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Dear Friends of the International Housing Coalition:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank everyone who helped to make FY 2014 a successful year for the International Housing Coalition (IHC). The commitment of many individuals and organizations to contribute time, resources and support to the IHC is much appreciated and speaks of a mutual dedication to the housing and urban development challenges and related needs of the world’s poor. Particularly, I would like to thank Barbara McMurray who will have completed her first year as IHC President and CEO in January 2015.

The past year was significant for the IHC. Urban issues earned greater recognition and support developed for including an urban Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) as part of the post-2015 development agenda under consideration by the United Nations. The IHC continues to have a strong network of members, partners and colleagues, and a growing reputation as an informed and critical advocate for the world’s poorly housed and slum dwellers. During the year, the IHC received ongoing support from our founding sponsors—Habitat for Humanity International and the National Association of REALTORS—, a grant from the Wallace Genetic Foundation and support from members of the IHC coalition.

IHC accomplishments for the year are described in this report, but I would like to highlight a few of them.

During the year the IHC:

• Actively participated in discussions and debates about the need to include a sustainable urban development goal as part of the United Nations post-2015 development agenda;  
• In partnership with the Woodrow Wilson Center, sponsored roundtable discussions in Washington, D.C., with international development community officials and urban experts;  
• Attended the World Urban Forum in Medellin, Columbia, in April 2014 and organized seminars on gender and property rights and urban water and sanitation;  
• Continued sponsorship with the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the Woodrow Wilson Center and other partners of a very successful and growing international urban essay competition for graduate students; and  
• Continued to advocate for funding of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act.

In FY 2015 the IHC will continue to make policymakers aware of the importance of gender and property rights, urbanization, the housing problems of slum dwellers and the urban poor and the importance of focusing more resources on the fast growing cities of the developing world. We hope you will join us in these efforts.

Sincerely

[Signature]

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The International Housing Coalition (IHC) is a nonprofit membership organization, headquartered in Washington, D.C., that advocates for better housing conditions, slum improvements, and effective responses to rapid urban growth in developing nations.

Recognizing that the development community did not provide adequate attention to the issues of housing conditions and the urban poor, Habitat for Humanity International, the National Association of REALTORS and the Canadian Real Estate Association formed the IHC in 2005. Today, the coalition includes private companies, nonprofit groups, professional associations and research institutions. Current and past supporters include the Rockefeller Foundation, the Wallace Genetic Foundation, the Leonard P. Reaume Foundation, the US Agency for International Development, and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

If your organization believes that improving housing and slum conditions in the developing world should be a priority on the international development agenda, we encourage you to become a member. Members provide a critical source of funding and support that enables the IHC to carry out its research, education and advocacy work.

Members receive regular information about meetings and conferences organized by the IHC. They also receive emails about issues related to foreign assistance and new programs and efforts to address urban housing conditions around the world.

MEMBERSHIP: More information about membership opportunities can be found on the IHC’s website www.intlhc.org.

DONATIONS: The IHC also welcomes individual donations. All contributions are tax-deductible. Checks can be made out to the International Housing Coalition, or donations can be made via our website.

Thank you for supporting the International Housing Coalition!

www.intlhc.org
The IHC sponsored and participated in numerous events this year. Staff represented the IHC at two international events: the World Urban Forum and the annual meetings of the Global Shelter Cluster; sponsored two events focused on housing in Latin America; launched a successful series of closed door roundtables for urban policymakers and practitioners; co-sponsored the 5th annual Urban Poverty Essay Competition for masters and PhD students; and organized a side event on gender and property rights for the first preparatory meeting of UN Habitat’s Habitat III conference.
Anjali Bean represented InterAction and the IHC at an international conference in Geneva in October. She attended the annual 13b meeting of the Shelter Centre and a meeting of the Global Shelter Cluster. Both meetings were focused on information sharing and partnerships regarding shelter related disaster response. Information was shared with those designing the Shelter Cluster’s new advocacy strategy, as well as organizations participating in some limited advocacy activities such as Catholic Relief Services, the Norwegian Refugee Council and the American Red Cross.
Barbara McMurray traveled to Medellin, Columbia, in April 2014 to participate in the 7th World Urban Forum. The bi-annual conference, sponsored by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) convenes representatives of government, civil society, academia and the private sector to discuss the issues of cities and urbanization. In addition to meeting and networking with IHC members, sponsors, partners and critical players involved in slums and housing, the IHC organized two “networking sessions,” or knowledge sharing seminars. One focused on gender and property rights and the other on urban water and sanitation. The 5th annual urban poverty essay competition was also launched at the forum.

