



**REPORT TO: THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE [MAYCO]
AND FUTURE PLANNING AND RESILIENCE SECTION 79 COMMITTEE**

1. ITEM NUMBER

2. SUBJECT

**FEEDBACK ON THE INTERNATIONAL/OUTSIDE THE BORDERS OF THE
RSA TRIP UNDERTAKEN FROM 31 MAY TO 05 JUNE 2024 ON AN
OFFICIAL MISSION TO ATTEND THE WORLD CITIES SUMMIT IN
SINGAPORE**

ONDERWERP

**TERUGVOERING OOR DIE REIS NA DIE BUITELAND/BUITE DIE GRENSE
VAN DIE RSA ONDERNEEM VAN 31 MEI TOT 5 JUNIE 2024 OM DIE
AMPTELIKE SENDING NA DIE WORLD CITIES-BERAAD IN SINGAPOER
BY TE WOON**

ISIHLOKO

**INGXELO ENGASEMVA KOHAMBO KUMAZWE APHESHEYA/
ANGAPHANDLE KWEMIDA YASEMZANTSI AFRIKA EQHUTYWE
UKUSUSELA KOWAMA31 KUCANZIBE UKUYA KOWE05
KWEYESILIMELA 2024 NGENJONGO YENDIBANO ESESIKWENI
ENGOKUZIMASA INDIBANO ENGEZIXEKO ZEHLABATHI ESE
SINGAPORE**

Q4136

3. EVENT SUMMARY

EVENT DETAILS	
CONFERENCE/SEMINAR	<i>World Cities Summit</i>
OTHER	<i>Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize Award Ceremony</i>
DATE	<i>31 May – 05 June 2024</i>
VENUE	<i>Suntec International Convention Centre</i>
TOTAL COST TO THE CITY	<i>R39 316. 10 (R143 446. 02 was sponsored and duly declared)</i>
CITIES	
COUNTRY	<i>SINGAPORE</i>

ATTENDEE DETAILS	
NAME AND SURNAME	DESIGNATION
Ald. Geordin Hill-Lewis	EXECUTIVE MAYOR
PROVIDE SUMMARY OF HOST ORGANISATION / CITY	
<i>The Republic of Singapore is a city-state situated at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula, comprising the main island of Singapore, and approximately 60 other smaller islands and islets. It has a population of 5.45 million people. Singapore is essentially a small and heavily urbanised island city-state, with a multi-party parliamentary system of government and representative democracy that use to be a British colony and therefore a member of the Commonwealth. The president is the Head of State and Prime Minister, the Head of Government, with a Unicameral Parliament. Singapore's current and president is Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, while Mr Lawrence Wong is the Prime Minister.</i> <i>Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) serves as a global knowledge centre for urban transformation. By building upon and sharing this collective knowledge, CLC contributes to developing highly liveable and sustainable cities that are resilient, inclusive, and future ready, with a high quality of life.</i>	

4. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the mission was to participate at the World Cities Summit (WCS) and receive Cape Town's Special Mention Award at the Lee Kuan Yew (LKY) World City Prize Award Ceremony.

5. OUTCOME

Successful participation, coupled with engagements with a number of stakeholders on the margins of the Summit with the promise of fruitful future collaboration (also see Actions required below).

6. ACTIONS REQUIRED

- 6.1 Share Cape Town's Heat Action Plan with Quezon City, Philippines (Responsible: Climate Change Department).
- 6.2 Liaise with the infrastructure coordinator for New York City, which will likely yield useful learning for infrastructure coordination and strategy (Responsible: Director: Policy and Strategy).
- 6.3 Leverage on Cape Town's inclusion on the newly launched LKY WCP Network of Laureates and Special Mentions (Responsible: Policy and Strategy Department).
- 6.4 Liaise with Singapore to gain insights as related to their Water Re-use efforts (Responsible: Water and Sanitation Directorate).
- 6.5 Liaise with the City of Barcelona to leverage advice and mutual learning on issues directly linked to delivering the City's IDP. (Responsible: Director: Policy and Strategy).
- 6.6 Liaise with the Visa Asia and Visa Africa-Middle East teams to ascertain how they can assist the City with digital payments data and analytics (Responsible: Director: Policy and Strategy).
- 6.7 Continue to leverage the relationship with Singapore's Urban Redevelopment Agency (URA) as related to data and digital planning (Responsible: Director: Policy and Strategy).
- 6.8 Convene virtual engagement with Expo City Dubai to ascertain possible collaboration between them and the Atlantis Special Economic Zone (Responsible: International Relations Unit and ASEZ).
- 6.9 Convene virtual engagement with Prof Mary Alice Haddad from the Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, United States to discuss city diplomacy (Responsible: International Relations Unit).
- 6.10 Convene virtual engagement for the City Manager with Expo City Dubai to ascertain how Cape Town could leverage from their projects related to cities (Responsible: International Relations Unit).

