

Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City



July 2010

For our right to the city

PRESENTATION

The Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City is the product of an initiative developed by a diverse group of organizations of the urban popular movement and negotiated with the Federal District (Mexico City) government beginning in 2007.

In October of that year, in accordance with an agreement reached with the Head of Government, Marcelo Ebrard Casaubón, a meeting was held with the heads of several city Ministries to present the strategic foundations of the Charter, along with the previous documents leading up to the Charter, and outlining the first steps for its formulation.

Within the framework of the Mexican Chapter of the World Social Forum held in Mexico City's central plaza (the "Zócalo") in late January 2008, an urban roundtable was held over the course of three days on the Right to the City, marking the initiation of public debate on the theme.

In April 2008, a Promotion Committee was established to oversee the debate and negotiation process of the Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City. The Committee was initially integrated by the Urban Popular Movement of the National Democratic Congress (MUP-CND), the Mexico City Ministry of Government, the Latin American office of Habitat International Coalition (HIC-AL), and the Federal District Human Rights Commission (CDHDF), later joined by the Coordinator of Civil Organizations on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Espacio DESC) and the Federal District Social Attorney's Office (PROSOC).

One of the first tasks of the Promotion Committee was to convoke a public act held in the former Corpus Christi Temple in July 2008. The purpose of this event was to open the process of formulation and consultation of the contents to be included in the Charter. The First Forum toward the Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City, held on 1 December of that year, brought together civil and social organization delegates, academics, public functionaries, and other actors interested in and committed to urban issues. The participants formulated contributions toward each of the six strategic foundations around which the contents of the Charter are organized.

A few months later, on the occasion of International Human Rights Day, the Promotion Committee installed a tent within the Human Rights Fair held in the Mexico City Zócalo. Various activities directed toward children, adolescents and adults were offered in the Right to the City tent.

The material gathered through these activities and contributions developed by Promotion Committee members were then used to begin the process of Charter integration. The *World Charter for the Right to the City* and the results and proposals from the First World Assembly of Urban Inhabitants held in Mexico City in the year 2000 served as basic references for this task.

A second public act was held in February 2009 in the Mexico City Theater to publicize and disseminate the Charter process and to invite different sectors to participate in its formulation. A member of the Promotion Committee outlined the situation of the city and the purposes and orientations of the Charter, as well as the importance that this instrument contribute to other anticipated processes such as local political reform and the formulation of the Federal District Constitution, among others. For his part, the Head of Government, Marcelo Ebrard, emphasized the strategic value of this process, so that "the city we dream can become reality."

Close to 3,000 people participated in at least one of these three events. In reference to the substantive work underway on the specific drafting of the Charter beginning in June 2008, the Promotion Committee held more than 30 meetings for the coordination, discussion, systematization and drafting of the contents and to continually monitor and evaluate the Charter process.

In that framework, the Promotion Committee elaborated the booklet, *Por nuestro derecho a la ciudad* (“For our right to the city”), integrating relevant texts for dissemination and analysis of the theme. The contents and discussions on the Right to the City and the process toward its recognition and implementation in Mexico City are further and more broadly disseminated through a blog, a pamphlet, and a video prepared for this purpose.

Members of the Promotion Committee participated in conferences, courses, workshops, and radio programs to disseminate information on the Right to the City theme and to provoke reflection and gather critiques of and contributions to the Charter. One of the results of these activities was the organization of a children’s painting contest on “*the city we want*” held in the Mexico City Delegation of Azcapotzalco by one of the social organizations participating in the promotion of the Charter.

On 28 September 2009, the Draft Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City was submitted to the Head of Government. A pamphlet was disseminated at the same time to further expand awareness and discussion of the Charter as part of a new period of contributions to the text.

In December 2009, on the occasion of the eighth Mexico City Human Rights Fair, a tent was again installed in the Mexico City Zócalo to collect new contributions and suggestions from Fair participants.

The formulation of the Charter contents included processes to systematize contributions gathered from diverse actors, alongside the examination and consultation of important reference documents, which include, among others, the following local texts: the Mexico City *Diagnosis* (2008) and *Human Rights Program* (2009); the *Educational and Knowledge City Program* (2008); contributions from the Mexico City Citizen’s Council for Sustainable Urban Development; and the consultation on *The police we want* (2008). International texts consulted include several related to the Right to the City theme, including: the *World Charter for the Right to the City* and multiple texts from the discussions that developed over the course of the process toward the World Charter; instruments on human rights in the city from different countries, and relevant declarations and conceptual documents from various authors.

In March 2010, during the Fifth World Urban Forum organized by UN-Habitat and the Ministry of Cities of Brazil, the Draft Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City was presented. The purpose of this event was to discuss its collective construction process as well as its basic foundations and conceptual concepts.

The Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City is fruit of this broad process, and its formal signature into power opens a new phase oriented to guarantee the legal recognition and implementation of this new human right.

We are grateful for the participation of all the persons and organizations who contributed to this citizen initiative and for the support given by the Mexico City government for its concrete

realization. We are confident that this Charter will serve as a transcendental step in the consolidation of the city we dream and the city we want to build.

Promotion Committee of the Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City
July 2010

MEXICO CITY CHARTER FOR THE RIGHT TO THE CITY

PREAMBLE

The high potential for human development that characterizes life in cities—as spaces of gathering, exchange and complementation, of enormous economic, environmental and political diversity, of important concentration of production, service, distribution and formation activities—today faces multiple and complex processes posing enormous challenges and problems for social coexistence.

Cities are far from offering equitable conditions and opportunities for their inhabitants. The majority of the urban population is deprived or limited—by virtue of its economic, social, cultural, ethnic, gender, or age characteristics—in the satisfaction of its most elemental needs and rights.

To confront these challenges, a group of international networks, social and nongovernmental organizations, and academic and professional groups has been debating and promoting at the world scale the recognition and adoption of the Right to the City as a new collective human right.

These actors have debated and assumed the challenge to construct a sustainable model of urban society and life based on the principles of solidarity, freedom, equity, dignity, and social justice, and founded on respect for different urban cultures and balance between the urban and the rural.

Parallel to these civil society initiatives, some governments, at the regional as well as local and national levels, have been generating legal instruments to provide a normative framework for human rights in the urban context. The following examples of such instruments stand out among the most advanced at the international level: the European Charter to Safeguard Human Rights in the City (2000) signed to date by more than 400 cities; the City Statute of Brazil (2001); and at the local scale, the Charter of Rights and Responsibilities of Montreal (2006).

In Mexico City, social organizations linked to the urban popular movement, civil organizations working in the human rights and habitat field, the Federal District Human Rights Commission, and the Federal District Government all have been following these processes, which helped inspire them to join efforts to promote the formulation and signature of the Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City.

This Charter is oriented to address the causes and manifestations of exclusion: economic, social, territorial, cultural, political, and psychological. It is posed as a social response, counter to the city-as-merchandise, and as expression of the collective interest.

The Charter is a complex approach that requires an articulation of human rights in their integral conception (civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights) with democracy in

its diverse dimensions (representative, distributive, and participative). The construction of democracy, in its most profound sense, encompasses strategies to effectively overcome poverty, inequality, exclusion, and injustice. There can be no city or democracy without citizens, and there can be no citizens without full exercise of their rights, both individual and collective.

The formulation of this Charter pursues the following objectives:

- To contribute to the construction of an inclusive, livable, just, democratic, sustainable and enjoyable city.
- To contribute to advance processes of social organization, strengthening of the social fabric, and construction of active and responsible citizenship.
- To contribute to the construction of an equitable, inclusive, and solidary urban economy that guarantees the productive insertion and economic reinforcement of the popular sectors.

The Right to the City, in accordance with these objectives, can contribute to the social, economic, democratic, and political strengthening of the population, as well as to sustainable territorial organization and management.

The Right to the City also implies the construction of a dynamic and critical balance between organized civil society and state institutions, through the strengthening of the organizational, productive, and development capacities of social and civil organizations, and the democratic opening of spaces of negotiation, planning, control, and action that promote and support their co-responsible participation at the highest possible level.

