**THE AFRICITIES SUMMIT**

THEME: THE ROLE OF INTERMEDIARY CITIES OF AFRICA IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGENDA 2030 OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE AFRICAN UNION AGENDA 2063

DATE; 17th-22nd May 2022

VENUE: Kisumu International Conference Center

 **BACKGROUND**

Africities is the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa's (UCLG- Africa) flagship pan-African event that is held every three years in one of the five African regions. It is premised upon SDG 11 which focuses on sustainable cities and communities with a view to make cities and human settlements more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable while addressing challenges that hamper the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union Agenda 2063.

The Summit is convened by the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa’s (UCLG-A) which brings together the leaders from cities and sub national governments and their associations for the advancement of decentralization and local governance with the aim of improving the living standards of the citizens. The Africities Summit has two main objectives:

1. Defining appropriate shared strategies in order to improve the living conditions of people at the local level.
2. Contribution to the integration, peace and unity of Africa starting from the grassroots.

 **RATIONALE FOR HOSTING THE CONFRENCE.**

The hosting of the 9th Africities Summit in Kisumu provides the African continent with an opportunity to share the African experience and explore appropriate mechanisms in implementing the Sustainable development Goals and the African Union Agenda 2063.

It will also create a platform for dialogue for the development of tailor made priorities and solutions to enhance the ability of local, Regional and Sub-national Governments to achieve Sustainable Development, putting into consideration that 55% of the world population live in cities and it is expected that nearly 7 out of 10 people in the world will be living in cities by 2050. This prioritizes the need to plan and develop intermediary cities effectively as they are premised to be the next frontiers for livelihoods and development. I

 **OBJECTIVES**

The Summit aims to build on the momentum from the Achievements gained in the 8th Africities Summit hosted in Marakesh and champion political commitments and dialogue by Heads of State and Government, Ministers of Local Government, Ministers of Urban development and Ministers of Finance to address challenges faced by Intermediary Cities in achieving inclusivity, Sustainability and Resilience.

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 The Summit will also stimulate conversations around building participatory, integrated and collaborative processes that involve national and sub-national governments, local governments and their associations, civil society, academia, private sector and other stakeholders to foster implementation of SDGs and the African Union Agenda 2063 through partnerships.

The conference is premised to champion localization of the SDG’s and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to enable financing for development through mobilization of Domestic resources and International Co-operation and enhance transparency and domestic ownership.

 **EXPECTED OUTCOMES**.

1. Political commitments by Heads of State and Government, Ministers of Local Government, Ministers of Urban development and Ministers of Finance to create a more conducive environment for achievement of Agenda 2030 of the United Nations and the African Union Agenda 2063 at the local level.
2. Development of a common understanding and expectation on the role of Intermediary Cities in accelerating implementation and addressing key challenges in achieving Sustainable Development.
3. Development of collaborative action to localize sustainability for improved lively hoods in the African Continent.
4. A report summarizing discussions, key conclusions and outcomes that will be used as reference document and provide guidance to National, Sub-National, Regional and local Governments in achieving sustainability.

 **PARTICIPANTS.**

The Conference is expected to draw audience from National Governments, Regional Governments, Sub-Regional Governments, local Governments and their Associations, Inter Governmental Organizations, Academia, Civil Society Organizations, Business Management Organizations, Private Sector, Architecture and Urban Planning Associations and Institutions and is expected to host 8000 Delegates.