

## PRESS RELEASE:

Feb. 12, 2017

UN-Habitat 9th World Urban Forum, Kuala Lumpur.

<http://www.weacreationcare.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Press-Release-Gospel-and-the-Future-of-Cities-Website.pdf>

## Evangelical Call to Action on Cities Includes UN-Habitat's New Urban Agenda.

There are times in history when it is imperative that God's people come together to pray, seek discernment, and act. Such a time was the gathering of evangelical Christians convened by the **World Evangelical Alliance (WEA)**, the **Urban Shalom Society**, and other partners for the **Gospel and the Future of Cities Summit** October 15 – 16, 2016 in Quito, Ecuador. At this unofficial "parallel *Habitat III* event," the attendees produced the ***Gospel and the Future of Cities: A Call to Action*** statement.

As witnesses to the enormous spiritual, social, economic, and environmental challenges posed by today's rapidly urbanizing world, *i.e., the world's population currently living in cities will grow from 50% to 70-75% within 20-30 years*, the intent of the ***Gospel and the Future of Cities: A Call to Action*** statement is to motivate and activate the whole church to more deeply understand, love, and care for cities and their inhabitants from God's perspective, and to become better equipped and effective for urban presence, ministry, work, and witness.

"The Call to Action," Dr. Elisara, the director of the World Evangelical Alliance's Creation Care Task Force, explains, "is being released at UN-Habitat's 9th World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur to highlight the evangelical community's commitment to contribute to the common good and well-being of cities from our unique identity as Christians."

***To read the Call to Action go to this link:*** <http://www.weacreationcare.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/The-Gospel-Future-of-Cities-Feb.-12-2017.pdf>

International Christian organizations and leaders who have endorsed the ***Gospel and the Future of Cities: A Call to Action*** statement include:

- **World Evangelical Alliance:** Dr. Chris Elisara, Director of the WEA Creation Care Task Force.
- **The Lausanne Movement:** Dr. Ed Brown, Lausanne Catalyst for Creation Care.
- **Micah Global:** Sheryl Haw, International Director.
- **Urban Shalom Society:** Dr. Ash Barker, Mr. Andre Van Eymeren, Dr. Chris Elisara, Dr. Bryan McCabe, Mr. Michael Mata.
- **Christian Community Development Association:** Noel Castellanos, President.
- **A Rocha International:** Revd. Dave Bookless, Director of Theology.

- **Tearfund:** Paul Cook, Head of Advocacy.
- **The Congress for the New Urbanism Members Christian Caucus: Leadership Committee**--Mr. Mike Watkins, Ms. Sara Joy Proppe, Dr. Chris Elisara, Dr. Eric O. Jacobsen, Mr. Andrew Moore; Mr. Jay Hoekstra.
- **Institute for Urban Initiatives:** Dr. Grace Dyrness
- **School of Intercultural Studies Fuller Theological Seminary:** Dr. Bryant Myers & Dr. Jude Tiersma-Watson.
- **The Gospel and the Future of Cities Summit** (October 15 – 16, 2016, Quito, Ecuador): Ms. Loida, Carriel Espinoza, Dr. Noah, Toly, Mr. Andre Van Eymeren, Ms. Juliana Morillo, Dr. Ashley Barker, Dr. Christopher Miller, Ms. Kristina Mata, Mr. Michael Mata, Dr. Richard E. Waldrop, Mr. John Liotti, Dr. Bryan McCabe, Mr. Frank Carrascoza, Dr. Mary Nelson, Mr. Eric Swanson, Dr. Chris Elisara.

*MEDIA CONTACT:*

*Dr. Chris Elisara*

*Director, WEA Creation Care Task Force / Urban Shalom Forum*

*[celisara@worlddea.org](mailto:celisara@worlddea.org)*

*[www.weacreationcare.org](http://www.weacreationcare.org)*

*Cell/WhatsApp +1 760 822 2871*