**THEMATIC SESSION**

**FROM MANAGING MIGRATION TO A COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH TO HUMAN MOBILITY: TOWARDS THE Lampedusa Charter**

Organized under the umbrella of the UCLG Policy Councils on Right to the City and Opportunities for All

**Background and objectives of the Thematic Session**

As the closest level of government to the people, local governments have been tackling the multi-dimensional nature and effects of human mobility with narrow mandates and often scarce resources. The effects of climate change, protracted violence, growing inequalities and lack of pathways for regular migration have direct impacts on local migration governance. Regardless of the challenges and gaps in legal frameworks, migrants, displaced communities and refugees are first and foremost neighbours.

UCLG has long been recalling that, beyond delivering basic service and protecting the most vulnerable, local and regional governments have a critical role to play in the shift from border-centered approaches to a people-centered vision of citizenship that relies on a sense of community and turns around the notions of dignity, human rights, peace, collective memory and diversity, regardless of status.

Following Lampedusa’s proposal to co-create a UCLG Global Charter that fosters a shift in the narrative led by local governments, this Thematic Session will enable the Sherpas and Councillors of the Policy Councils to provide further guidance and inputs on the draft Charter proposal that has been submitted to the Executive Bureau.

This session is set as a follow up of the Cities Are Listening Consultation with partners on Human Mobility and Diversity last 4 May and will feed directly into the deliberations of the Business Session by the Executive Bureau on 20 May, as a first concrete step towards the launch of the Lampedusa Charter by December 2021.

**A global call by a diverse community**

The Lampedusa Process aims to recognize, include and make visible the efforts so far made by the different parts of the network towards a new narrative. In this respect, the meeting will build on the experiences of the network on human mobility and diversity and their possible contributions to the Lampedusa Process.

For this process to be consistent and synchronized with the different agendas and thematic priorities of the Political Councils on the Right to the City and Opportunities for All, this consultation is conceived as an open political debate around this first
proposal, in connection with the broader discussion about the UCLG Pact for the Future.

**Guiding questions**

- What key issues should the Charter address to ensure that it is inclusive and represents the different realities of the network?
- How can the different parts of the network contribute to this process with their experiences and thematic priorities?