

Thank you Mr. Moderator

Nous sommes encouragées par les nombreuses discussions stimulantes qui ont eu lieu non seulement ce matin, mais aussi au cours de ces derniers jours. Nous aimerions prendre un moment pour remercier les panélistes, et vous Monsieur Modérateur, pour tout le travail consacré au développement de cette Unité des politiques.

Yesterday's side event hosted by the World Health Organisation was a timely event on gaps that exist in the Policy Units with respect to the inclusion of health as part of the dialogue for Habitat III.

Similarly, Canada notes that the concept of "healthy communities" has been absent from all of the policy papers, and we view this as a missed opportunity, particularly in the designing of cities and for promoting better health outcomes for all citizens. We would recommend that this language be reflected throughout the text as we move to the first draft of the declaration.

Canada also encourages that the declaration should refer to already agreed upon language that is consistent with international human rights treaties such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). We therefore suggest that concept of "health and well-being" be used, rather than "well-being" as a standalone concept, wherever possible.

We are pleased to note that this and other policy units also include references to the impact of urban development on the health of children and youth, and that the consideration and inclusion of older persons are entrenched in the language throughout the papers. However, we note that while there are some references to the elderly, none of the existing

references include health considerations. For example, the impact of cities on older persons health and their unique health needs.

To ensure that all relevant actors can meet the needs and adapt to their respective challenges, Canada reiterates the importance of taking into consideration the various governance structures and the constitutional frameworks of Governments and the division of roles and responsibilities, particularly in the ways in which services are delivered to its citizens. Highlighting these distinctions will be important as we look to crafting the New Urban Agenda.

Thank you/Merci