that countries are beginning to recover from the initial impact of the coronavirus pandemic it is time to reflect on some important questions:

- How well prepared were countries for the pandemic and what can be improved?
- What lessons can we learn from those countries that are well into their rebuild phase than can be adapted and employed elsewhere?
- What has the crisis meant for commitments made to work towards a more sustainable and resilient future, and
- What is the role of local government in, what can only be called, the new normal?

Local government's role in the post-COVID-19 recovery and the importance of not losing sight of building sustainable and resilient towns, cities and regions is the subject of this webinar forum being held by Wellington City Council, Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) and United Cities and Local Government Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC).

The forum is intended to provide a unique opportunity for participants from Asia Pacific to both hear directly from officials and politicians those involved in overseeing the post COVID-19 recovery in their countries and putting resilience and the sustainable develop goals back on the agenda.

Those taking part in the webinar forums will learn about:

- successful strategies employed to drive social, cultural and economic recovery from the impact of COVID-19
- the importance of the SDGs to successful and sustainable recoveries
- new approaches to strengthening resilience and sustainable communities;
- the value of taking holistic and multi-layered approaches to building resilience and future proofing communities within the context of the SDGs

The final webinar of the series will be devoted to discussing the draft "Wellington Declaration". The Wellington Declaration will highlight the importance of regional and global cooperation to address challenges like the COVID-19 pandemic and its immediate and longer-term effects.

**Topics**

The webinar programme will feature presenters, who are leaders in their fields, drawn from throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Topics will include:

- Evaluating strategies for managing the spread of COVID-19
- Establishing networks and mechanism for sharing good practice for responding to the Crisis
- The SDGs as a guide to social, economic and cultural recovery
- The importance of strong inter-governmental restructures and relationships

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- Lessons in response, recovery and reconstruction that can be learned from other crises

The target audience includes leaders and officials from local, provincial and central governments, development agencies, and other relevant stakeholders.

#### **Date and Venue**

The Forum will be held by audio visual means using Zoom one day, Monday, 24 August 2020, prior to the forum there will be Committee meetings on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of August. Meetings, by audio visual, of the executive bureau will be scheduled on the days following the forum.

For more information contact:

#### **Local Government New Zealand**

Dr. Mike Reid, Principal Policy Advisor

Email: [mike.reid@lgnz.co.nz](mailto:mike.reid@lgnz.co.nz)

#### **United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG ASPAC)**

Secretariat Office Jakarta, Indonesia

Email: [secretariat@uclg-aspac.org](mailto:secretariat@uclg-aspac.org)

DRR and Resilient Coordinator

Email: [drr.coordinator@uclg-aspac.org](mailto:drr.coordinator@uclg-aspac.org)

## Tentative Agenda

### Getting to the New Normal: The Role of Local Government in Building Sustainable Communities in a Post COVID-19 World

Hosted by Wellington City Council, Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) and UCLG ASPAC

24 - 25 August 2020

**IMPORTANT: TIME USED BELOW IS WELLINGTON TIME | GMT + 12 | 5 HRS AHEAD OF JAKARTA**

#### Agenda

##### 20 August 2020 (Thursday) Committee Meetings

14:00-15:00	Committee Meeting	A. Standing Committee of Women in Local Governments (Chair: Guangzhou)
15:00-16:00		B. 21 <sup>st</sup> - Century Maritime Cooperation Committee (Chair: Fuzhou)
18:00-19:00		C. Belt and Road Local Cooperation Committee (Chair: Hangzhou)

##### 21 August 2020 (Friday) Committee Meetings

16:00-17:00	Committee Meeting	A. Culture Committee (Chair: Jeju Special Self-Governing Province)
17:00-18:00		B. South-South West Asia (SSW) Committee
18:00-19:00		C. Southeast Asia (SEA) Committee

##### 24 August 2020 (Monday) International Forum

15:00-15:30	Opening	<p>Welcome Remarks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Andy Foster, Mayor of Wellington City (Video Message)</li> <li>President LGNZ</li> <li>Ms. Tri Rismaharini, Mayor of Surabaya and President UCLG ASPAC</li> <li>Ms. Nanaia Mahuta, Minister of Local Governments in New Zealand (Video Message)</li> </ol>
15:30-16:15	Plenary Session 1	<p><b>Topic: The Global Impact of COVID-19</b> Moderator: Dr. Bernadia Irawati Tjandradewi, UCLG ASPAC Secretary General Speaker from UN/Partner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Atsushi Koresawa, Director for UN-Habitat Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific</li> <li>WHO (tbc)</li> </ul> <p>City and Local Government Experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Anies Baswedan, Governor of Jakarta Capital City Government/Co-President of UCLG ASPAC (tbc)</li> <li>Mr. Qiang Sheng, Director of Foreign Affairs Office, Xi'an Municipal People's Government</li> <li>Ms. Kim Ju Yi, Director General of Planning and Coordination Office, Daejeon Metropolitan City</li> </ul>

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16:15-17:00	Session 2	<p><b>Topic: Resilience Planning, Challenges and COVID-19 Recovery</b></p> <p>Moderator: President LGNZ</p> <p>Speaker from UN/Partner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms. Loretta Hieber Girardet, Chief of UNDRR the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific</li> </ul> <p>City and Local Government Experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms. Madelaine Y. Alfelor-Gazmen, Mayor of Iriga City</li> <li>- Mr. Osman bin Hj. Ismail, Director of Enforcement Department, Kuala Lumpur City</li> <li>- Mr. Mike Mendonça MBE, Wellington City's Head of Resilience</li> <li>- Mr. Senaka Palliyaguru, Commissioner of Local Government- Southern Province, Sri Lanka</li> </ul>
17:00-17:15	Break	
17:15-18:00	Session 3	<p><b>Topic: Cities Share Rebuild Strategies (Local Economic Development)</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Ravi Ranjan Guru, Deputy Director General, All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG)</p> <p>Speakers from UN/ Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms. Maria-Varinia Michalun, Senior Project Manager and Policy Analyst Section on Economic Analysis and Multi-level Governance, CFE/OECD</li> </ul> <p>City and Local Government Experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr. Kim Soung-eun, Ambassador for Int'l Relations, Jeju Special Self-Governing Province</li> <li>- Guangzhou City</li> <li>- Mr. Vallop Suwandee, Chairman of Advisors to Governor of Bangkok, Bangkok Metropolitan Administrative</li> <li>- Mr. Gordon C. H. Yang, Executive Director of International Affairs Advisory Council, Taipei City Government, Taipei City Government</li> </ul>
18:00-18:30	Wrap-up and Concluding	Closing Remarks from President LGNZ and President of UCLG ASPAC
<p><b>25 August 2020 (Tuesday) - UCLG ASPAC Executive Bureau Meeting</b></p>		
15:00-17:30	Statutory Meeting	Executive Bureau of UCLG ASPAC
17:30-18:00	Closing	UCLG ASPAC President