Networking Session: Gender and Property Rights
In the last few years, gender sensitive legislation and policies have been enacted in some countries, but have often failed to impact the lives of women in cities or to increase their opportunities to own land and property. Some regulatory frameworks recognize women’s rights, yet many women in cities do not feel empowered or able to act on regulatory promises and address the multiple barriers to land and property ownership. Based on experiences in the field, the session presented different approaches to eliminating legal, political and social, and customary barriers to women owning land and property. It highlighted lessons learned in terms of empowerment, equity, and capacity building.

The session was moderated by IHC CEO Barbara McMurray and featured: Elizabeth Blake, Senior Vice President, Habitat for Humanity International; Janet Peterson, Director and Global Chair, Huairou Commission; and Judith Hermanson, Deputy Executive Director and COO, Pan American Development Foundation. The event was very well attended and a lively question and answer period produced stimulating discussion.

Networking Session: Urban Water and Sanitation
The value of universal access to sanitation and water is well documented. However, the current approach to urban services has created a situation where 2.5 billion people worldwide lack access to sanitation. Access to piped water supply for most African cities is worse today than in 1990. Substantial inequities arise from lack of access, availability, and affordability to urban water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), which produces negative health, infrastructure, and economic outcomes for urban poor populations.
and women, in particular. The panel discussed issues and constraints to improving WASH planning, access and availability for cities and slum dwellers and identified successful programs and approaches in Latin America and Sub-Saharan Africa.

The session was co-sponsored by IHC member Water Aid America and featured: Jay Graham, Assistant Professor, George Washington University; Susanna Rojas Williams, Habitat for Humanity; Daniel Adom, UN Habitat, and Joseph Muturi and Irene Karanja, Slum Dwellers International. The panel, moderated by Ms. McMurray, discussed issues ranging from community driven water projects, to large-scale, city wide planning challenges.

**Urban Poverty Essay Competition**

IHC and partners the Woodrow Wilson Center, Cities Alliance, USAID and the World Bank, officially launched the 5th Urban Poverty Essay Competition at the World Urban Forum. Information about the competition and requirements were available at the Cities Alliance booth. The winners of the 4th Annual Urban Poverty essay competition were also given the chance to present their work. The winning research was presented by Caleb Harper, on behalf of his two team members. The research investigated an Inter-American Development Bank project in Brazil, assessing the success of two different housing upgrade designs. The research found that allowing for incremental change and potential space for economic activities in the home or communal areas made a dramatic difference in the success of the program.
In 2016, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat) will convene a conference focused on cities and human settlements. The third of its kind, Habitat III aims to result in powerful consensus on efforts needed to achieve sustainable urban development and growth over the next 20 years.

The IHC was selected to host a side event at the first preparatory committee (prepcom) meeting at the United Nations in New York in early September. Building off the successful panel at the World Urban Forum in April, IHC CEO Barbara McMurray was joined by a distinguished panel to discuss the importance of ensuring the rights of women to own land and property in the developing world. The all-woman panel included Elizabeth Blake, Senior Vice President, Government Relations, Advocacy and General Counsel – Habitat for Humanity International; Janet Peterson, Director and Global Chair – Huairou Commission; and Judith Hermanson, Deputy Executive Director and COO – the Pan American Development Foundation. The panel focused on lessons learned from field projects around the world and on priorities and solutions for the future.
Each year, the IHC sponsors a paper competition for current masters and PHD students, in partnership with the Woodrow Wilson Center, USAID, the World Bank and Cities Alliance. The competition promotes new ideas to address urban poverty in the developing world. Each year the topics vary, with the best papers being published as a book by the Woodrow Wilson Center. The authors of the three winning papers presented their work at a workshop in Washington, D.C.

