**ECF’s Stakeholder Statement - UN Habitat III European Regional Meeting - Prague**

European Cyclists' Federation at the Plenary and High-level Discussions III on “Urban Housing and Public Services” on Thursday, 17th of March 2016 in Prague.

Secretary General Bernhard Ensink on behalf of the European Cyclists' Federation, associate partner of the World Urban Campaign, representing also the global network World Cycling Alliance.

Honourable Chair, Members of the States, Members of the Civil Society and Guests,

Thank you for giving the opportunity to the European Cyclists' Federation to speak in this Plenary for the Habitat 3 conference. I am here today representing the European Cyclists' Federation and the World Cycling Alliance. ECF is an NGO based in Brussels representing cyclists associations and cycling organizations. The World Cycling Alliance is a network of more than 100 civil society organizations from all continents. Together our goal is: “More People Cycling, More Often”.

Cycling delivers! Cycling delivers on the Global Goals the UN agreed on last year. I quote what we state in our commitment we delivered to the UN in December on how cycling delivers on Sustainable Development Goal # 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”:

*“Increase cycling makes cities and human settlements more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable as cycling is affordable, safe, non-polluting, healthy, and promotes a sustainable economy. On the one hand it is largely independent from complex high-tech technology and therefore an extremely resilient mode of transport. On the other hand modern communication and e-cycling technologies integrate cycling into Intelligent Transport Systems of cities. The higher the modal share of walking, cycling and public transport the more sustainable the transport system is.”*

(Source: Cycling Delivers on the Global Goals – Shifting towards a better economy, society and planet for all. Published by ECF & WCA November 2015; [www.ecf.com/global-goals](http://www.ecf.com/global-goals) )

The evidence that cycling delivers on all the goals we discuss in the New Urban Agenda is high. The active mobility modes walking and cycling have to the basis of all urban mobility systems, integrated with public transport, including public bicycle sharing systems.

Referring now to the Draft Prague Declaration I would like to ask you to consider:

1. Referring to sections where the Draft Declaration refers to ‘services’ and ‘transport’ (4.f; 9.a; 9.k): Please consider to include here ‘infrastructure and services for safe and convenient walking and cycling’.

2. Referring to section 10.p in the Key Directions: Please consider to include here the importance of capacity building in cities for the implementation of cycling policies in the high-quality training courses, study trips, advisory services and publications.

3. Referring to section 10.q: Please consider to include here that the regular collection and analysis of data have to include data on walking and cycling to support integral policy-making processes.

ECF, WCA and their members are ready for the civic involvement the Draft Declaration refers to throughout (see e.g. section 8).

Today here in Prague we ask the Habitat 3 secretariat to consider the importance of cycling in the New Urban Agenda for the Habitat 3 conference.

I thank you for your attention!