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1	Constitutional and Policy Implications	No ☒	Yes ☐
7.2	Environmental implications	No ☒	Yes ☐
7.3	Financial Implications	No ☒	Yes ☐
7.4	Legal Implications	No ☒	Yes ☐
7.5	Staff Implications	No ☒	Yes ☐
7.6	Risk Implications	No ☒	Yes ☐
7.7	<u>POPIA Compliance</u>	No ☒	Yes ☐

☒ It is confirmed that this report has been checked and considered for POPIA Compliance.

NOTE: POPIA Section MUST be completed otherwise the report will be returned to the author for revision.

Contact your Directorate POPIA Stewards should you require assistance.

The City has a contract in place with XL Embassy Travel for the safe-keeping of Traveller's personal information as required by the POPI Act.

8. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the feedback report on the official mission to Singapore undertaken by Alderman Geordin Hill-Lewis (Executive Mayor) from 31 May to 05 June 2024 **be considered and noted.**

AANBEVELING

Daar word aanbeveel dat die terugvoeringsverslag oor die amptelike sending na Singapoer onderneem deur raadsheer Geordin Hill-Lewis (uitvoerende burgemeester) van 31 Mei tot 5 Junie 2024 **oorweeg en daarvan kennis geneem word.**

IZINDULULO

Kundululwe ukuba **makuthathelwe ingqalelo kwaye kuqwalaselwe** ingxelo engasemva kohambo olusesikweni/laseburhulumenteni ebelujolise eSingapore, oluqhutywe nguCebakhulu Geordin Hill-Lewis (uSodolophu weSigqeba), ukususela ngowama31 kuCanzibe ukuya ngowe5 kweyeSilimela 2024.

9. GENERAL DISCUSSION

In terms of clause 10.2 of the Travel Management Policy, a post travel report is to be submitted to the Delegated Authority for providing feedback on the travel and evidence of the benefit to the City.

9.1 C40 Cities Mayoral Roundtable

The C40 Cities Mayoral Roundtable served as a platform for C40 mayors and deputies to exchange information on climate resilience initiatives implemented in their cities. These included some key challenges in progressing adaptation priorities, and outlining opportunities to scale current efforts. In addition, it focused on how C40 and its partners can potentially strengthen support and collaboration in translating adaptation actions towards meaningful impacts for communities and urban residents. In his presentation, the Executive Mayor presented amongst others on the City's New Water Programme, the Climate Change Action Plan, and the efforts to end loadshedding. Other C40 cities who presented at this session included Quezon City, Philippines who aims to develop, in similar vein to Cape Town, a Heat Action Plan, and Dhaka (North & South), Bangladesh stressing that financing climate action initiatives are important. Rotterdam, the Netherlands agreed that funding is vital, but the current models must change. Melbourne's Lord Mayor underlined the challenge her city has with heat waves. Finally, the representative of New York City, United States of America referred to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)'s Special Report on Climate Change and Cities.

9.2 C40 Interview

C40 conducted individual post-Roundtable interviews with all participating Mayors. In his interview, Executive Mayor Hill-Lewis reflected on what he shared about Cape Town during the Roundtable, coupled with gaining insights from other cities with the potential to collaborate with some. He noted that one takeaway or learning from the Roundtable was that climate change threats present an opportunity for all s to work together to adapt and thrive, building programmes of collective action and sharing of best practices. His message to other cities was that the understanding and response to climate threats must be a critical city planning input - the traditional planning assumptions have changed, and thus we need to plan infrastructure that delivers enhanced adaptive capacity to multiple challenges (both through and of). We also need to understand where we are most vulnerable and double down our focus to respond in a way that reduces these vulnerabilities.