The themes of the 5th annual urban poverty essay competition were: (1) cities and climate change; (2) urban resiliency; (3) inclusive cities; and (4) the informal urban economy. Each year the competition continues to grow, and this year was no exception. Nearly 150 abstracts were submitted from 29 countries, from which 23 full papers were requested. The grand winner, in addition to the trip to Washington, will participate in a forum with the Cities Alliance at their headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.

GRAND PRIZE WINNER:
Eric Chu, Urban Development and Climate Adaptation: Implications for Policymaking and Governance in Indian Cities

WINNERS:
Clifford Amoako, The Politics of Flood Vulnerability in Informal Settlements around the Korle Lagoon in Accra, Ghana
Signe Jung Sørensen, Self-employment in the informal sector: Empty promise for absorbing unemployed urban youth? New evidence from Ghana

The group will come to Washington, D.C., in January 2015 to present their work, and will be published with a selected list of semi-finalists in a book by the Woodrow Wilson Center.
The IHC and the Woodrow Wilson Center partnered this year to begin a series of roundtables. These informal and off the record conversations provide opportunities for NGOs, donors and government experts focused on urban development to exchange information and share progress and challenges. Four meetings were held between February and September, with the intent to host more going forward.

The meetings cover a variety of urban related topics but focused in 2014 on efforts to engage in the post-2015 development agenda. Many agencies headquartered in Washington D.C., are interested but not fully engaged in the process of shaping the future Sustainable Development Goals. It has been beneficial to learn from and share expertise with those actively engaged in the UN process in New York and around the world.

The group has expanded over time to include participants from USAID, the World Bank, Habitat for Humanity, UN Habitat, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the State Department, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Communitas, the Ford Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation and others.
Housing Finance in Latin America

The USAID Alumni Association and the IHC, in partnership with the Woodrow Wilson Center, hosted a seminar on May 6 to explore recent approaches to stimulating urban infrastructure financing in Latin America. Panelists discussed recent Latin American innovations in urban infrastructure financing, and efforts to make Latin American cities more creditworthy. Moderated by David Painter, former director of housing and urban programs at USAID, the panel included: Lisa DaSilva, International Finance Corporation; Fernando Gama, Evensen Dodge International, Inc; David Grossman, International City/County Management Association; David C. Jones, former World Bank financial advisor; and Axel Radics, Inter-American Development Bank.

Rental Housing in Latin America

In May, the IHC partnered with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the National Association of REALTORS to host an event discussing the role of rental housing in Latin America and examining successful programs and lessons learned. Donors and developing country governments have largely ignored the importance of the rental housing market in favor of home ownership despite rental housing being the predominant form of tenure in many cities. The seminar focused on the demand for rental housing, affordability issues and what actions cities in Latin America have taken to promote rental housing.

The panel featured Andres Blanco, Senior Specialist for housing and urban development at IDB. The IDB conducted a two-year study of rental housing in Latin America, and Blanco reported on the Bank’s findings and recommendations. Three housing experts joined Mr. Blanco and provided comments on the issues raised in his presentation: Larry Hannah, consultant and a former economist for the World Bank; Eric Belski, managing director of the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University; and Ellen Hamilton, lead urban specialist at the World Bank. Peter Kimm, IHC Board Chairman Emeritus, moderated the panel.
The IHC participated in numerous advocacy activities during the year, in partnership with many other organizations. Activities included lobbying for the passage of the Paul Simon Water for the World Act, partnering with Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) and Congressman Earl Blumenauer to draft a new version of the Shelter Land and Urban Management (SLUM) Act, and continued efforts to ensure that a goal on cities and urban development is included in the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
The IHC continued to make a strong case for an increased focus on urban water and sanitation, among the WASH community. Staff from the IHC recognized World Water Day this year, participating in a lobby day focused on gaining support for the 2014 Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act. This act raises the profile of water and sanitation programs at USAID, and codifies the requirements and changes required by the new Water and Development Strategy. The Act has broad bipartisan support, and has had considerable by-in from USAID and the State Department. The advocacy community is very hopeful that it will pass before the end of the 113th Congress in December 2014.
While in Congress, IHC Board member and former Congressman Brad Miller introduced a piece of legislation called the Shelter Land and Urban Management (SLUM) Act. Though ultimately not approved by Congress, the bill promoted the importance of cities and the need for more concentrated efforts from the US government to address the issue of slums in the developing world.

