MAYORS OF BARCELONA, MILAN AND ATHENS URGE ACTION ON INEQUALITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE TO PROTECT CLIMATE

Mayors call on European Commission to commit to keeping global warming below 1.5°C

Mayors of 31 global cities pledged to deliver inclusive climate action that benefits all citizens equitably

Today, the mayors of Barcelona, Milan and Athens pledged to tackle inequality and deliver social justice as part of their efforts to achieve the aims of the Paris Agreement, and called on the European Commission, European governments and all EU citizens to do the same. Ada Colau, Mayor of Barcelona; Giuseppe Sala, Mayor of Milan; and Giorgios Kaminis, Mayor of Athens spoke today at C40 Talks: Cities Getting the Job Done, a special session of the Smart City Expo World Congress exploring how European cities are setting a bold climate agenda for a better tomorrow.

In the wake of the IPCC’s Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5C, it is clearer than ever that fast and far-reaching action is necessary to prevent catastrophic climate change. European cities like Barcelona, Athens and Milan are leading the world in tackling climate change.

Climate action has the potential to deliver not only a world in which global warming stays below 1.5°C, but also deliver significant benefits: recent C40 research shows that urban climate action can generate nearly 14 million jobs and prevent prevent 1.3 million premature deaths annually by 2030.

During the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco earlier this year, mayors of 31 cities, representing close to 100 million citizens, pledged to deliver inclusive climate action that benefits all citizens equitably. Mayors of Accra; Athens; Barcelona; Bridgeport, CT; Buenos Aires; Cape Town; Chicago; Denver; Durban; Guadalajara; Hong Kong, China; Houston; Johannesburg; Los Angeles; Medellin; Mexico City; Milan; Montreal; New York City; Paris; Philadelphia; Portland; Salt Lake City; San Francisco; Santiago; Seattle; Sydney; Tel Aviv; Tokyo; Toronto & Washington DC pledged to increase action on community-led development, inclusive climate action and infrastructure projects that achieve major environmental, health, social and economic benefits especially in low-income and vulnerable communities.

More on C40’s inclusivity efforts here.
Hosted by C40, Barcelona City Council, and Fira Barcelona, *Cities Getting the Job Done* is the latest edition of C40 Talks, a global event series dedicated to fostering dialogue about climate action in cities across government, business, and civil society.

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**Notes:**

**About C40 Cities**  
C40 Cities connects more than 90 of the world’s greatest cities, representing 650+ million people and one quarter of the global economy. Created and led by cities, C40 is focused on tackling climate change and driving urban action that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and climate risks, while increasing the health, wellbeing and economic opportunities of urban citizens. The current chair of the C40 is Mayor of Paris Anne Hidalgo; and three-term Mayor of New York City Michael R. Bloomberg serves as President of the Board. C40’s work is made possible by our three strategic funders: Bloomberg Philanthropies, Children’s Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), and Realdania.