



Sommet  
**Vivre ensemble**  
Montréal 10 et 11 juin 2015

Montréal 

Pour diffusion immédiate

### Living Together Summit

#### **The mayors of large cities adopt the Montreal Declaration**

**Montreal, June 11, 2015** – The mayors of participating cities and metropolises attending the Living Together Summit, which took place in Montréal on June 10 and 11, 2015, unanimously signed the Montreal Declaration. This document, which is a world première for local governments, sets out the general principles and commitments of “living together” in cities. The declaration provides for the creation of the International Observatory of Mayors on Living Together and agrees that the mayors will continue discussions initiated in Montreal. By adopting this founding text, the signatory mayors reaffirmed their commitment to promote “living together” in their respective communities, assume their responsibilities and share experiences and knowledge.

“With this first Living Together Summit and the signing of the Montreal Declaration, our city has entered a new era in terms of international relations and leadership on the issue of living together. During discussions, the mayors have clearly expressed their willingness to work together to promote citizen reception and inclusion to combat discrimination,” said the Mayor of Montréal Denis Coderre.

Exchange and discussion followed the original draft declaration proposed by Mayor Coderre. After constructive discussion, the participants agreed to various amendments.

#### **Creation of a Mayors’ International Observatory on Living Together**

The mayors have agreed to establish a Mayors’ International Observatory on Living Together, to which cities will be invited to join on a voluntary basis. This observatory, a first for local governments, will work closely with universities and research centres in member cities on various issues of interest. It will also help members to document new challenges and innovative practices as well as actions from around the world involving the issue of living together. The Observatory’s central secretariat will be located in Montréal for the next five years and will be headed by Raymond Chrétien.

“With his extensive experience as an international diplomat, Mr. Chrétien handled complex issues by being at the centre of discussions that brought together stakeholders from around the world. He is the right person to head the observatory and to make sure that the discussions undertaken today lead to concrete solutions for our communities. I thank him for accepting to share his expertise for living together,” said Mayor Coderre.

## **Mayors' International Observatory on Living Together**

The mayors have also agreed to continue discussions undertaken in Montreal as well as share strategic ideas and information by decreeing the Mayors' International Living Together Summit. This summit will be held every two years in member or associate cities. The mayors agreed that the next summit will be held in 2017 in the city of Casablanca, Morocco, under the responsibility of Mayor Mohammed Sajid.

## **List of the mayors who signed the Montreal Declaration (in alphabetical order)**

MONTREAL: Mr. Denis Coderre  
Bamako (Mali): Mr. Adama Sangaré  
Beirut (Lebanon): Mr. Bilal Salim Hamad  
Brussels (Belgium): Mr. Yvan Mayeur  
Casablanca (Morocco): Mr. Mohamed Sajid  
Dakar (Senegal): Mr. Khalifa Ababacar Sall  
Douala (Cameroon): Mr. Fritz Ntonè Ntonè  
Fez (Morocco): Mr. Hamid Chabat  
Geneva (Switzerland): Mr. Sami Kanaan  
Halifax (Canada): Mr. Mike Savage  
Hiroshima (Japan): Mr. Kazumi Matsui  
Île-de-France (France): Mr. Jean-Paul Huchon  
Johannesburg (South Africa): Mr. Mpho Franklyn Parks Tau  
Lac-Mégantic (Canada): Ms. Colette Roy Laroche  
Miami (United States): Mr. Tomás Regalado  
Monterrey (Mexico): Ms. Margarita Alicia Arellanes  
Mulhouse (France): Mr. Jean Rottner  
Paris (France): Ms. Anne Hidalgo  
Québec (Canada): Mr. Régis Labeaume  
St. Petersburg (United States): Mr. Rick Kriseman  
Thies (Senegal): Mr. Talla Sylla  
Victoria (Republic of Seychelles): Ms. Jacqueline Moustache-Belle  
Washington (United States): Ms. Muriel Bowser

To consult the integral text of the Montreal Declaration, [click here](#).

To download the official photo of the Summit, [click here](#).

-30-

Source: Catherine Maurice  
Press Attaché  
Office of the Mayor and Executive Committee  
514 346-7598

Information: François Goneau  
Public Relations Officer  
Communications  
514 868-5859