Around 60 International Mayors and City Leaders Discuss Local Solutions with Global Impact to Achieve a Liveable and Sustainable Future for All

Vienna, Austria, 4 July 2025 – The 14th Mayors Forum of the World Cities Summit concluded today, bringing together around 60 international mayors, and city leaders from more than 50 cities at Vienna City Hall, in Vienna, Austria to discuss pressing urban challenges and share best practices.

2   Over the last three days, from 2 – 4 July 2025, participants from around the world, including senior leaders across industries, international organisations and Young Leaders gathered in Vienna to engage in dynamic discussions on this year's theme: *Liveable and Sustainable Cities: Local Solutions, Global Impact*.

3   In his closing remarks, Mr Chee Hong Tat, Minister for National Development, Singapore, and the Chair of the Mayors Forum, emphasised the importance of forging common consensus to tackle the challenges that cities face, many of which are transborder in nature. While the challenges ahead may be daunting, they also present opportunities to rejuvenate, reinvent and reimagine our cities. Platforms like the Mayors Forum enable cities to come together to learn from one another, and to foster greater dialogue, partnerships and collaboration, as we work towards the common goal of building a more liveable and sustainable futures for all.

4   At the conclusion of the 14th Mayors Forum of the World Cities Summit in Vienna, Mayor Michael Ludwig emphasised that cities are not just places to live but vital engines of innovation and collaboration. He pointed out that Vienna, the host city of the Mayors Forum, serves as a model for local solutions to global challenges. Ludwig also noted that sharing experiences and best practices allows participants to inspire one another and take meaningful action. He stressed the importance of continued collaboration and forming partnerships that transcend borders, stating that such cooperation is key to successfully addressing future challenges.

5   Mayors and city leaders also supported the following conclusions after the discussion sessions:

   a. Overall, cities must champion the provision of affordable, sustainable, and accessible housing, municipal services, and resources for their citizens. This can be achieved by streamlining policies and regulations across stakeholders, enhance funding models, and fostering citizen participation to be responsive to the needs of their communities. It is also crucial to forge partnerships across public, private and people sectors for better collaboration and alignment for improved outcomes.

   b. They should also invest in leadership development, timely updates to infrastructure, apply data-driven decision-making, and implement smart city solutions for better coordination, efficiency, and reliability of services for citizens.

c. In a time of rapidly intensifying climate change, cities can adopt comprehensive approaches to mitigate climate-related risks and incentivise the adoption of clean energy technologies to reduce carbon emissions and ensure smooth energy transition. They should also integrate resource management with green and nature-based solutions—ensuring access to affordable, clean and safe water and energy for all.

World Cities Summit 2026, Singapore, 14 – 16 June 2026

6   The next Mayors Forum will reconvene in Singapore as a key highlight of the World Cities Summit (WCS) 2026, taking place from 14 – 16 June 2026. The upcoming edition will be the 10th edition of WCS, marking a significant milestone in advancing discussions and knowledge exchange between cities', industry and academia, around liveability and sustainability issues.

7   Themed *Liveable and Sustainable Cities: ACT Now!*, we invite cities to consider how to Accelerate, Collaborate and Transform. This milestone 10th edition of WCS celebrates how cities are transforming through bold leadership and partnerships, to actively shape a more liveable future for all.

8   The 10th edition of WCS will also see the introduction of new partners, including Expo Real Asia Pacific and WRLDCTY. Notably, WRLDCTY signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Centre for Liveable Cities, the co-organiser of World Cities Summit earlier this year, establishing a framework for knowledge exchange and international collaboration. As part of the partnership, parties will collaborate on WCS and knowledge-sharing platforms. These partners will also provide fresh perspectives at WCS 2026, enriching conversations on sustainable innovation, and strengthening the platform for city leaders and other stakeholders to exchange transformative ideas.

9   WRLDCTY will also bring the global WRLDCTY conference to Singapore for the first time alongside World Cities Summit 2026 and the launch of a new track to promote a more holistic approach to liveability and sustainability.

