

Press Release

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Ian Micallef on the C40 Climate Summit: "Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of New York, is showing us the way forward"

Ian Micallef, President of the Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress of the Council of Europe, today welcomed the New York C40 Large Cities Climate Summit.

"It is good that the States of the world are discussing global warming, but it is not nearly enough", he declared

"As former French President Jacques Chirac famously said 'Our house is on fire'. He was right, but it is not enough just to say so", he continued.

"The commitment of the world's major cities is vital: 80% of greenhouse gases come from cities. I am convinced that the mayors of the large cities have the political courage to take the bold measures necessary to meet the huge challenge of climate change".

"I salute Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of New York, he is showing us the way forward. The time for making reports is over, the time for political action by cities has arrived" he concluded.

Réaction de Ian Micallef au Sommet climat du C40: « Le maire de New York, Michael Bloomberg, nous montre le chemin »

Strasbourg, 16.05.2007 - Ian Micallef, Président de la Chambre des pouvoirs locaux du Congrès du Conseil de l'Europe, a salué aujourd'hui la tenue à New York du C40 , le sommet mondial des grandes métropoles consacré au réchauffement climatique.

Il a notamment déclaré : « que les Etats de la planète discutent du réchauffement, c'est bien, mais c'est dramatiquement insuffisant.

« La maison brûle » disait justement l'ancien Président français Jacques Chirac. « Il a raison, mais il ne suffit plus de le dire », a-t-il précisé.

« L'engagement des métropoles du monde est vital, 80% des émissions de gaz à effet de serre proviennent des villes et j'ai la conviction que les maires des grandes métropoles ont le courage politique de prendre les mesures audacieuses qui s'imposent pour relever l'immense défi du réchauffement de notre planète. » a poursuivi le président Micallef.

« Bravo à Michael Bloomberg, le maire de New York, il nous montre le chemin. Le temps des constats se termine, le temps de l'action politique des villes s'ouvre devant nous » a-t-il conclu.

The Congress has two chambers, the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions.

It brings together 318 full and 318 substitute members representing more than 200 000 European territorial communities.

President of the Congress Halvdan Skard (Norway, SOC),

President of the Chamber of Regions: Yavuz Mildon (EPP/CD,Turkey),

President of the Chamber of Local Authorities : Ian Micallef (Malta, EPP/CD).

Political Groups : Socialist Group (**SOC**), Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats (**EPP/CD**),

Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (**ILDG**).