Mexico City is a space of vast economic, environmental, political and social wealth and diversity. Since the establishment of democratic governments in the city since 1997, Mexico City has witnessed a process of progressive mitigation of poverty and exclusion levels, and significant awareness has been raised on the importance of the environment to guarantee the city's long-term sustainability.

In the first years of the new millennium, public policies in Mexico City explicitly opened toward contributions and proposals deriving from citizen initiatives and social struggles, to which the reinforcement of participative processes and of the democratic local government itself are largely indebted. These achievements mark the direction of the path to be continued by the city in the future.

Mexico City today is a fertile space in which popular movements, civil organizations, academic institutions, professional associations, and national and international forums and networks present and develop their initiatives for the construction of a just, democratic, humane and sustainable city.

With the intention to respond to the needs of those who live in and travel through the Federal District, the Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City represents an instrument directed toward reinforcement of social demands and struggles. It aspires to constitute an initiative capable of articulating the efforts of all the actors—public, social, and private—interested in granting validity and effectiveness to this new human right.

The Charter for the Right to the City conceives this right in a broad sense: it is not limited to defending human rights within one territory, but rather implies obligations assumed by authorities and responsibilities held by the population in the management, production, and development of the city.

The Charter recognizes and promotes the right of all persons and civil society organizations to participate—actively and at the highest possible level—in the determination of public policies, with the purpose to achieve the effective realization of the obligations of the three branches of local government to respect, protect, and guarantee all of the human rights recognized today, and to promote, recognize and regulate any rights that may emerge in the future in response to the development itself of life—in the urban context and in the city’s surroundings.

Human rights are inherent to human nature; without their enjoyment, it is not possible to live with the dignity that corresponds equally to each person and community. Human rights are therefore fundamental and necessary to assure both individual existence and collective wellbeing.

Human rights, in virtue of their universality, correspond to all persons, and this characteristic is also shared by the Right to the City. The present Charter is therefore directed to make it possible for the city to pertain to all the persons who live in it, while also recognizing the rights pertinent to those who travel through or visit the city, be it for recreational, family, or employment purposes. To achieve these goals, the Charter prioritizes actions and commitments oriented to overcome situations of marginality, exclusion, and discrimination that impede realization of said objectives.

As a construction of the culturally diverse community that produces and lives it as a space pertaining to all of its inhabitants, the city is recognized in the Charter as object of a collective human right. This characteristic distinguishes the Charter from prior city-level human rights instruments, which were limited to promote the exercise and individualized satisfaction of human rights.

The formulation of the Charter took into account recent evolution toward recognition of collective and diffuse human rights (pertaining to an indeterminate group of persons), such as those recognized to correspond to indigenous peoples, in which the equality of the right of collectivities is found to be necessary for the exercise of individual freedoms and rights. From there emerges the vision posed in the present Charter, in its conception of the city as a complex system and of the Right to the City as a collective right. Also the need to surpass the sector-based and disarticulated vision and approach to problems in the city, in order to address situations that equally affect all the city’s inhabitants and visitors, such as pollution, environmental deterioration, violence, traffic flow, and urban segregation.

This is the sense of the strategic foundations around which the aspirations of those who live Mexico City are organized: the social function of the city and of property; participative management and democratic production of the city; sustainable and responsible management of its commons and resources, and the enjoyment itself of the city, none of these limited to one sole sector, discipline, or specialty.

Within this perspective, the Right to the City does not solely pursue the construction of conditions so that all persons, women and men, have access to the resources, services and opportunities that exist in the city, without discrimination, exclusion or segregation of any kind, but rather also profiles *the city we want* and *the city we want to build* for the future generations. The Charter

thereby gathers the aspirations of those who think the city and who struggle each day to improve and transform it. As a consequence, the Charter also constitutes a guide for action.

Elaboration of the Charter for the Right to the City was a process nourished by the proposals and initiatives of diverse actors who influence the course of Mexico City. Its development and immediate implementation place the inhabitants of the Federal District at the vanguard in the promotion of existing human rights and in the recognition of new emerging rights, with the articulated participation of organized civil society, autonomous bodies, and governmental entities.

The Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City aims to place emphasis on citizen aspirations and needs in the context of a world in constant change and movement, and establishes the commitments of the diverse actors to address them. To foster its adherence, the Charter is founded on the viability of its proposals, on the consensus carefully pursued around its contents, and on the possibility to demand its progressive realization.

CHAPTER ONE **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. Definition and characterization of the Right to the City

1.1 Definition of the Right to the City

The Right to the City is the equitable usufruct of cities within the principles of sustainability, democracy, equity, and social justice. It is a collective right of the inhabitants of cities, conferring to them legitimacy of action and organization, based on respect for their differences, expressions, and cultural practices, with the objective to achieve full exercise of the Right to Free Determination and to an adequate level of life. The Right to the City is interdependent of all the integrally-conceived, internationally recognized human rights, and therefore includes all the civil, political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights regulated in the international human rights treaties.

1.2 Subjects of rights and obligations of local governmental bodies

Rights subjects: the persons who live and travel in the Federal District, with no discrimination. Entitlement is exercised either individually or collectively.

Obligated subjects: authorities and public servants of the Federal District.

Co-responsible actors in the promotion and effective realization of the rights and guidelines for their implementation contained in Chapter Two of this Charter: social organizations, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, and inhabitants.

1.3 Territorial sphere: Political Delegations of the Federal District in its urban and rural areas

Mexico City is constituted by 16 Delegations, which represent a diversity of political, social, and cultural expressions. Diverse forms of urban and rural life coexist among these Delegations and are expressed in multiple participation forms.

The urban and rural territory of Mexico City constitutes the space and location of exercise and fulfillment of individual and collective rights as a form of assuring the equitable, universal, just, democratic, and sustainable distribution and enjoyment of the resources, wealth, services, goods, and opportunities provided by the city.

The political Delegations play a fundamental role in the economic, political, social, and cultural development of Mexico City. In this sense, they are fundamental actors for the full exercise of the Right to the City.

The City Government and the governments of the political Delegations of the Federal District, in coordination with civil society, are responsible for steering the development of Mexico City to new horizons of equity and wellbeing.

Said development should be inspired in a political project that guarantees the construction of a more egalitarian and equitable society while maintaining a sustainable rhythm of economic growth, in which each of the members of the community has the opportunity to achieve a dignified life.

Based on this objective, Mexico City is on the path toward implementation of a political reform that guarantees the rights of its citizens and reinforces the Delegations as autonomous entities co-responsible for guaranteeing the development and fulfillment of rights in the city.

Advancement of political reform and modification of the legal status of Mexico City are indispensable strategies, both to defend the political rights of the city's inhabitants and to endow sufficient faculties to the Government and the Delegations to address citizen needs. Through the political reform and the search for equitable fiscal distribution, the Delegations' social, economic and financial planning capacities will increase.

The capacities of metropolitan coordination to better address citizen needs, promote long term sustainable development, and guarantee the exercise of rights in the city, will also increase.

1.4 International legal reference framework

While the Right to the City is not explicitly mentioned in the current human rights instruments, these instruments are considered the legal framework of reference and support of the Right to the City. It should be noted that all of the international human rights instruments signed and ratified by Mexico form part of the Supreme Law of the Union, in accordance with article 133 of the Mexican Constitution. Following are the most significant international instruments in this regard:

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man

- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and all of the General Comments of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
- American Convention on Human Rights (the Pact of San José)
- Additional Protocol to the American Convention on Human Rights in the area of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (San Salvador Protocol)
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- Convention on the Rights of the Child, and its facultative protocols on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
- International Convention on Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and their Families
- International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Belém do Pará Convention).

Finally, the reports and recommendations issued to Mexico by the UN Special Rapporteurs and human rights committees and by the Inter-American System bodies are also worthy of special mention.