10   More details on the 10th edition of the Word Cities Summit may be found on the website: https://www.worldcitiessummit.com.sg/

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About World Cities Summit
The biennial World Cities Summit (WCS) is a platform for government leaders and industry experts to address liveable and sustainable city challenges, share integrated urban solutions and forge new partnerships. Jointly organised by Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) and the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), key highlights of the Summit include the WCS Mayors Forum, the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize and the WCS Young Leaders Symposium.

About The Mayors Forum of the World Cities Summit
The Mayors Forum is a by-invitation-only, global platform for mayors and city leaders to discuss pressing urban challenges and share best practices. Since its inception in 2010, the annual Forum has grown into a calendar highlight for global mayors and city leaders. The Mayors Forum is one of the key highlights of the biennial World Cities Summit held in Singapore and is jointly organised by Singapore's CLC and URA.

About the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize
Inaugurated in 2010 and named after Singapore's first Prime Minister, the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize is a biennial international award that honours outstanding achievements and contributions to the creation of liveable and sustainable urban communities around the world. The lecture and forum discussions will focus on four key pillars of every city's success: liveability, vibrancy, sustainability and quality of life. Past prize Laureates include Bilbao City Hall, Spain (2010), New York City, United States of America (2012), Suzhou City, China (2014), Medellín, Colombia (2016), Seoul, South Korea (2018), Vienna, Austria (2020) and Mexico City, Mexico (2024). For more information, visit www.leekuanyewworldcityprize.com.sg

2020 Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize Laureate: Vienna, Austria
Vienna was awarded the 2020 Prize as it is recognised for reinventing itself for success in the 21st century without losing its distinctive identity as a capital of culture, music, and history. In particular, Vienna has taken on a leading role in addressing the global challenges of climate change. This remarkable success is achieved through steadfast dedication to constant and consistent improvements that are skillfully woven together to sustain the highest quality of life for all its inhabitants now and into the future.

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Annex A: List of attending cities at Mayors Forum 2025

1. Algiers
2. Ankara
3. Antwerp
4. Athens, Ohio
5. Berlin
6. Bilbao
7. Bintan
8. Bogor
9. Boulder
10. Brisbane
11. Brno
12. Budapest
13. Caracas
14. Champaign
15. Chișinău
16. Doha
17. Espoo
18. Fort Lauderdale
19. Fukuoka
20. Geneva
21. Glasgow
22. Hamburg
23. Iskandar Regional Development Authority
24. Jeddah
25. Jeonju
26. Johor Bahru
27. Kanifing
28. Kingston & St. Andrew
29. Kitchener
30. Kuala Lumpur
31. Kuching North
32. Kuching South
33. London
34. Lüderitz
35. Makassar
36. Makkah
37. Malé
38. Medellín
39. Mexico City
40. Muscat
41. Navotas
42. Phnom Penh
43. Prague

44. Preah Sihanouk
45. Riga
46. Royal Commission for Riyadh City
47. Santiago de Cali
48. Seberang Perai
49. Seoul
50. Singapore
51. Sofia
52. Suzhou
53. Taipei
54. Taoyuan
55. The Hague
56. Vienna
57. Windhoek
58. Yokohama
59. Zhenjiang

Annex B: Participating Organisations

- Arup
- Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- Bilbao Metropoli 30
- C40 Cities
- Centre for Innovation in Transport-CENIT
- Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (C4IR), City of Medellín
- Culture Academy, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, Singapore
- Dassault Systèmes
- Design Sciences Hub, University of Antwerp
- Housing and Development Board, Singapore
- International Water Association
- International Finance Corporation
- International Urban and Regional Cooperation (IURC) Programme
- Johor Economic Tourism and Cultural Office Singapore (JETCO)
- Keppel Ltd
- Messe München GmbH - EXPO REAL
- Metropolis
- National League of Cities
- National Parks Board, Singapore
- Norman Foster Institute
- NUS Cities
- People's Association, Singapore
- PropertyGuru
- Regional Plan Association (New York City)
- Senate Department for Urban Development, Building and Housing, Berlin
- Seoul Institute
- Singapore Management University
- Surbana Jurong
- UN Habitat Assembly
- Urban Innovation Vienna
- Urban Redevelopment Authority, Singapore
- WRLDCTY
- World Bank