Statement on the Declaration of the Post-2015 Summit on behalf of the LAMG and the GTF
2nd session of the Post-2015 negotiations – 17-20 February 2015

Delivered by Ms. Noemi Gonzalo-Bilbao, Delegation of Euskadi in the United States, nrg4SD representative

Excellencies, Dear Co-Chairs, Member States and colleagues,

Local and subnational governments believe that the Declaration should be universal, addressing all developing and developed countries and inclusive, based on a multi-level and multi-stakeholders’ partnership and rooted in the framework of international cooperation.

The Declaration should also ensure the linkages with the ongoing related processes that cannot be isolated from sustainable development strategies: such as climate, finance and the forthcoming new urban agenda.

Regarding the collective vision of the road to 2030, we very much share the today’s challenges enumerated in the elements paper proposed by the Co-Chairs. We would also like to remind one of the greatest challenges of our century, which is ensuring a sustainable urbanization in a world where 75% of the world population will live in cities by 2050.

We would also kindly request to add, as part of those challenges, the “threats to cultural diversity”, as culture is a crucial element of the sustainable development. We would like to recall once more the importance of enhancing the value of cultural diversity as part of our common values.

As for what we should do to get there, we agree on the need for goals and targets that can be universally implemented and be easily measurable and verifiable. We further call for ensuring a territorial dimension of the targets and indicators that will endow reliability and connectivity with people and environment.

We welcome the strong references to a revitalized global partnership in order to implement the Post-2015 agenda but would like to recall the absolute need to perform a global partnership not only at the implementation stage but earlier, while defining the agenda. It is now acknowledged that the MDGs agenda suffered from not including all relevant stakeholders during its definition stage. We should avoid repeating such a mistake.

The same goes for the follow-up and review section that should refer to all relevant stakeholders. We believe we should ensure “Monitoring, evaluation and reporting process based on country led accountability and built on existing national and subnational mechanisms and processes, with broad multi-stakeholder participation, including local and subnational governments as governmental stakeholders. This multi-stakeholder, participatory approach should be integrated at all levels, regional and global”.

Allow us also to request that the concept of good governance be more concrete by referring to “an effective, participatory and inclusive governance”.

Local and subnational governments thank you for your attention and remain at your disposal, wishing you successful discussions.