

## Special UBC General Conference (General Assembly)

20 May 2022, 14.00-15.00 CET on-line

Agenda as of 17.05.2022

1. Opening of the General Assembly.
2. Membership of Russian cities.

On 24 February 2022 Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Thousands of innocent civilians, including women and children have been dying due to bombing of housing estates, schools, hospitals. The humanitarian situation is dramatic, people are hiding from bombs in cellars without food, water or heating. Over 6 million of Ukrainians have been forced to flee abroad.

In the face of such a huge tragedy, the UBC Executive Board had a Special Board meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> of March and found the cooperation impossible, so took these decisions until the Special General Assembly makes final decisions.

In the Special Board meeting the Board decided:

- 1) To suspend membership of the Russian cities
- 2) To terminate the cities' positions in the UBC organs/bodies
- 3) To change the location of the next UBC General Conference.

Proposal for the final decision in the Special General Assembly:

- 1) The General Conference to vote on suspension or termination of Russian cities membership.
- 2) To support the Board decision on terminating the Russian cities' positions in the UBC organs/bodies.
- 3) To approve the Board decision on changing place of the GC and by same decision to call for Proposals of Cities by empowering the Board to make a choice if there is more than one proposal.

3. Establishing of the new UBC Commission on Education 'Learning Cities'. Presentation of Matti Mäkelä, Turku.

The UBC Executive Board was asked to establish a temporary UBC Commission on Education. The task of the temporary commission is to carry out the work plan of the Task Force on Youth Employment and Well-being, and to prepare for the General Conference (Assembly) a proposal of a new commission along with its long-term objectives. The proposal is supported by the following UBC member cities: Liepaja (Latvia), Naestved (Denmark), Riga (Latvia), Rostock (Germany), Turku (Finland) and Århus (Denmark). To be in line with other commissions it could be named eg. Learning Cities.

The Board decided to establish a new temporary UBC Commission on Education.

Proposal:

The General Conference to create the new UBC Commission on Education 'Learning Cities'.

4. Associated membership of the City of Vilnyansk (Ukraine). Presentation of Alexei Stoyanovsky.

Sustainability Expert Panel (StEP) Ukraine Co-Founder, contact person of Vilnyansk.

Vilnyansk is located in the northeastern part of the Zaporozhye region. It has 14,580 inhabitants. The main industries are machine, chemical and farming industries. Industrial potential is realised through a number of companies. Among the most recognized cultural sites, there are: St. Vladymyr Christian Orthodox Temple, Memorial for those who perished during WW2 and Afghanistan War (1979-1989), Chernobyl Memorial, Aaron Garden Monument to the Victims of Holocaust and Military captives. Vilnyansk offers many green areas to its inhabitants, e.g. the Jubilee Park (17 ha) with over 3.500 plant species.

On 4 April 2022, the Executive Board accepted City of Vilnyansk as an Associated City of UBC.

5. Information about the loss of infrastructure in Ukrainian cities. Anatolii Komirnyi, Deputy Minister of Infrastructure of Ukraine.