For Immediate Release

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C40 APPOINTS REGIONAL DIRECTORS TO ENHANCE CLIMATE ACTION EFFORTS

Regional leads will be located in and support cities in East Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America

New York (February 20, 2013) – Today C40 announced the appointment of four Regional Directors, to bring operational support and resources to four key global regions: East Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America.

“I am thrilled to bring such talented and committed professionals into these important new roles,” said Jay Carson, Executive Director of C40. “By implementing a regional approach and establishing talented regional directors with hands-on city experience we can enhance the support we are providing cities in their efforts to implement actions that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This marks a key moment in the evolution of the organisation and continues to fulfill Mayor Bloomberg’s mission as Chair of expanding the reach and impact of C40 in helping cities accelerate their climate action goals.”

In choosing candidates, C40 drew from both inside and outside the organisation:

East Asia: Yan Peng joins C40 from the Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities Center where as China Director she managed a number of projects in partnership with all levels of Chinese government as well as international organisations including the World Bank. Previously she was a programme officer at the UK Department for International Development, and served as head of regulatory and social strategy at an international environmental consulting firm. Peng holds graduate degrees in law and international relations. She is based in Beijing.

Europe: Cristiana Fragola served as a legal advisor to the UN Development Programme, where she contributed to the legal and financial structure of the MDG Carbon Finance Facility and the Millennium Development Goals. With graduate degrees in law and government, she joins C40 from the New York City government where she served most recently as Deputy Director of Sustainability of the New York City Housing Authority and, prior to that, as Director of MillionTreesNYC. A native Italian, Fragola is based in Milan and London.

Latin America: Manuel Olivera has been with C40 and the Clinton Climate Initiative since 2007 as Bogota City Director and Director of the Hybrid & Electric Bus Test Programme. Prior to this, he served by Mayoral appointment as Director of the City of Bogota’s Environmental Authority,
where he led the development of more than 100 urban policies, programmes and projects. Olivera’s 30 years of professional experience includes advising the Ministry of Mining and Energy in Colombia. He is based in Bogota.

**North America: Johanna Gregory Partin** has served C40 over the past eight months managing support and outreach to C40 Cities and the City Director team. Before joining C40, she was Director of Climate Protection Initiatives in the Office of the Mayor of San Francisco, and Renewable Energy Programme Manager in the San Francisco Department of the Environment. Partin also served as a Programme Manager at Winrock International, where she developed international environmental policy and renewable energy projects in more than 15 countries around the world. She is based in San Francisco.

“Each candidate has a deep knowledge of their region; broad experience working with municipal governments; and a strong background in the environmental sector. Their joining today will allow C40 to be even more effective in responding to the needs of our cities, coordinating the work of our technical and financial partners, and driving new opportunities for collaborative action,” added Carson.

The Regional Directors are responsible for establishing and maintaining strong relationships with C40 city governments, as well as partners and stakeholders in the region. They will identify opportunities for cities to collaborate – both within the region and throughout the global network. As such they will facilitate direct peer-to-peer exchange; convene regular regional meetings with C40 city officials; and serve as a conduit between the region and the broader C40 organisation, including directing C40 resources to serve the priorities of cities within the region.

C40 is actively planning for directorships in three additional regions: Africa, Southeast Asia & Oceania and South & West Asia.

**About C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40)**

The C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) is a network of large and engaged cities from around the world committed to implementing meaningful and sustainable climate-related actions locally that will help address climate change globally. C40 was established in 2005 and expanded via a partnership in 2006 with President William J. Clinton’s Climate Initiative (CCI). The current chair of the C40 is New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg. To learn more about the work of C40 and our Cities, please visit [www.c40.org](http://www.c40.org), follow us on Twitter @c40cities and like us on Facebook at [http://www.facebook.com/C40Cities](http://www.facebook.com/C40Cities).

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