1.5 Inherent characteristics of human rights that apply to the Right to the City

The following general characteristics applying to all human rights also apply to the Right to the City:

- Universality: corresponding to all persons.
- Indivisibility: may not be fractioned or divided.
- Integrality: each right is important, and therefore no hierarchy of rights may be posed.
- Interdependency: all rights are closely linked; the satisfaction of one depends on the compliance granted to the others.
- Inalienability: no right may not be lost or exchanged.
- Progressivity (non-regression) in their satisfaction, applicable to economic, social and cultural rights: refers to the continuous efforts needed to guarantee a dignified life for all persons.

1.6 Guiding principles of the Right to the City

All persons have the Right to the City, in conformity with the following guiding principles of human rights:

- Free determination or self-determination. This principle alludes to the right of all peoples to freely establish their political condition and their social, economic, and cultural development. It is consecrated in the first article of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights because its realization is an essential condition for the effective guarantee and the observance or fulfillment of human rights and for the promotion and strengthening of said rights.
- Non-discrimination. This basic principle establishes full enjoyment of all rights by all persons, regardless of ethnic or social origin, nationality or place of origin, color or any other genetic characteristic, sex, language, religion, social or economic condition, age, disability, health condition, physical appearance, sexual orientation or preference, gender identity, marital status, occupation or activity, or any other motive.
- Equality. This basic principle establishes that all persons have the same human rights, inherent to their dignity. It is a criterion of justice, not likeness; it implies respect for diversity and plurality, based on the same opportunities and treatment.
- Gender equity. Refers to the principle according to which women and men have access with justice and equality to the use, control and benefit of the goods, commons, services, resources and opportunities of society, as well as to decision-making in all spheres of social, economic, political, cultural and family life.
- Social equity. Implies the elimination of all forms of inequality, exclusion, or social subordination based on gender roles, age, economic situation, physical characteristics, ethnic identity, sexual preference, national origin, religious practice, or any other motive.
- Priority attention to persons and collectives in situations of discrimination. Corresponds to the principle of distributive justice, for which it evokes equitable distribution with no discrimination of the goods, resources, services and opportunities on the part of the authority to groups in conditions of poverty, exclusion and social inequality.
- Solidarity and cooperation among peoples. Describes an active and positive form of relation among persons and collectives, while at the same time constituting a principle of coexistence that facilitates the sharing of tools, experiences, capacities, and material means.
- Participation. The participation conceived as citizen participation is closely related with participative and direct democracy. It contemplates and proposes mechanisms to assure the population's access to decisions and to the formulation and monitoring of public policies in an autonomous and independent manner, with no obligation to form part of the government or a political party.
- Transparency and accountability. Refers to the obligation of public institutions, companies, groups, and social and civil organizations that receive public resources to provide real, practical, and public-interest information, corresponding to the right to access to

information. Accountability constitutes the duty of public actors to subject themselves to the scrutiny of the population.

- Co-responsibility. This principle implies promotion of a democratic and participative conception that guarantees forms of agreement among the multiple actors involved in urban issues. It is expressed through concerted government-citizen work in a way such that strategies emerge from practices determined through consensus processes and assumed by the parties involved.
- Distributive justice. The obligation of the authority to equitably apply social programs, prioritizing the needs of groups in conditions of poverty, exclusion, and social inequality.

CHAPTER TWO

STRATEGIC FOUNDATIONS AND CONTENTS OF THE RIGHT TO THE CITY

2. Strategic foundations of the Right to the City

The application of the guiding principles and of the strategic foundations of the Mexico City Charter implies that the rights emphasize their indivisible and interdependent character.

Full exercise of human rights in the city

For a city of human rights

This is the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms with no discrimination of any kind, assuring collective dignity and wellbeing, in conditions of equality, equity, and justice. All persons have the right to find in the city the conditions necessary for the exercise of their political, economic, social, cultural, and environmental rights, assuming the duty of solidarity.

The objective is to generate conditions for the development of a dignified and quality life for all persons in the city, at both the individual and collective scales.

Social function of the city, of land, and of property

For a city for all: inclusive, solidary, equitable

Refers primarily to the distribution and regulation of the use of territory and the equitable usufruct of the commons, services and opportunities offered by the city, prioritizing the collectively-define public interest.

Its objective consists of guaranteeing the right of all persons to a safe place in which to live in peace and with dignity through the generation of instruments to reduce and participative spaces to control speculation, urban segregation, exclusion, and forced evictions and displacements.

Democratic management of the city

For a politically participative and socially co-responsible city

Implies citizen participation in all spaces and at the highest possible levels (decision-making, control, co-management) in the formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of public policies, planning, budgeting, and control of urban processes.

Its objectives are to strengthen democracy through the creation of direct democratic decision and management spaces and mechanisms, and to develop participative programs for the planning, monitoring and evaluation of urban public management.

Democratic production of the city and in the city

For a socially productive city

Seeks to recover and strengthen the productive capacity of the city's inhabitants, in particular that of the popular sectors, fomenting social production of habitat and the development of solidary economic activities capable of consolidating a productive habitat.

Its objectives are to give practicality to the right of all persons to participate in habitat production and to guarantee the productive insertion of all people, especially young women and men, in the urban economy.

Sustainable and responsible management of the natural commons, energy resources, and public heritage of the city and its surroundings

For a viable and environmentally sustainable city

Pursues socially responsible use of commons and resources and enjoyment on the part of all persons, communities and peoples of a healthy environment that allows them to develop in equality of conditions.

Its objective is to guarantee better environmental conditions and assure that urban development is not carried out at the cost of the rural areas, ecological reserves, other cities, or future generations.

Democratic and equitable enjoyment of the city

For an open, free, critical and fun city

Seeks to strengthen social coexistence and the recovery, expansion and improvement of public spaces.

Its objective is to recover and strengthen the cultural and recreational function of public space and respect for and reinforcement of cultural diversity in the city.

3. Rights and guidelines for its implementation

While the Mexico City Charter for the Right to the City emphasizes the integrality and interdependence of human rights, it highlights some rights that contribute more directly to construct an inclusive, democratic, sustainable, productive, educational and livable (safe, healthy, amicable and culturally diverse) city.

The Charter highlights some internationally-recognized human rights and other emerging rights relevant for the specific exercise of the Right to the City.

The city profiled by the struggles, dreams, experiences and reflections of the inhabitants of Mexico City is structured around two guiding focuses:

- The full exercise of human rights and the fulfillment of the obligations derived from the same (first column of the matrix);
- The democratization of all the processes that conform and seek to implement in a co-responsible manner (government-society) the collective right to the city (first row of the matrix).

These two guiding focuses frame the matrix that integrates the guidelines for implementation of the obligations of both the public entities and co-responsible social action. They are organized based on the aspirations that profile the city we want (matrix rows): democratic city, inclusive city, sustainable city, etc. Each of these, crossed with the strategic foundations of the Charter (matrix columns), generates a series of guidelines and recommendations for action.

The intersection of any of the aspirations with the first strategic foundation (full exercise of human rights) thereby translates the diverse themes that define *the city we want* into rights—be they already-recognized or emerging rights. The intersections with the remaining foundations express the obligations and responsibilities that should be translated into policies, instruments (legal, financial, administrative, fiscal, and promotion), and specific programs and activities, and imply the interaction between society and public powers.

Some intersections are strategic, while others refer to indispensable or complementary support elements. But all are necessary in order to integrally advance the Right to the City.

Each intersection, despite its close relation with other themes found along the row or column that define it, has specific characterizing nuances. This helps systematize the complex interrelations that characterize the Right to the City.





The matrix graphically expresses these concepts and the order in which the guidelines for implementation of the rights and obligations that endow them with operative content are presented in the Charter.

The Charter thereby emphasizes the intrinsic overlaps in city planning, production and management, thus avoiding the sector-by-sector division of attention to problems that impedes visualization of the city in its complex integrality.

To avoid repetitions and to compact the text, in accordance with the criteria of the Federal District Human Rights Program, “population subject to discrimination” is understood as those persons or groups who suffer marginalization, segregation or exclusion due to motives related to their origin,

gender, culture, age, physical condition, religion, political preference, sexual orientation, or economic or other conditions.

This group includes an important segment of the city’s girls, boys, youth, women, and elderly persons; indigenous, migrant, homeless, and incarcerated persons; the disabled; and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, transvestite, and intersex communities, among others.