9.3 WCS Mayors Forum Session 1

The WCS Mayors Forum is an exclusive, by-invitation-only global platform for mayors and city leaders to discuss pressing urban challenges and share best practices. The Mayors or representatives of Melbourne (its Greenline Project); New York City (Enforcing Building Decarbonisation at Scale); Medellín (aims to be the smartest city in Latin America); Quezon City (Collaborative Sustainability Project); and, Mexico City (Water issues and transport initiatives) presented case studies on their respective city. The outcomes of Session 1 included that mayors and leaders must:

- Champion a multi-stakeholder approach across government, cities, businesses, think tanks, solution providers and communities, to ensure successful urban development.
- Create a collaborative ecosystem to facilitate deeper and sustained partnerships across the national, city and local levels, and build trust to foster greater collaboration.
- Steward initiatives aimed at ground-up innovation, and participation, to build inclusive solutions for future challenges.
- Put in place urban governance systems to translate innovations to plan, develop, scale, and rejuvenate our cities for liveability.

9.4 WCS Mayors Forum Session 2

During Session 2 of the WCS Mayors Forum, mayors or representatives of Fukuoka (Deregulated Urban Transformation); Christchurch (Regenerative Economy); Jakarta (responses to rapid urbanisation, disruptive technology, climate change, and geopolitics); Bangkok (Red tape and building the city of the future); and, Glasgow (Just Transition) presented case studies on their respective city. The outcomes of Session 2 included that mayors and leaders must:

- Strengthen and integrate climate and social resilience, taking into consideration current carbon constraints, stressors and disruptions, to ensure successful future cities and societies.
- Develop a regenerative approach in planning, financing and implementing urban development at both national and city levels, by creating and reinvesting value.
- Consider divergent viewpoints and balance trade-offs to lay the groundwork for forward-looking city administrations, that build common purpose between stakeholders.

- Share strategic foresights and insights between cities and expand engagements to accelerate reinvention and reimagination.

9.5 WCS Opening Plenary

Mr Desmond Lee, Singapore's Minister for National Development officially opened the WCS, while Mr Heng Swee Kiat, Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic Policies delivered a Special Address. The Moderated Discussion focused on how leaders could shape national policies and strategic planning to facilitate resource allocation and financing to support city-level development implementation. Coupled with the former, how can cities balance economic growth with sustainability, inclusivity, and adaptation to climate change, while considering the dynamic needs of urban populations and national trends?

9.6 Resilient and Regenerative Cities Plenary

The Plenary focused on how cities should adapt and thrive in an era of climate emergency, and the Executive Mayor served on a panel during this session. He delivered a presentation on Building a Resilient Cape Town for All. Building urban resilience is critical for Cape Town to achieve its vision of becoming a City of Hope and is one of the priority foundations underpinning the City's Integrated Development Plan. Applying resilience to its energy system is a key priority, especially with the series of challenges currently faced by the city, including unreliable electricity supply due to the heightened severity of national load-shedding (power-cuts) and the rapidly changing energy landscape disrupting traditional utility business models.

The Executive Mayor also referenced the City's Alien Clearing Project, and the matter of financing. People is concerned with survival, and environmental issues are not top of their list. It is therefore difficult to convince citizens why the City should spend more funds on environmental issues. The Mayor of Ho Chi Min City (Vietnam) emphasised that residents must be the most important stakeholder. They must be central to decision making, including planning as related to environmental issues. New York City's representative referred to their efforts to combat rising heat. For instance, they aim to have air conditioner in all homes, and they already made it a mandatory requirement for all public and private building/ construction projects.

