**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. **People-centred cities are culture-centred spaces**

1.1. **Enhance the liveability of cities and safeguard their identities:** The conservation and safeguarding of urban cultural heritage in all its forms should be integrated into people-centred urban regeneration strategies to enhance the liveability of cities while respecting their identities.

1.2. **Ensure social inclusion in cities through culture:** In light of the evolving identities of cities, decision-makers should adopt proactive policies to recognize and promote cultural diversity as an asset for social inclusion in cities.

1.3. **Promote creativity and innovation in urban development through culture:** Creativity and innovation, including digital technologies, should be fostered as resources for sustainable urban development and to improve local livelihood.

1.4. **Build on culture for dialogue and peace-building initiatives:** Culture should be a core component of urban initiatives to facilitate social cohesion and mutual understanding, to counter urban violence and contribute to peace building.

2. **Quality urban environments are shaped by culture**

2.1. **Foster human scale and mixed-use cities by drawing on lessons learnt from urban conservation practices:** Urban heritage offers examples of human scale and mixed-use urban ensembles that can inform sustainable urban development models through integrating cultural and natural resources. Local authorities should review their urban development strategies by enhancing the knowledge of the historic cultural assets.

2.2. **Promote a liveable built and natural environment:** Urban cultural and natural heritage should be safeguarded to allow people and communities to connect with their urban environment.

2.3. **Enhance the quality of public spaces through culture:** The planning, design and use of public spaces should integrate a cultural approach, based on heritage and cultural and creative activities, to foster social inclusion.

2.4. **Improve urban resilience through culture-based solutions:** Local authorities should integrate heritage and traditional knowledge into urban strategies to address environmental concerns.

3. **Sustainable cities need integrated policy-making that builds on culture**

3.1. **Regenerate cities and rural-urban linkages by integrating culture at the core of urban planning:** Safeguarding cultural heritage and promoting creativity should be integral to urban strategies, from planning to implementation. The tangible and intangible cultural resources of small settlements should be safeguarded to enhance economic and social benefits in the broader regional context.

3.2. **Build on culture as a sustainable resource for inclusive economic and social development:** Decision-makers should lever culture to contribute to local economic and social development and provide equitable benefits for communities and individuals. National and local authorities should further develop indicators and data collection on the impact of culture at local level to refine policy-making.

3.3. **Promote participatory processes through culture and enhance the role of communities in local governance:** Culture-based urban governance entails the commitment, collaboration, coordination and synergy between different stakeholders at all levels. Stronger regional cooperation and partnership should be promoted between cities to continue prospering together.

3.4. **Develop innovative and sustainable financial models for culture:** Local authorities should ensure that appropriate financial support is dedicated to culture as a means of contributing to economic and social development, as well as urban liveability.