THE RIGHT TO THE CITY							
A COLLECTIVE AND COMPLEX RIGHT							
The city we want (World Assembly of Urban Inhabitants)		Strategic foundations of the Right to the City					
		Full exercise of human rights	Social function of the city and of property	Democratic management of the city	Democratic production of the city and in the city	Sustainable and responsible management of commons and resources	Democratic and equitable enjoyment of the city
3.1 Democratic city		3.1.1	3.1.2	3.1.3	3.1.4	3.1.5	3.1.6
3.2 Inclusive city		3.2.1	3.2.2	3.2.3	3.2.4	3.2.5	3.2.6
3.3 Sustainable city		3.3.1	3.3.2	3.3.3	3.3.4	3.3.5	3.3.6
3.4 Productive city		3.4.1	3.4.2	3.4.3	3.4.4	3.4.5	3.4.6
3.5 Educational city		3.5.1	3.5.2	3.5.3	3.5.4	3.5.5	3.5.6
Livable city	3.6 Safe (from disasters)	3.6.1	3.6.2	3.6.3	3.6.4	3.6.5	3.6.6
	3.7 Secure (from violence)	3.7.1	3.7.2	3.7.3	3.7.4	3.7.5	3.7.6
	3.8 Healthy	3.8.1	3.8.2	3.8.3	3.8.4	3.8.5	3.8.6
	3.9 Convivial and culturally diverse	3.9.1	3.9.2	3.9.3	3.9.4	3.9.5	3.9.6
 Strategic	City of rights	City for all	Politically participative city	Socially productive city	Viable and healthy city	Open, free and fun city	Anticipated goals
 Indispensable support							
 Complementary support							

3.1 Democratic city

3.1.1 To consolidate a democratic city, all persons have the following rights:

- Right to free determination
- Right to freedom of opinion and expression
- Right to freedom of peaceful gathering and association.
- Right to manifestation.

- Right to the freedom of choice and non-discrimination in relation to education, culture, place of residence, and others.
- Right to access to justice, in relation to both individual and collective rights.
- Right to participate in decision making on public issues, including populations subject to discrimination.
- Right to access, research, and dissemination of public information.

3.1.2 To democratize the social function of the city and property, it is necessary to:

- Strengthen the social participation of all persons in the design, monitoring, and evaluation of urban policy.
- Generate social policy for credit or co-financing, savings, and subsidies for access to land and housing.
- Generate social accountability mechanisms that guarantee democratic access to urban land and property and the adequate management of land registration and property records.
- Enact adequate legislation and establish necessary mechanisms and sanctions to guarantee full social and non-profit use of urban land and un-built, unused, underused, or unoccupied public and private properties.
- Establish new forms (laws or programs) of land tenure legalization that are not limited to individual private property, that respect other modalities such as leasing or collective, community, or family property, as well as surface, use, or possession rights, and that grant equality of conditions for their exercise.

3.1.3 To guarantee democratic management in the city, it is necessary to:

- Generate a policy of citizen participation and open pathways and institutionalized spaces for broad, direct, equitable, and democratic citizen participation at the highest possible levels in public policy and budget planning, elaboration, approval, management, and evaluation processes.
- Open consultation and participation spaces to groups subject to discrimination.
- Guarantee the operation of collegiate bodies and public hearings, conferences, consultations, and debates, and allow and recognize popular processes and initiatives in the formulation and submission of legislative proposals and development plans.
- Generate legal and administrative instruments and mechanisms that foster better election and control of our representatives, such as the revocation of powers and accountability.
- Guarantee information in simple language and public consultation mechanisms related to:
 - The monitoring and evaluation of plans and programs.
 - Macro-projects with potential impacts on the quality of life and the permanence of the population in the places in which they live.
 - Availability of exemptions, incentives, and financial resources for civil society organization initiatives.
 - Public issues related to the city's social, academic, cultural and political life.
 - Access to information technologies.

3.1.4 To democratize habitat production in the city, it is necessary to:

- Provide a legal framework for and guarantee the construction of a specific and coherent system of support instruments for social production of habitat: legal, financial,

administrative, programmatic, fiscal, and promotion (formative, socio-organizational, and technological) instruments.

- Establish institutional mechanisms and develop the necessary instruments to support the diverse modalities of social production of habitat and housing, with special attention to the self-managed processes, including those at the individual and family levels and the collective and organized community scales.
- Facilitate access to information for all persons and organized groups regarding the availability and location of adequate land, housing programs developed in the city, and existing support instruments.
- Promote effective participation of all persons in the configuration of their habitat.

3.1.5 To democratize the sustainable and responsible management of natural commons, energy resources, and public heritage in the city, it is necessary to:

- Develop participative urban-environmental planning, regulation, and management that guarantee the protection of natural, historic, architectural, cultural and artistic heritage.
- Develop neighborhood improvement programs based on participative projects in environmental protection and risk prevention and mitigation.
- Create entities for the co-responsible management of ecological reserve and protection areas and enforce legislation for the protection of conservation lands and protected natural areas in Mexico City.

3.1.6 To guarantee democratic and equitable enjoyment in the city, it is necessary to:

- Generate instruments and programs that support the recovery of public space in its functional (encounter and inter-connection), social (community cohesion), cultural (symbolic, patrimonial, diversion, and coexistence) and political (political expression, meetings, association and manifestation) aspects.
- Develop instruments and programs that foment: the construction and operation of non-commercial public cultural facilities; autonomous cultural initiatives, in particular by young creators; sports facilities; public cultural manifestations, among others.

3.2 Inclusive city

3.2.1 To achieve the construction of an inclusive city, all the inhabitants of Mexico City must be able to enjoy all their human rights, including, among others:

- The right to life.
- The right to equality before the law.
- The right to non-discrimination.
- The right to difference.
- The right to freedom of conscience.
- The right to freely profess one's religion.
- The right to freedom to reside within city territory.
- The right to land and to a safe place in which to live.
- The right to access to basic public services (water, sanitation, and energy).
- The right to housing.
- The right to freedom of transit.

- The right to public transportation and to urban mobility.

3.2.2 To guarantee the inclusive social function of the city and property, it is necessary to:

- Democratize the use of the city (egalitarian access by all women and men to land, natural commons, and urban goods, services and facilities), combating economic, social, spatial, and ethnic segregation.
- Implement policies to recover idle properties (lands and buildings) to carry out popular habitat and social production of habitat projects.
 - Integrate land and property reserves or stocks adequate for the housing needs of the popular sectors and incorporating social participation and control mechanisms to facilitate their access to the same.
 - Accept the payment of debts incurred by individuals to the Mexico City government through the donation of properties, in order to designate them to popular housing programs, facilities, and public spaces.
 - Apply taxation policies, such as the payment of progressive taxes, that serve as disincentives for land speculation and the possession of unoccupied properties.
- Inhibit real estate speculation and adopt urban norms for a just distribution of the burdens and benefits generated by the urbanization process, through the harnessing of extraordinary profits (property appreciation) generated by public investment and their channeling to the benefit of social programs that guarantee the right to land and housing and stimulate social production of habitat.
- Define and designate social interest zoning areas within the city for priority construction of housing for low-income families and persons and/or those subject to discrimination, as part of territorial organization plans.
- Promote a regulatory framework governing public services that guarantees controlled tariffs differentiated according to consumption levels, without affecting the quantity and quality of supply for the lower-income sectors.
- Prioritize the development of laws and instruments that consider the specific situation of women in cases of separation or abandonment to guarantee their security of tenure.

3.2.3 To guarantee democratic and inclusive management in the city, it is necessary to:

- Respect and foment the development of diverse identities through participative and democratic processes from the communities, with no discrimination of any kind.
- Recognize the citizenship of street populations to guarantee that they be recognized subjects of rights and interlocutors on the issues that affect them.
- Incorporate direct participation mechanisms within public policies that guarantee the democratization of planning and of the use of the territory.
- Improve administrative efficiency for access to public programs and services.
- Guarantee women's participation in deliberation and decision-making spaces.

