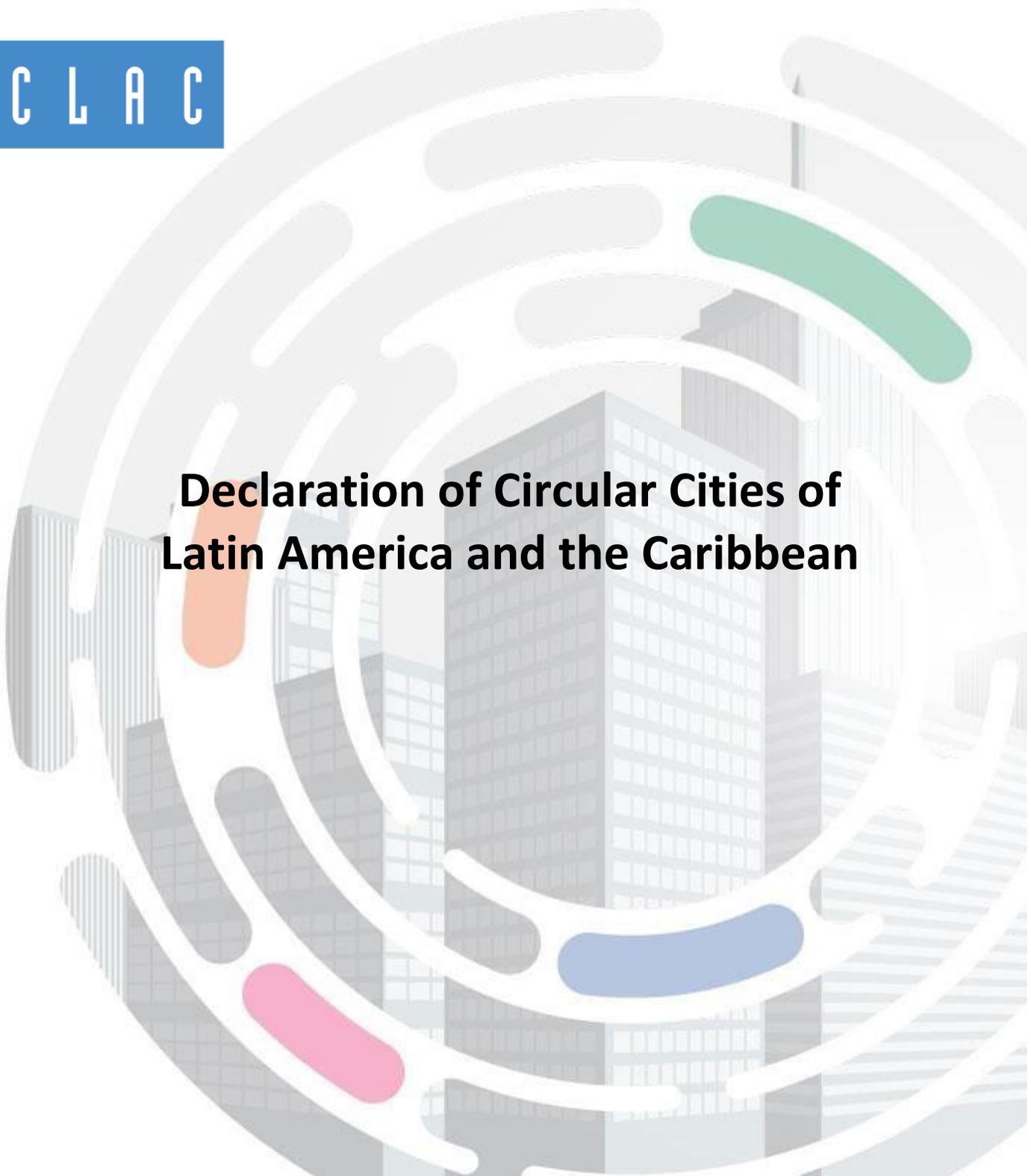




UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

# Declaration of Circular Cities of Latin America and the Caribbean



Within the framework of the 10<sup>th</sup> Italy - Latin America and the Caribbean Conference in Rome, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Italo-Latin American Institute (IILA) presented in Rome on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the:

### Declaration of Circular Cities of Latin America and the Caribbean

The mayors of the cities in the Latin American and Caribbean countries

#### State

1. That the environmental, economic, and social challenges facing the planet require a profound rethinking of the economic model to respond to this reality.
2. That cities concentrate more than two-thirds of global resource consumption and wealth generation and, therefore, represent the space in which to develop solutions to ramp up to a global scale.
3. That there is consensus on the fact that the traditional concept of the city has been insufficient in dealing with an increasingly complex urban phenomenon and promoting equitable and sustainable development.
4. That the pandemic has accelerated this awareness, further challenging the prevailing urban development model, and highlighting the need for a rethink that combines economic competitiveness, environmental sustainability, social inclusion, quality of life, health, and resilience.
5. That a new urban development model needs to promote the transition towards a circular economy scheme, based on renewable materials and energy inputs, extending the life of goods, sharing, and closing cycles.
6. That cities can play a leading role in this transition, implementing and sharing new models at the local level and taking into account impacts both inside and outside the urban perimeter.
7. That the solutions achieved should be replicable in all territories and cities of different sizes.
8. That for the transition towards a circular economy model, it is necessary to have the participation of citizens in the definition and solution of priority objectives.
9. That some of the cities in Latin America are expanding rapidly and that many institutions, governments, territories, and cities are implementing this transition to a circular economy.

#### They declare

That the municipal administrations and organizations here adhering acquire the joint commitment to promote and accelerate a transition by cities towards greater circularity, involving other stakeholders through the following actions:

1. Set up a cross-cutting working group to define the priorities and main lines of action on the circular economy, in which the main departments of the municipal administrations will participate.
2. Joint efforts on the preparation of documents, including the main guidelines on how our cities should be transformed, which will be submitted to a broad participatory exchange process, that will also allow us to define a long-term perspective for the development of the transition.
3. That each city will include the applicable stakeholders in order to develop a shared vision of how to carry out this transition to circularity.
4. That each city will implement actions to raise awareness among citizens on this issue.
5. That it will share progress on the issues in this section and these will be set forth in publications and events.

## CLAUSES

### One. Aims of the agreement

1. Establish clear and measurable circular economy guidelines and targets to provide a common direction towards a circular transition.
2. Raise awareness of circular practices throughout the administration and among citizens and local businesses.
3. Support and encourage the definition of a regulatory framework to promote the development of circular business models.
4. Accelerate the inclusion of circularity principles in urban planning, infrastructure, and asset management procedures.

### Two. Scope of the agreement

1. The Circular Cities Declaration of Latin America and the Caribbean is a voluntary **commitment** document for Latin American and Caribbean cities, open to new members, in order to contribute to the transition from a linear to a circular economy.
2. The declaration will play an important role in promoting consensus, increasing the active engagement of city managers and other stakeholders, underlining the importance of collaboration to achieve global goals, and collaboration between cities.