The General Assembly,

Recalling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established through Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/70/1),

Recognizing the importance of the Paris Agreement (2015) for affirming the commitment of the United Nations (UN) Member States to fight climate change globally,

Highlighting the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) which addresses the rural-urban divide and establishes a global financing framework pertaining to urbanization,

Expressing its appreciation to all Member States on the progress, efforts and achievements that have been made toward the SDGs, especially SDG 11, which promotes sustainable cities and communities,

Acknowledging The New Urban Agenda set by General Assembly resolution 71/256 and the Outcome of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Development (Habitat III),

Reaffirming to take the view of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) to focus on the application of specific SDGs, like SDG 11 and to develop best practices for local communities,

Deeply concerned with the fast-growing rate of informal settlements, as defined in the outcome paper of Habitat III, in urban areas and its negative consequences, such as insufficient municipal resources, increasing climate change, furthering socio-economic inequality, deteriorating health crises, and marginalization,

Emphasizing the need for extended cooperation between the Member States regarding this issue, especially focusing on regional and city partnerships, as well as environmental improvements,

Acknowledging the fact that water scarcity will continue to lead to migration crises and that there will be an increasing amount of conflicts over fresh water supplies,

Recognizing that 7% of the world-wide population face water scarcity all year, and over 30% at least once a month, especially in arid regions of the world,

Taking into account the demographic changes, such as the aging of societies or rural depopulation and impacts on societies,

Appealing to the responsibility of developed countries towards helping developing countries,

1. Suggests a reduction of greenhouse gas emission by:
   a. Improving public transportation in cities as well as connecting the rural areas;
   b. Fostering the creation of urban green spaces;
   c. Encouraging the use of renewable energy as well as the research of alternative energy sources;

2. Emphasizes the need for a reliable and renewable access to potable water for all by:
a. Proposing to create a worldwide forum to discuss and exchange innovative technologies and ideas concerning urban infrastructure, renewable energy, and water supply, working together multilaterally, setting aside past conflicts;

b. Recommending setting aside funds to further invest in and research possibilities to desalinate water, considering that 97% of the world’s water is saline and the potable water supply is shrinking;

c. Encouraging Member States to invest in modernizing their cities’ energy and water distribution and supply, as far as their capacity and funds will allow them to;

d. Sharing knowledge and expertise in urban water management;

3. Encourages more sustainable consumption habits in order to fairly distribute sustainable investment opportunities to build and strengthen urban areas by:

a. Promoting awareness for the need of producing countries to receive fair prices for their goods;

b. Raising awareness and actively promoting fair and sustainable prices in countries with a high consumption ratio;

c. Encouraging citizens and enterprises to be responsible towards the environment by recycling and minimizing waste;

4. Underlines with concern the need for international and regional cooperative work as only the sharing of expertise, human capacity and knowledge, as well as mutual support can lead to progress in the field of sustainable urban growth and is therefore firmly convinced of the efficiency of:

a. Increasing accessibility and transparency of expertise and practices concerning sustainability and urbanization by hosting regular summits of the Member States;

b. Creating a database of knowledge for all, to ensure easy access to information and research needed for sustainable urbanization;

c. Introducing student exchange programs in order to support international dynamics within the younger generation to strengthen intercultural exchange for the future;

d. Establishing transnational city-partnership programs between developing and developed states to support states still on their path to sustainable urban development;

5. Acknowledges that current demographic changes are leading to depopulation of societies and need to be countered by taking into consideration the dignity and the living standards of the elder generations by:

a. Building a society in which all generations support each other, via the creation of housing in which different generations live together;

b. Establishing a fund that aims to provide people security in their old age;

c. Making effective use of the motivation and abilities of the elderly to keep them included in societal life and decision-making, recommending to introduce regional programs addressing the matter;

6. Expresses its hope for a creation of a global program to strengthen sustainable urban and rural development all over the world similar to the Yangzhou Recommendations on Sustainable Cities and Urbanization introduced by the United Nation Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) to provide humanitarian help with the aim to improve living conditions in urban and rural areas;
7. Encourages UN Member States to uphold the goals of the Agenda 2030, reminding that a failure will compromise the credibility of the UN as a whole by reducing the share of resources to Member States that do not comply with the given goals;

8. Considers the necessity of integrating marginalized people into the urban population with the aim to reduce segregation by:
   a. Promoting cultural diversity and exchange, referring to the abovementioned cultural exchange and raising awareness for the problem;
   b. Boosting public schooling, to be able to reduce the reliance on private schooling in the future, via the establishment of guidelines for education;

9. Proclaims that urbanization also entails the development of rural areas by increasing mobility in the whole country with a focus on the connection of urban and rural areas with the aim to reduce poverty to prevent social segregation and marginalization by:
   a. Increasing the effective usage of resources through sharing knowledge of recent innovations and tactics regarding this issue to:
      i. Further economic development;
      ii. Assure a sustainable utilization of resources of any kind;
      iii. Improve the interconnectivity of rural and urban areas;
      iv. Create multimodal platforms to guarantee international connectivity;
      v. Install and enhance the public transportation system;
      vi. Foster equity by subsidizing transfers if needed;
   b. Mitigating the causes of rural-urban migration and rural depopulation through:
      i. The accommodation of basic needs of the inhabitants in less urbanized areas by providing services such as medical care, education, security, nutrition, sanitation, water supply, electricity, employment, and access to information and communication technologies;
      ii. The promotion of companies and other businesses settling in rural areas to create work opportunities, by increasing the attractiveness of those locations;
      iii. The establishment of more efficient practices in agricultural activity aiming to preserve living conditions in rural areas.