3.2.4 To guarantee democratic and inclusive production in the city, it is necessary to:

- Foment jobs creation for male and female youth, women, the elderly, people with disabilities, indigenous persons, street populations, and others who need to incorporate themselves into professional and labor life.
- Build accesses, appropriate facilities, and other measures to facilitate the work of persons with disabilities and the elderly.

- Foment equality of access to work for mothers, fathers, and guardians of minor children, through the creation of childcare services with extended hours, community cafeterias, and other services.
- Recognize the role filled by the popular economy in the struggle against social exclusion by granting it legal and fiscal status that recognizes the legitimate interests of those who practice it and avoids their exploitation by third parties.
- Improve the labor conditions of female and male independent, agricultural, and wage workers, guaranteeing the right to social security.
- Apply criteria of equity and justice in the design and implementation of the norms that regulate the production and commerce carried out by indigenous groups in the city.

3.2.5 To guarantee social inclusion in the sustainable and responsible management of natural commons, energy resources, and public heritage in the city and its surroundings, it is necessary to:

- Generate spaces of citizen control over the public management of environmental commons, energy resources, and public heritage, with the purpose to guarantee their accessibility and enjoyment by all those who inhabit or visit the city.
- Promote regulatory improvements that facilitate regularization of tenure in popular settlements provided they do not occupy risk-prone or ecological protection areas.

3.2.6 To guarantee inclusive, democratic and equitable enjoyment in the city, it is necessary to:

- Stimulate economic affordability and physical accessibility to cultural, artistic, and sports centers, promoting the equitable and nondiscriminatory use of said services and installations.
- Promote balance and harmony between identity and diversity.

3.3 Sustainable city

3.3.1 To build a sustainable city, it is necessary to guarantee that all persons may enjoy the following rights:

- The right to live in a healthy environment.
- The right to protection, preservation, and improvement of the environment.
- The right to access to and use of urban and rural territory within environmentally and economically sustainable conditions.

3.3.2 To guarantee the long-term sustainability of the social function of the city and of property, it is necessary to:

- Formulate and implement policies to promote the socially just and environmentally balanced use of space and land.
- Harmonize the regulatory framework and its application, as well as environmental, territorial organization, urban development, housing, and water policies to address social needs without increasing pressure on natural resources.

3.3.3 So that the democratic management of the city contribute to its sustainability, it is necessary to:

- Exercise on the part of the responsible public entities the effective guardianship of conservation and natural protected areas.
- Promote the rational, environmental, and socially responsible management and use of the natural commons, energy resources, and public heritage of the city and its surroundings.
- Formulate strategies, public policies, and other participative actions in favor of the protection, preservation, and improvement of the environment, aiming to assure the preservation of natural balance, the stability of the ecosystem, and rational use of natural resources.
- Promote and respect social participation and guarantee access to information and justice in environmental matters.
- Enforce environmental protection in business activities and in trade practices.
- Permanently oversee the application of these action guidelines through independent citizen audit processes in each Delegation.
- Determine the areas of restricted growth for the territory of the Federal District through processes that include citizen participation and control.

3.3.4 To guarantee the long-term sustainability of democratic production in the city, it is necessary to:

- Develop programs and foment social practices of production, distribution and consumption that contribute to strengthen the country's food sovereignty.
- Preserve the rural and productive areas, strengthening the productive and economic capacity of communities and inhibiting speculation oriented to change zoning laws. In particular, preserve and improve the *chinampera* region in the Xochimilco and Tláhuac Delegations.
- Generate the necessary political and economic conditions to guarantee the continuity of support programs for the popular and solidary economy and of systems that assure a progressive and just distribution of resources and funds for the implementation of social policies.
- Foment and support through credits and fiscal incentives the training and operation of cooperative associations and other social enterprises that promote environmental improvement and the popular and solidary economy.

3.3.5 To guarantee for today and for future generations the sustainable and responsible long-term management of natural commons, energy resources, and public heritage in the city, it is necessary to:

- Guarantee the observance of and compliance with environmental policy instruments.
- Establish urban regulations and mechanisms that foment and foster the effective implementation of:
 - Use of technologies with low environmental impact.
 - Use of alternative energies.
 - Responsible management and recycling of wastes (circular metabolism).
 - Protection and rational use of forested areas.
 - Protection and rational use of aquifers.
 - Rainwater collection and its filtration to the subsoil.
 - Preservation of water tables.
 - Significant expansion of serviced water treatment and recycling.

- Promote the rational and responsible use of energy resources through:
 - Efficient use of energy in large facilities such as hospitals, schools, offices, etc. (compile an updated database of energy consumptions per facility to determine energy savings).
 - Use of energy-saving technologies in public buildings and in homes.
 - Bioclimatic design of new constructions.
- Preserve protected natural areas, ecological reserves, conservation lands, and water table recharge areas.
- Establish stricter norms that mandate the measurement of, and avoid and if applicable penalize, the negative impacts of urban megaprojects (malls, roadways, mass transit routes and stations, large housing and mixed-use complexes) prior to their implementation, in environmental, economic and social aspects, incorporating academic and civil society contributions.
- Foment balanced decentralization of the economic, political, and educational activities of the city to radically decrease urban transit demands.
- Expand those public transportation networks which are most high-capacity, efficient, nonpolluting, safe, comfortable, accessible, and affordable, and advance toward multi- and inter-modality transportation.
- Promote the reversion, revitalization, and sustainability of industry in the city, prioritizing non-polluting and low water- and land-consuming sectors.
- Preserve and expand community green areas and incorporate the experience of indigenous and traditional agriculture (*campesino*) groups in reforestation programs and in the cultivation of traditionally used medicinal plants.

3.3.6 To guarantee democratic, equitable and sustainable enjoyment in the city, it is necessary to:

- Expand and maintain public parks.
- Recover, preserve and improve ravines and degraded areas.
- Use non-contaminating materials for the construction of public spaces.
- Build, expand, and maintain pedestrian walkways and bicycle routes with quality materials, signs and lighting, and promote the use of bicycles and other nonpolluting vehicles.

3.4 Productive city

3.4.1 To achieve a productive city, it is necessary to guarantee the following labor-related human rights:

- The right to work in satisfactory and equitable conditions in social and gender terms.
- The right to sufficient income to guarantee a dignified life.
- The right to organize (unions, cooperatives, and other modalities).
- The right to social security.
- The right to participate in the production of the city.
- The right to generate self-managed productive enterprises.

3.4.2 To guarantee the social function of the city in support of the popular economy, it is necessary to:

- Guarantee land and buildings for production and services that facilitate the productive insertion of the popular sectors in the city and in housing developments.
 - Include income-generating spaces and activities in new private housing developments.
- Establish programs oriented toward the generation of productive activities and spaces linked to social production and management of habitat.
 - Spaces designated to income generation in homes.
 - Shop spaces designated for production and services in housing complexes.
 - Spaces, services and activities that generate surpluses for organized inhabitants to cover maintenance expenses and fund solidarity programs in community developments and housing complexes.
 - Productive projects linked to the environmental management of the complexes: greenhouses, waste management and processing.
- Establish regulations that impede negative impacts caused by the location and operation of shopping centers and macro-stores on the survival of popular production, distribution, and service establishments.

3.4.3 To democratize productive employment opportunities in the city, it is necessary to:

- Procure and disseminate information on means through which to obtain access to employment, through the establishment of information networks on the jobs market.
- Promote training programs, job listings, and other supports.
- Facilitate the use of public resources to stimulate the creation of productive employment through family, associative, and private enterprises.
- Generate conditions that facilitate women's incorporation within the development of paid productive activities and employment.
- Stimulate the creation of sufficient and adequate jobs for young men and women through the establishment of a permanent system for jobs training and to help young workers accumulate experience.
- Promote the participation of small and medium productive and social enterprises in national and international fairs, exhibits, encounters, forums, and events to position their products and services.
- Promote the establishment of a universal citizen income.

