New Secretariat Announced for Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance

Coalition including R20, UNEP, UNDP and FMDV to manage Alliance from January 2016

(Paris, 8 December) – A new secretariat for the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance was announced by Arnold Schwarzenegger, founder of the R20 Regions of Climate Action, at an event marking “Cities Day” at the UN Climate Conference in Paris.

As of January 2016, the Alliance will be managed by a coalition of organizations including R20, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Fund for Cities Development -- Fonds mondial pour le développement des villes (FMDV).

The Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA) is a coalition of over 40 public and private banks, national and city governments, and international and civil society organizations launched by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at the Climate Summit he convened in September 2014. The aim of the Alliance is to accelerate investment in low-emission, climate-resilient infrastructure in cities, and to close the investment gap in urban areas over the next fifteen years.

The UN Secretary-General’s Climate Change Support Team has been supporting the Alliance on an interim basis. The new secretariat was elected by the members of the Alliance, based on a proposal developed by the coalition named.

“We are very happy to be hosting the CCFLA within our coalition. This is exactly the initiative that is needed to help subnational governments finance their transition to the green economy,” said Mr. Schwarzenegger in making the announcement.

The Alliance recently issued its first report, The State of City Climate Finance, which identifies policies and measures to mobilize investment in climate-smart infrastructure for cities. It was launched by the UN Secretary-General and other Alliance members, plus the Mayors of Johannesburg, Rio de Janeiro and Ulan Bator, at the Climate Summit for Local Leaders at Paris City Hall on 4 December. Alliance members are working on a plan to help translate the report recommendations into action.

Regional investor meetings organized by CCFLA in Johannesburg and Bangkok during 23-27 November contributed suggestions on practical steps forward to boost investment in climate action in cities.

For more information visit www.citiesclimatefinance.org; follow @CitiesClimFin

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