Prof Norman from the University of Canberra (Australia) stressed that collaboration is key. She referred to a mix of stakeholders, including government, universities, private sector, and the community working together to succeed in achieving the goal to transition Canberra to 100% renewable energy between 2011 and 2020. Mr Frost from ARUP made the example of how a project for the hosting of the London Olympics in 2012 assisted in securing the transformation of, and flood resilience of East London. Once they saw the change, the community ceased complaining of the costs, and focused only on the value of the project. Ms Sorkin of the Resilient Cities Network closed the plenary noting that cities must prioritise collective collaboration, and that policies must enable financing to prepare for climate resilience. In addition, local buy in and ownership are of utmost importance.

9.7 Lee Kuan Yew (LKY) World City Prize (WCP) Lecture and Forum and Award Ceremony

The LKY World City Prize honours achievements and contributions made to the creation of liveable, vibrant and sustainable urban communities around the world. The Prize is named after Singapore's first Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, who

played a leading role in developing Singapore into a world-class city-state. At this Lecture and Forum, the Executive Mayor, together with the 2024 Prize Laureate and other Special Mentions presented a synopsis of their respective Prize applications.

Mexico City was awarded the 2024 LKY World City Prize for its commitment to uplift the lives of citizens through innovative and sustainable urban initiatives, especially for the less privileged. The successful implementation of transformative initiatives within a short period reflected the city's capability to initiate new initiatives, but also the commitment to see through their completion quickly. This highlights Mexico City's ability to convert challenges into an exemplary model for urban development. Mexico City's application included elements related to a citizen-centric urban and digital agenda, improving accessibility and public safety, and involving residents in transformational efforts.

Cape Town was honoured as one of the four Special Mention Cities. The Executive Mayor presentation focused on how Cape Town exemplifies resilience to climate change and crises through agile governance, demonstrated during its severe water crisis and COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring sustainable development and daily life resilience.

In addition to Cape Town, the other Special Mention cities for 2024 included Wellington, Rio de Janeiro, and Melbourne. Wellington was recognised for its commitment towards living with nature. The city stands out for its steadfast dedication to conserve and restore natural habitat in both urban and natural areas through innovative programmes. Melbourne was recognised for being a city emblematic of resilience and innovation, and redefining the urban landscape through a series of transformative initiatives over many decades, reaffirming its status as one of the most liveable cities in the world. Rio de Janeiro was recognised for taking bold moves to redefine its central area and waterfront, moving away from decades of a mono-functional downtown and suburban sprawl, which is a legacy from its historical development since the 1980s.

9.8 Meeting with Singapore's Minister of State: Home Affairs and National Development

The Executive Mayor met with Professor Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, who is Singapore's Minister of State responsible for Home Affairs and National Development. The Minister mentioned that sound policies, together with a clear vision, transformed Singapore into the world-class city of today. Moreover, Singapore's geographical location is a blessing, and it was, and still is, open to learn from others. Nonetheless, Singapore is struggling with population decline. They need more people to sustain, and ideally increase economic growth. They are providing incentives to young people to encourage them to get married, and start a family.

Singapore is open to expats/ migrants, and they are emphasising women empowerment through a number of initiatives. Home ownership is important for the government, and they prioritise the needs of the elderly. Transnational crime is a major threat to Singapore, and in response, the country's mandatory military service is important to build up defences.

In response, the Executive Mayor shared Cape Town's story, and plans for the future. Energy is the biggest challenge, and the City has current and future initiatives

to address the matter. He also referred to Cape Town's plans to follow Singapore's example concerning water re-use by building the biggest water re-use plant in the world in the near future. In addition, Cape Town has a so-called youth bubble, i.e. a huge proportion of youth, but unfortunately high (youth) unemployment. The City, together with the private sector, is doing its utmost best to respond to the challenge. One of the biggest success is the exponential growth of the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) sector over the last decade offering thousands of employment opportunities for especially young people finishing school or still studying.

9.9 Urban Leaders Roundtable

The Urban Leaders Roundtable (ULR) explored key themes such as functional, and vibrant, sustainability, inclusivity, and resilience, as it relates to climate change. It was entitled "Building tomorrow's Cities Today", and implicitly aimed to translate governance and policy into actionable urban strategies. The City Manager delivered a presentation focusing on the City's Day Zero Drought Response; how it helped with the City's Covid Response; and the City's efforts to build Resilience against Shocks.