3.4.4 To guarantee democratic production in the city, it is necessary to:

- Stimulate the social sector of the economy (creation of cooperatives and associations, among others), strengthening the creative, self-managing, productive, and administrative capacities of the persons, organizations and networks of the popular and solidary economy.
- Strengthen self-directed projects (housing, microenterprises, etc.) that emerge from community experiences, through the channeling of financial credits and technical assistance.
- Support small and medium companies and associative enterprises by means of infrastructure, finance, and technological assistance with the objective to create productive and solidary chains among them.
- Grant finance to micro, small, and medium family and social companies for equipment, consulting, furniture acquisition, infrastructure adaptation, training, and technical assistance.

- Foment the creation of stable, well-paid jobs with social security benefits in the private, public, agricultural, industrial, commercial, and service sectors.
- Foment the use of technologies appropriate for social production processes in the city and consolidation of a productive habitat, prioritizing those that guarantee a more rational and sustainable use of natural and energy resources.

3.4.5 To guarantee that productive activities contribute to the sustainable, responsible and productive management of natural commons, energy resources, and public heritage in the city, it is necessary to:

- Promote urban agriculture.
- Promote projects in the areas of ecotourism, employment generation, and commercialization of products to protect conservation areas.
- Assure that the processes of production, appropriation and consumption of public and private space are in accordance with the physical limitations of the environment, infrastructure, ecological balance, the conservation of public heritage, and historical and cultural practices.
- Promote and stimulate small and medium industrial companies in accordance with environmental and urban planning norms.
- Foment social production of foods in the urban sphere as a sustainable activity that also serves to integrate specific social groups.

3.4.6 To foment democratic and equitable production and enjoyment in the city, it is necessary to:

- Locate employment-generating productive and service activities in otherwise exclusively residential areas to decrease transportation demands, risks, costs, and negative impacts on the economy and social coexistence.

3.5 Educational city

3.5.1 All persons have the following rights in the city:

- The right to education.
- The right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications, including access to new information technologies and to their periodic updating.
- The right to conservation, development and dissemination of science and culture.
- The right to freedom of scientific research and creative activities.

3.5.2 To guarantee the social and educational function of the city, it is necessary to:

- Guarantee access to and increase the availability and quality of educational and cultural spaces in proximity to the different social and age groups and those subject to discrimination.
- Implement actions in support of alternative education projects (such as children's community centers and educating mothers centers) and schools that form in settlements and neighborhoods in the perspective of popular education.
- Stimulate a formative and democratic city, fomenting principles such as solidarity, trust, collectivity, respect, peaceful coexistence, equality, and tolerance, among others.

- Create spaces of reporting and integral response to violence and for non-violent conflict resolution on educational campuses.

3.5.3 To train diverse actors in support of democratic management in the city, it is necessary to:

- Generate and strengthen the construction of citizenship.
 - Promote agreements among institutions for citizen training and formation.
 - Promote citizen participation from an educational perspective, in formal and non-formal spaces, that foster the generation beginning in childhood of a new participative culture.
- Consider and support all modalities of education: formal, informal and popular.
- Promote education in the diversity of society and form civic and citizen values.
- Foment the generation of scientific and technological knowledge linked to the solution of the problems of the city's inhabitants and of the city itself.
- Provide training, formation, and continual updating in relation to the Right to the City for all the actors involved in the implementation of the Charter.

3.5.4 To democratize the education oriented to production of the city and in the city, it is necessary to:

- Promote a permanent program of training and technological updating for workers and small producers.
- Take advantage of the experience of older adults (workers, craftspeople, teachers) in the training of new generations and the formation of apprenticeships.
- Foment the relation between scientific research and technological development and industry and social production (cooperatives, family microenterprises) of necessary and accessible goods.
- Foment a culture of permanent education and training to acquire new skills and capacities that facilitate productive insertion in urban society and increased incomes.

3.5.5 To train the population in the sustainable and responsible management of natural commons, energy resources, and public heritage in the city, it is necessary to:

- Promote environmental education directed to society in general and to public functionaries in particular.
- Promote orientation, technical-professional formation, and development of norms and programs that effectively influence the construction of an environmentally, economically, socially and culturally sustainable city within a long-term vision.
- Strengthen the role of the communications media in the environmental education of society.
- Strengthen the role of basic and university education and academic research as generators of knowledge and a culture of sustainability.
- Recover the knowledge and experience of the traditional peoples who live in the city regarding the management and preservation of natural and cultural elements.
- Contribute to environmental protection through educational, normative, administrative, operative, and control activities that emphasize participative construction of a culture of respect toward the city's natural heritage.
- Educate the population on the historical and public heritage value of the city through multicultural and intergenerational programs.

- Generate spaces and programs designed for inhabitants to get in touch with nature (botanical gardens, theme parks, zoos) that foment better knowledge of and respect for the city's natural and environmental heritage through recreational and fun activities.

3.5.6 To generate educational processes that stimulate democratic and equitable enjoyment of the city, it is necessary to:

- Foment the civic formation of persons and stimulate their participation in decision making regarding public spaces.
- Stimulate cultural, recreational and sports activities as instruments of social cohesion that foster the development of the talents, skills and abilities of the inhabitants.
- Develop campaigns and programs that elevate the civic level, improve community coexistence, and promote respect and tolerance in the intercultural framework that characterizes Mexico City.
- Establish grant programs to promote education, sports, and culture among girls and boys and youth.
- Generate processes of knowledge, dialogue, and participation as part of a suitable path to achieve harmonic coexistence.
- Foment respect toward the indigenous cultures and knowledge of their traditions, as well as understanding of the discrimination and obstacles they face for full exercise of their rights in the urban context.

Livable city

3.6 Safe city in case of disasters and accidents.

3.6.1 To achieve a livable city that is safe in terms of disasters and accidents, all persons must enjoy the following rights:

- The right to personal safety and physical integrity in the case of risks and disasters.
- The right to a safe place in which to live.
- The right to safe spaces in which to develop individual and collective activities.

3.6.2 To guarantee physical safety and the social function of the city, it is necessary to:

- Reduce the vulnerability of already occupied areas, respecting the rights and improving the housing and social conditions of their inhabitants.
- Carry out participative programs of population relocation from high-risk areas and buildings to nearby locations in conditions that substitute or compensate their patrimonial losses and respect their social networks.
- Assure that assistance addresses and contributes to overcome the real needs of the population in recovery, reconstruction, and prevention processes.

3.6.3 To stimulate democratic management of risks in the city, it is necessary to:

- Widely disseminate the map of vulnerable areas in Mexico City.
- Inform the population living in risk-prone areas of their implications and all necessary prevention and mitigation actions to avoid said risks.

- Promote processes of self-diagnosis of vulnerability and risk.
- Stimulate organization processes that include disaster prevention and risk mitigation with the broad participation of social, academic, civil, and nongovernmental organizations and bodies.
- Include social participation in emergency management plans.

3.6.4 To strengthen disaster prevention in the city's risk-prone areas, it is necessary to:

- Include the structural revision and improvement of existing constructions in neighborhood and housing improvement programs carried out in popular settlements.
- Permanently verify the status of potentially risk-prone urban areas and buildings.
- Inform the population regarding areas that are vulnerable to risks in the case of housing construction (possible cracks or crevices, sinkholes, landslides, floods).

3.6.5 To guarantee that the sustainable and responsible management of natural commons, energy resources, and public heritage contributes to mitigate risks in the city, it is necessary to:

- Prevent the occupation of areas vulnerable to natural phenomena and prevent the impacts of environmental degradation, deforestation, and the destruction of waterways and ravines.

3.6.6 To improve physical safety and democratic and equitable enjoyment of the city, it is necessary to:

- Expand the availability of safe children's playground equipment in parks and green spaces.
- Define, expand and respect areas reserved for pedestrians and persons with disabilities.
- Define, expand and enforce respect for bicycle paths in all areas of the city.
- Expand to the popular neighborhoods the programs of closure of streets to traffic on Sundays and holidays for sports and recreation purposes.
- Prohibit the installation of dangerous billboards and remove those that exist.
- Guarantee in public spaces (parks, plazas and lawns) accessibility and safe movement for girls and boys, persons with disabilities, and the elderly.

