

**GRASSROOTS CONSTITUENCY GROUPS, STATEMENT TO THE GOVERNING COUNCIL  
MAY 2017, Nairobi**

We, the organized grassroots communities, represented here by SDI Wiego, Huairou Commission, would like to say:

We commend the member states and UN Habitat for the efforts they have made to develop the New urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

We will continue to work towards the implementation of the New Urban Agenda by influencing inclusive partnerships with National, Regional and Local governments, in relation to housing issues and the achievement of the targets envisioned by SDG goal 11.

We commit to do the following,

1. To build organisation within poor communities that ensures they can effectively engage with their local authorities in order to address housing issues.
2. To push that women are not only included but are central to the processes of community governance and development of housing policies and housing projects.
3. To collect data in our communities that will help identify priority programs for our communities. Community driven collected Data that we avail to local and national governments, that adds on to and enriches the data they have to address issues of secure tenure and urban planning policies.

In order to do this, we wish to have the following:

1. practical and implementable partnerships with local authorities. We wish to convey that we are not just beneficiaries of development but partners that ought to be at the centre of decision making processes when it concerns our homes, our neighbourhoods and our lives.
2. We ask of our governments for the financial mechanisms that enable us to achieve the targets set by the New urban agenda and SDG especially around housing processes.
3. The recognition of structures and solutions developed by communities.

We commit to continue to create workable solutions to the challenges that face our communities.