In addition to his remark during his presentation, the City Manager also responded to questions from the moderator and audience. Some of his responses included, but were not limited to:

- Yes, Day Zero was a critical moment for us. We can never ever be in a position like that again. It taught us to pay attention to how the climate is changing and to proactively develop portfolios of projects to respond to the projected change.
- The City's portfolio approach to infrastructure is world leading. We developed our Infrastructure Development and Planning Framework, and invested heavily in technology to build and track projects using a portfolio response.
- We now have line of sight of our infrastructure projects over more than a decade. The number of projects ready for implementation each year are in fact more than our allocated budget.
- The good thing about having ready projects is if a shock event strikes, we have flexibility to move forward projects that respond to the shock, which may only have been planned for a few years away.

9.10 Session on Future Ready Cities: Advancing Resilience through Urban Digital Transformation

Director Hugh Cole spoke at this Session, which highlighted findings from a new study produced by Resilient Cities Network and Visa, showcasing how city governments around the world are coordinating digital and resilience strategies that catalyse context-driven progress. As a result of the event, the Visa Asia team has offered to make introductions to the Visa Africa-Middle East team, and they are interested in seeing how they can assist the City with digital payments data and analytics. This could be a useful source of spatialised and external high frequency data, which Cape Town currently do not have enough of.

9.11 Meeting with Singapore's Urban Redevelopment Agency (URA)

Director Hugh Cole met with the URA and did a deep dive session with their data and digital planning specialists. These yielded insights and advice relevant to CAR and the implementation of the Council approved Data Strategy. In particular, Cape Town can learn from how the URA accesses data from across government and promotes collaboration using digital planning tools and analytics use cases. Cape Town can

also learn from the URA on how to move towards and more digital, data driven and online land use management projection and infrastructure planning scenarios. The URA team invited Cape Town to future follow up online meetings as required, and to join their online workshops on relevant topics. Hugh Cole also had the opportunity to learn from URA on urban design for dealing with heat and combining heritage protection and redevelopment. As a result of this engagement, Cape Town is likely to be able to yield pro-bono technical assistance on topics relating to the data strategy and infrastructure planning. This kind of advice from practitioners who are more advanced than we are but have wrestled with similar issues is invaluable for us. It is not possible to get this kind of advice and technical assistance from other parts of the state in South Africa or from consulting firms.

9.12 Site Visit: Quality, and Sustainable Public Housing

Singapore's public housing is a testament of the Housing and Development Board's commitment to provide quality, and sustainable homes for Singaporeans. Located in Queenstown, SkyResidence @ Dawson is a contemporary addition to Singapore's first satellite town. Comprising eight connected residential blocks designed in a curvilinear form, this development also features a landscaped Green Ribbon that links all the residential blocks. Along the Green Ribbon are spaces for residents to interact and bond, such as seating nooks, play areas and fitness corners. The generous provision of 1.7ha of abundant greenery, including conserved mature trees, brings to life Dawson's 'Housing-in-a-Park' vision. The development's design also incorporates heritage elements. Some aspects of this model are appropriate to South Africa, and some elements are interesting to consider for the future, including the use of 99-year leases (to allow for redevelopment), the subsidy model and the balance of private ownership and public management.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CONTACT:

DATE			
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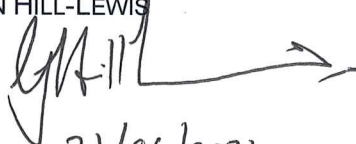
MAYORAL COMMITTEE MEMBER: FP&R

COMMENT:

ALD. GEORDIN HILL-LEWIS

SIGNATURE:

DATE


21/06/2024

☐ REPORT COMPLIANT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF COUNCIL'S DELEGATIONS, POLICIES, BY-LAWS AND ALL LEGISLATION RELATING TO THE MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION.

LEGAL COMPLIANCE

☐ NON-COMPLIANT

COMMENT:

NAME

TEL

DATE

Certified as legally compliant based on the contents of the report.