3.7 Secure city, free of violence

3.7.1 To achieve a city that is secure and free of violence, all persons must be able to exercise the following rights:

- The right to personal security and integrity (physical, sexual, psychological, and moral, among others).
- The right to a life free of violence, in both the public and the private spheres.
- The right to intimacy and to privacy: the right to private and family life in its diverse modalities and to protection against domestic violence.
- The right to peaceful, solidary, and multicultural coexistence.
- The right to protection against forced evictions.

3.7.2 To guarantee that the social function of the city, land, and property contribute to the security of the city's inhabitants, it is necessary to:

- Avoid eviction processes, and assure that in cases in which they are necessary the human rights of those affected are respected in accordance with international standards and instruments.
 - In eviction cases justified by the public interest or the existence of risks, those affected must have access to: a fair legal process, economic compensation, and restitution in a safe location that is nearby and in conditions equal to or better than the original conditions.
- Guarantee the right to retain one's roots, avoiding displacement and the destruction of popular settlements for motives of speculation, urban beautification, or zoning law changes.

3.7.3 To foment and oversee the democratic management of security in the city, it is necessary to:

- Create a citizen comptroller body that supervises the operation of the public security corporations and justice systems, demands accountability, and issues observations and recommendations, all from the civil society perspective.
- Provide human rights training to police officers and other actors involved in city security.

3.7.4 and 3.7.5 To guarantee that the production of the city and the management of environmental commons contribute to security, it is necessary to:

- Establish criteria for neighborhood and housing complex design that favor community appropriation and visual control of public spaces.

3.7.6 To guarantee the democratic, equitable and secure enjoyment of the city, it is necessary to:

- Integrate the urban security theme as attribute of public space in city planning and distinct sector programs and projects.
- Stimulate the development of cultural events and social and recreational activities that recover neighborhood traditions with the goal to value our history and our surroundings, and in this way foster community security in neighborhoods, communities, and housing complexes.
- To strengthen community coexistence in the city, it is necessary to:
 - Promote human values and generate ways of living free of violence through the recovery of community life.
 - Reconstruct the social fabric with the participation of individuals and organizations from civil society.
- Improve security in parks, green areas, sports fields, bicycle paths, and wooded areas through the co-responsible action of the citizen organizations that use them and the implementation of more effective design, lighting and surveillance measures.
- Strengthen security programs for women in public transportation.
- Promote the enjoyment of the right of girls, boys, and youth to a life free from violence in schools.
- Progressively eliminate the rates of violence carried out in the streets and in diverse institutions aimed toward street populations.

3.8 Healthy city

3.8.1 To achieve a healthy city, all persons must enjoy the following rights:

- The right to a healthy environment.
- The right to the highest possible level of physical and mental health.
- The right to adequate nutrition.
- The right to water in sufficient quantities and adequate quality.
- The right to sanitation and waste management services.
- Sexual and reproductive rights.

3.8.2 To strengthen the health and social function of the city, it is necessary to:

- Promote immunization campaigns against the main infectious diseases, sexual and reproductive education campaigns, good nutrition, prevention, vaccination, sanitation, alternative medicine, and measures to protect all groups subject to discrimination.
- Strengthen existing specialized centers dedicated to providing medical and psychological care for persons who consume addictive substances (drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco) and their families, and create additional centers in order to gradually achieve full coverage.
- Avoid use of lands contaminated by toxic residues or located in the proximity of industrial areas with high environmental impacts (smoke, noise, discharges, toxic emissions) for housing, sports, education, or health care uses, among others.
- Designate resources to the improvement of sanitary conditions of residential areas, urban facilities, and public spaces, primarily in popular settlements and marginalized areas.
- Assure that health care establishments and services are geographically located within the access of all sectors of the population, in particular the population subject to discrimination.
- Assure the availability of food supply facilities that are located near populations and are affordable.
- Legally guarantee that health programs are inclusive, prioritizing attention to low-income sectors.
- Generate conditions so that all persons may healthily feed themselves.
- Recover and support community and alternative experiences related to health, and guarantee the availability of institutional spaces in which alternative medicine may be practiced.
- Promote access to healthy foods in schools.

3.8.3 To stimulate democratic management of health in the city, it is necessary to:

- Generate and reinforce action and information activities, programs, and campaigns related to effective and cost-saving preventive health care.
- Disseminate information on the health care facilities available in communities and their policies, programs and services.
- Promote the creation of healthy communities based on a pact among society organizations, sector institutions, and authorities.
- Prevent drug, alcohol and tobacco addictions within a framework of personal autonomy, through campaigns, links with specialized civil society groups, and specific actions directed toward groups subject to discrimination.

3.8.4 To protect health in the productive activities of the city, it is necessary to:

- Improve health and safety conditions in workplaces.
- Include training on safety and protective equipment in neighborhood improvement and social production of housing programs.

3.8.5 To guarantee healthy, sustainable and responsible management of natural commons, energy resources and public heritage in the city and its surroundings, it is necessary to:

- Conserve and expand green, wooded and forested, and grass and shrubbery areas, as well as garden rooftops, with the purpose to improve air quality in the city.
- Guarantee sufficient, healthy, accessible, and affordable water for the personal and domestic use of all the persons who inhabit and travel through the city.
- Prevent and reduce the population's exposure to radiations and chemical substances or other harmful environmental factors that directly or indirectly affect their health.

3.8.6 To guarantee healthy, democratic and equitable enjoyment in the city, it is necessary to:

- Facilitate, promote and maintain spaces for the practice of physical and sports activities.
- Undertake sanitation and cleaning programs of public spaces.
- Create awareness among the population on the protection and proper care of pets and responsible management of their excrements, and promote vaccination and sterilization programs.
- Permanently advance in the monitoring and improvement of air quality.
- Implement plans and programs to mitigate pollution: atmospheric, water, noise, and visual pollution, and litter.

3.9 Convivial and culturally diverse city

3.9.1 To build a convivial and culturally diverse city, all persons, peoples and specific identity groups must enjoy their cultural rights:

- The right to participate in cultural life.
- The right to cultural, linguistic, and religious freedom.
- The right of all persons to free time and accessible public spaces for gathering and enjoyment.
- The right to access to public spaces suitable for the free expression of their cultural manifestations.
- The right to access to quality spaces for recreational and sports activities.
- The right to community activity.
- The right to protest and debate in public spaces.

3.9.2 To strengthen the social function of the city and community coexistence, it is necessary to:

- Use public spaces and commons, prioritizing the social, cultural and environmental interest.
- Expand the number of public parks (surface area per inhabitant) and improve the quality of existing parks.

- Promote the construction of thematic parks with support from foreign communities and those originating from outside the city to reflect their most characteristic cultural manifestations.

3.9.3 To support the democratic management of the city and social coexistence, it is necessary to:

- Propitiate balance to achieve the realization of both respect for the right to free transit and the right to manifestation, seeking to harmonize both freedoms while avoiding an interpretation of either as predominant over and detrimental to the other.
- Place into practice all the actions necessary so that city inhabitants are consulted on modifications to public space.

3.9.4 To stimulate democratic production in the city and social coexistence, it is necessary to:

- Achieve the convergence and articulation of neighborhood, housing, and housing complex improvement programs, among others.

3.9.5 To contribute to social coexistence and to sustainable and responsible management of natural commons, energy resources and public heritage in the city and its surroundings, it is necessary to:

- Promote a culture of respect and protection of natural and environmental commons, energy resources, and public heritage in the use and enjoyment of public spaces.
- Promote and support the co-responsible action of organizations of users of parks and wooded areas in their preservation.

