15th October 2013

Declaration of Split

We, the Global Parliamentarians on Habitat, from Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Sudan, Malaysia, the Philippines, Croatia, Germany and other countries have met in the wonderful city of Split in order to celebrate the 25th anniversary of our organization as well as to discuss with professionals, planners, architects and historians the future of our cities. Our objective is to introduce the ideas and results of our discussions to the parliaments and governments in our home countries in order to put them into political practice.

1. The Global Parliamentarians on Habitat were founded more than 25 years ago in Yokohama, Japan, with the support of the United Nations agency UN-Habitat. Its Rules of Procedure were officially adopted in 1992 in Vancouver, Canada.

GOOD LAWS FOR A BETTER HABITAT
2. The primary objective of the Global Parliamentarians on Habitat is to promote the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, adopted by UN-HABITAT and its member states in 1996 in Istanbul, Turkey. The Habitat Agenda is a global plan of action setting out strategies for adequate, sustainable development in the area of shelter and human settlements.

3. We took part in the International Round Table "Urban Economics, port and historic cities" which was organized by the President of the Global Parliamentarians on Habitat for Europe, architect Jerko Rošin, together with the Dean Prof Zeljko Garača of the Faculty of Economics in Split with the involvement of the representatives of UN-Habitat and the World Urban Campain (WUC).

4. We are convinced that the global challenges and international crisis can only be handled through good international cooperation and common global approaches. The Global Parliamentarians stand for this.

5. Our essence and our exceptional strength is being the bridge between the people and
governments in our countries. We want to offer international ways and goals to introduce them into national legislations.

6. In our countries we work for “Good Laws for a Better Habitat”. Therefore we need the political will on all levels: local, national and international.

7. In Split we have decided to play an important role at the World Urban Forum 7 (WUF 7) of UN-Habitat that will take place in Medellin, Colombia, in 2014. The Global Parliamentarians on Habitat will organize a round table in order to discuss “Urban Equity in Development – Cities for Life”.

8. In 2016 the United Nations will organize the Habitat III conference, 20 years after the successful Habitat II conference in Istanbul where the Habitat Agenda was adopted. In preparation for this conference we want to work close with the World Urban Campaign (WUC).

9. This group of parliamentarians and international scientific and technical experts from 25 countries has concluded that port and maritime activity and culture heritage are essential
components for the competitiveness and quality of life of Split and its region.

10. This group recommends relevant authorities and stakeholders to make the best use of these assets and towards this goal conduct all necessary technical studies and awareness building activities.

Split, 15 October 2013

MP Peter Götz  
President of the GPH

MP Jerko Rošin  
President of the GPH Europe

Markandey Rai  
Special delegate of the Under Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Director of UN-HABITAT

Christine Auclair  
Coordinator, World Urban Campaign, UN-HABITAT, “UN-HABITAT and the New Urban Agenda”