This year, Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) took up the mantle in Congress, and began to explore the idea of reintroducing similar legislation. In partnership with Habitat for Humanity, the IHC provided background research and information for a new piece of legislation that would focus attention on slums, adequate housing and basic services in the developing world. The IHC and HFHI also convened a high-level listening session for the congressman to hear from a panel of experts about the most important issues facing cities in the developing world.
The Millennium Development Goals, agreed upon by the United Nations in 2000, will expire at the end of 2015, and work continued this year to develop a framework of Sustainable Development Goals to replace them. The IHC remains actively involved in advocating for the inclusion of a goal focused on sustainable cities, and particularly a target on adequate housing. Specific activities included:

**COMMUNITAS ADVISORY MEETING—DECEMBER 2013**

IHC board chairman Bob Dubinsky attended a Ford Foundation seminar in New York City in September 2013 to discuss how NGOs and foundations can effectively support an urban goal. The meeting initiated contact with Communitas, an international coalition that is a major supporter of that goal. As a result, Dubinsky and Dan Petrie of HFHI were made members of a Communitas advisory committee on housing and urban services and asked to comment on issue papers being prepared. In December 2013 Dubinsky attended a Communitas meeting in New York City and served on a panel to inform UN member countries about the development goals.
The IHC experienced some major organizational changes during the year. The Board hired Barbara McMurray as the new President and CEO in January. Elizabeth Blake retired from Habitat for Humanity International and stepped down from the IHC board. Four new organizations joined the coalition. The IHC received financial support from the founding sponsors, the Wallace Genetic Foundation, personal donations from an online fundraising campaign, and membership contributions.
The IHC hired a new President and CEO in January 2014, after a lengthy executive search. A committee consisting of members of the IHC Board and Management Committee was appointed to vet candidates, and Barbara McMurray was hired by the full Board of Directors at the annual meeting in December 2013. Bob Dubinsky served as an interim CEO, from August to December 2013, to allow time for the organization to perform a sufficient search. Mr. Dubinsky resumed his position as the Chairman of the Board of Directors on January 1, 2014, after successfully leading the executive search and managing daily operations for the IHC.

Barbara has more than 20 years of senior management experience and a broad understanding of the international housing industry and the challenges faced by the urban poor in the developing world. Her expertise includes strategic planning and development, administration, marketing and business development. She has managed global projects and overseas offices, worked in 34 countries and lived in South Africa.

McMurray most recently served as a Senior Vice President of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) for 11 years, including serving as the Chief Executive for four major divisions of the organization. She led two major membership divisions of the organization to unprecedented financial growth. She has extensive experience in creating and developing educational programs and special events, both domestically and internationally.
BOARD CHANGES

At the end of FY14, Elizabeth Blake, IHC Board Treasurer and representative from Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI), retired after eight and half years with HFHI and seven years on the IHC board. Ms. Blake provided thoughtful and active counsel and support of the IHC, and played an important role in sustaining and providing direction to the IHC.

NEW MEMBERS

The IHC approved four new organizations as members this year. These members join an already strong coalition and the IHC looks forward to continued growth in FY 2015. The following members joined in FY 2014:

Civil Credit Advisors is a consultancy focused on essential infrastructure finance policy and practice in the US and Emerging Markets. CivilCredit Advisors is an SEC- and MSRB-registered Municipal Advisor.