3.9.6 To strengthen social coexistence and democratic and equitable enjoyment in the city, it is necessary to:

- Foment the creative and fun use of public spaces for all people.
- Generate urban spaces and components that stimulate the gathering, exchange, communication, and political expression of persons and collectives.
- Assure the existence of spaces for the generation of cultural, artistic, sports, and recreational programs.
- Broaden cultural, sports, and recreational opportunities for all persons, assuring that specific sectors such as the following are also addressed: children, youth, the elderly, persons with disabilities, and street populations.
- Favor the operation of alternative communications media.
- Reinforce the identities of the different neighborhoods of the city through their architecture and the character of their plazas, green areas, and monuments.
- Generate mechanisms that stimulate the recovery of traditional practices and inhabitant contributions to the care, management and improvement of public space.
- Carry out programs of citizen coexistence to foment dialogue, cooperation, respect, tolerance, and solidarity.
- Foment social cohesion among the neighborhoods and communities of the city.
- Foment dialogue among generations, not only as a formula of peaceful coexistence but also as part of a search for common and shared projects among persons of different ages.
- Respect the forms of life of indigenous groups in the design of housing projects.

- Regulate the installation, distribution, location, modification and removal of all types of advertisements on public roadways.

THIRD CHAPTER **FINAL PROVISIONS**

4. Obligations and responsibilities

Governmental entities, social and civil organizations, and people in general, in accordance with their respective functions in society, have obligations or responsibilities in relation to the human rights contained in this Charter.

For their part, individuals, families, local communities, social, civil and academic organizations, and the national and transnational business sectors have responsibilities in the process of effectively implementing said rights.

As extensions of the Mexican State, which is a signatory of the international human rights instruments, the local and national public entities that act in the Federal District bear specific obligations, and hold final responsibility for their fulfillment.

The obligations of the State are:

To respect. This means to not violate rights, which implies abstaining from taking actions that deprive, limit, or hinder inhabitants from the possibility to exercise and implement their human rights through the use of the resources within their reach.

To protect. Implies generating the measures necessary to avoid or prevent non-state actors (such as companies, individuals, churches, civil or social organizations, etc.) from incurring in actions that lead to human rights violations. These actions range from oversight and regulation measures to sanctions.

To implement, fulfill, or satisfy. This means to adopt all adequate measures, including those oriented to expand levels of protection of recognized rights and the recognition of new rights, and to generate necessary instruments, supports and financial resources, to the maximum of possibilities, for the material realization of human rights. This obligation also entails the obligations to facilitate, promote, and guarantee or achieve the effective fulfillment of the human rights.

5. Violations of the Right to the City

All action or act of omission, be it through legislative, administrative or judicial measure, or social practice, that results in the impediment, restriction, or affectation of the Right to the City and its implications, constitutes a violation of the Right to the City.

6. Liability to be demanded

All of the persons who live in or travel through the Federal District must have access to mechanisms through which to legally, politically, and socially demand fulfillment of the individual and collective rights contained in this Charter. Progress must also be made toward the recognition of this right in existing instruments and in the new instruments generated to facilitate mechanisms of legal enforcement of the Right to the City. It will also be necessary to address the observations derived from both local and international human rights entities.

COMMITMENTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHARTER

The fulfillment of the commitments outlined below shall adhere to the guiding principles of the Right to the City established in point 1.6 of this Charter.

The signatories of this Charter commit, to the maximum of their possibilities and in accordance with their attributions, competencies, and fields of action, to actively contribute in the implementation and placement into practice of the postulates and guidelines contained in the same.

The following are established as priority tasks for the distinct actors:

Local Government

Central executive

- Generate legislative proposals in consonance with the Right to the City.
- Procure justice.
- Design, implement, and evaluate public policies within the Right to the City perspective.
- Budget within the Right to the City perspective, channeling the maximum of available resources to progressively overcome the conditions that impede equitable access to the resources and services required by the population and offered by the city.
- Provide training to public functionaries (executive, legislative and judicial) on the Right to the City and the associated human rights.
- Widely report and disseminate the contents of the Right to the City.
- Establish indicators to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Right to the City.
- Expand and open new spaces of citizen participation for the consultation and definition of public policies.
- Foment the equitable enjoyment of the city for all its inhabitants.
- Develop and/or expand coordination, negotiation and mediation mechanisms.
- Design and expand mechanisms through which to demand fulfillment of the Right to the City and advance toward the legal defense of already recognized rights and the Right to the City itself.

Political delegations

- Promote, strengthen and expand citizen participation in budget allocation and in the design, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of public policies.
- Generate the necessary conditions for respect for the rights of the persons who live in or travel through their jurisdictions.
- Allocate budget resources and specific programs to disseminate and promote the Right to the City.
- Maintain constant coordination with the Federal District Government so that the Right to the City is effectively fulfilled in each of the Delegations.

Legislative

- Legally recognize the Right to the City
- Legislate in consonance with the Right to the City.
- Encourage citizen participation in the formulation and implementation of laws.
- Harmonize the local legal framework with the criteria defined by international human rights standards.
- Recognize new rights in the local legislation.
- Approve budgets and oversee their execution with a human rights perspective.

Judicial

- Apply the international human rights instruments ratified by Mexico and thereby advance in their legal defense.
- Recognize the Right to the City and stimulate its application in accordance with the principles upon which it is founded.
- Guarantee the prompt, expeditious, and free impartation of justice in relation to the rights contained in the Right to the City.

Autonomous public bodies

- Disseminate and promote the contents of the Right to the City and its implications, expanding mechanisms and spaces of social participation.
- Maintain follow-up on the commitments established in the final provisions of this Charter.
- Promote support and co-investment schemes to foment the activities of civil society organizations in matters related to the Right to the City.
- Contribute, in accordance with their attributions and fields of action, to the protection or satisfaction of the human rights that conform and interact in the Right to the City.
- Assume a collaborative attitude and commitments with all the actors to whom this Charter refers, to procure fulfillment of the established goals.

The Human Rights Commission of the Federal District:

- Work in the protection, defense, surveillance, promotion, education, study, and dissemination of the rights comprehended in the Right to the City.
- Maintain follow-up, in accordance with its attributions and fields of action, of the implementation of the Federal District Human Rights Program from the perspective of the Right to the City.

Education entities

- Propitiate the inclusion of topics linked to the Right to the City in formative, research, outreach, and dissemination programs and activities.
- Disseminate and promote the contents of the Right to the City and its implications.

Civil society bodies

- Broadly disseminate the contents of this Charter and the good practices that are derived from its application.
- Participate in citizen spaces of consultation and monitoring.
- Document cases of violations of or in compliance with the progressive implementation of rights to which the State is obligated.
- Promote awareness and consensus-building regarding the responsibilities which must be assumed by citizens to construct a city for all.
- Produce and present reports to national and international human rights protection entities.
- Denounce violations of the Right to the City.
- Exchange and disseminate national and international good practices, instruments and public policies that contribute to optimal implementation of the Right to the City.

Social organizations

- Promote and publicize the Right to the City among their members and among the social organization networks.
- Generate proposals and develop activities that contribute to defend, enforce, and effectively fulfill the rights contained in the Right to the City.
- In coordination with the Federal District Government and civil society, stimulate policies that contribute to the realization of the Right to the City.
- Incorporate the construction of active and responsible citizenship within their projects.
- Respect the provisions and postulates established in this Charter and collaborate toward their fulfillment and implementation.

Private sector

- Act within the framework of a code of conduct in accordance with UN guidelines and recommendations, in which respect for the Right to the City and associated human rights are present.
- Act within a framework of legality and respect for human rights, contributing always to the equitable development of all persons in Mexico City.
- Respect the right of all persons to equitable usufruct of the resources available to the city.
- Participate in coordination with local entities in the design and implementation of proposals that benefit respect for and the guarantee of the Right to the City.

People in general

- Know and promote the rights contained in this Charter.
- Respect the rights of others.
- Carry out activities that contribute to enforce and effectively realize these rights.

The deepening and effective fulfillment of these commitments and of the guidelines for implementation of this Charter imply dynamic processes of interaction and negotiation among the different actors involved, and pose new challenges for the public administration and for the establishment of spaces and mechanisms to incorporate organized social participation in the management of the city.

All of this demands the generation of new forms of inter-sector coordination of co-responsible actions and of urban management organization, and assigns a more active role to the communities and urban and rural organizations in the negotiation and articulation of public programs in their territories.

Mexico City, July 2010
Year of the Bicentennial of Independence and the Centennial of the Mexican Revolution.

