



## Chengdu Declaration

In 2016, the world population reached 7.442 billion and the urbanization rate 54.3%. By 2050, the world population will hit 9.8 billion and urbanization rate 66%. Urbanization and information technology, the two defining trends in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, pose huge challenges in urban governance, human settlements, employment, infrastructure and basic public services.

To build sustainable cities will be essential to sustainable development of cities and improvement of living standards around the world. Infrastructure connectivity of world cities as well as their experience sharing and cooperation on sustainable development will serve as a good example and reference to the Belt and Road international cooperation proposed by the Chinese government.

We gathered in Chengdu on July 21, 2017, for the first High-level International Forum on Sustainable Urban Development. Focusing on the theme of “Sustainable Urban Development under the Belt and Road Initiative”, the forum discussed prospects and pathways of sustainable development for cities around the world. To this end, we will make efforts in the following areas:

1. Build an inclusive and open environment for urban development. Basic public services need to be provided and living conditions improved for all urban residents to ensure different groups of people to live and thrive in cities. Opportunities of skills and education need to be provided to workers to ensure equal access to economic resources for all. Equal access to development opportunities and outcomes needs to be provided for all to make cities socially more coherent.
2. Promote sustained and steady urban economic development. An enabling urban business environment need to be fostered, and pro-employment urban development policy implemented. Efforts need to be redoubled to increase employment and reduce poverty-stricken population in cities. We need to seize new development opportunities in the new industrial revolution, build new economic patterns in cities and maintain dynamic economic growth. We will improve the eco-chain of innovation and starting up business in cities so that innovation will become the main growth driver behind urban development whose potentials will be fully released.
3. Practice green and low-carbon urban development concepts. We will advocate green, low-carbon, circular economy and sustainability in the way of urban production and living as well as in the model of urban construction and administration. We will make urban development and environmental protection more balanced. We will utilize land and resources in an efficient way, promote clean energy and sustainable model of consumption, and build resilient cities. Urban transport, energy, water supply and drainage, heating, sewage, and garbage disposal will be planned and built on the basis of green, circular and low-carbon development concepts.
4. Develop scientific and sound approaches to urban planning. We need to respect urban development rules, reasonably define the boundary of urban development in order to shift urban development from physical expansion and substantive improvement. Planning and management of urban space, surface, landscape and culture need to be improved to retain a city's unique local environment, cultural features and architectural styles. A city's internal layout needs to be more reasonable to make it more permeable and conducive to microcirculation. We must carry on a city's history and culture by protecting its cultural heritages.
5. Explore an urban governance model that is sharing and innovative. We will promote the application of the Internet, the Internet of Things and smart technologies in urban governance, give full play to cyberspace's role of connectivity, improve socialized services to citizens, and step up fine management in cities. We need to promote civility in cities, respect citizens' right to know, participate and supervise in decision making on urban development. Enterprises and citizens need to be encouraged to participate in urban construction and administration in different ways to make a city truly co-governed, co-managed, co-built and co-shared.

6. Representative cities from different countries will be chosen to build a world city network of sustainable development cooperation with priority fields and action plans. Cooperation among countries and cities needs to be encouraged to jointly promote latest concepts, technologies and financial models of sustainable development. Efforts need to be stepped up to build mechanisms for bilateral and multilateral city-to-city cooperation, conduct international pilot cities of sustainable development, and organize the international forum on sustainable urban development regularly to share latest trends and challenges in sustainable development of cities around the world. This declaration serves a purpose to implement the “New Urban Agenda”.