The Millennium Water Alliance (MWA) is a 501(c)(3) organization that offers sustainable solutions through advocacy, shared knowledge, and collaborative programming. MWA’s vision mirrors our belief that no one should die or suffer chronic illness as the result of a water-related disease.

Cordaid is a civil society organization focusing on development and collaboration in vulnerable regions and areas of conflict. Cordaid is based in The Netherlands, but works with local and national authorities in the world’s most fragile areas.

Westmoreland Associates is a St. Louis based consulting firm specializing in financial, governance and urban development issues and serving for profit and nonprofit clients. Its clients include banks, universities, hospitals and developers. It is a principal advisor to a consortium developing a 200-acre urban development site in St. Louis that will include a bio tech park and retail and housing development. It has helped secure financing for a number of affordable housing projects.
IHC FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Wallace Genetic Grant

The Wallace Genetic Foundation continues to provide the IHC with generous annual support, and particularly supports IHC efforts to promote the importance of water and sanitation and urban services. The Foundation provided a grant for general operating funds to the IHC.

CrowdRise Fundraising

Under new leadership from Barbara McMurray, the IHC embarked on a new fundraising campaign this summer, aimed at individual donors. The IHC has historically focused on organizational members and support; however this new fundraising mechanism allows individuals who wish to support our work to donate safely and easily, using the site CrowdRise.

Founding Sponsor and Membership Support

The IHC continues to receive generous annual support from its two founding sponsors—Habitat for Humanity International and the National Association of REALTORS—as well as more than 30 members.
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IHC Fundraising activities
VI. 2014 IHC MEMBERS

AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust
Affordable Housing Institute
Abt Associates
Beekman Advisors
Canadian Real Estate Association*
Chemonics International
Civil Credit Advisors
Cordaid
Development Innovations Group
Enclude LLC
Food for the Poor
Global Communities
Global Urban Development
Habitat for Humanity International*
Housing Partnership Network
International City/County Management Association
International Real Property Foundation
Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University
J.J. Palmtag, Inc.
Landesa
Manabik Shahajya Sangstha
Millennium Water Alliance
Mortgage Bankers Association
National Association of Home Builders
National Association of REALTORS *
National Housing Conference
Pan American Development Foundation
Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
Research Triangle Institute (RTI)
Somerset Development Company
Stewart Information International
TCG International
Urban Institute
Urban Land Institute Terwilliger Center for Housing
US Green Building Council
Water Aid America
Westmoreland Associates
Women’s Council of REALTORS

* IHC Founding Sponsor
VII. BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MANAGEMENT, AND STAFF

IHC Board of Directors

OFFICERS
Bob Dubinsky, Chairman, Housing Consultant
Elizabeth K. Blake, Treasurer, Senior Vice President, Advocacy and Government Affairs and General Counsel, Habitat for Humanity International
Dick Gaylord, Corporate Secretary, Former President, National Association of REALTORS

MEMBERS
Calvin Lindberg, Former President, Canadian Real Estate Association
Brad Miller, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress; Counsel, Grais & Ellsworth LLP
Marc Weiss, Chairman and CEO, Global Urban Development
Roger Williams, Founder, Rogelio Williams & Associates
Susan Corts Hill, Public Policy Consultant
Peter Kimm, (Board Chairman Emeritus)

IHC Staff

Bob Dubinsky, President and Chief Executive Officer (August 1, 2013 – December 31, 2013)
Barbara McMurray, President and Chief Executive Officer (January 1, 2014 – Present)
Anjali Bean, Policy and Research Associate

IHC Management Committee

Janet Branton, Senior Vice President, Global Business and Alliances, National Association of REALTORS
Jane Katz, Director of International Affairs and Programs, Habitat for Humanity International
Chris Vincent, Senior Director, Congressional Relations/International Affairs, Habitat for Humanity International