



London, 27 September 2019

Re: HIC Presidential Election 2019-2023 – DPU’s endorsement to Adriana Allen

Dear HIC Electoral Committee and members,

As Director of the Bartlett Development Planning Unit (DPU), UCL – HIC member UKMMO020 – it gives me great pleasure to confirm our full support to the nomination of Adriana Allen for the HIC presidential election for the period 2019-2023.

DPU is part of University College London (UCL), and though based in London, since its inception 65 years ago, our work has been deeply rooted in co-producing knowledge for change across the global South. Our vision and mission build upon the ground-breaking work of former DPU staff like Otto Koenigsberger, John Turner, Patrick Wakely, Ronaldo Ramirez and Caroline Moser, among other founding members of the DPU. Their intellectual legacy remains as relevant today as in prior decades: to strengthen the capacity of and opportunities for women and men to fulfil their right to the city.

Adriana has been an active contributor towards the enhancement of our vision and delivery of our mission. I have known and worked closely with her since the early 1990s, when she joined the DPU with lots of experience after working for many years as a researcher and activist in her native Argentina and other parts of Latin America. Soon after completing her postgraduate studies, Adriana was invited to join the DPU family as a staff member, injecting new ideas into the work we do, and developing a new stream of advocacy, capacity building, research and pedagogical work to tackle urban challenges from an environmental justice perspective. Over the years, she has worked for sustained periods in various countries across Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East interacting at equal ease with local communities, governmental actors and international organisations. She is a born leader, strategic thinker and communicator, and a great team player and builder.

My colleagues and I are confident that Adriana’s remarkable professional trajectory and professional skills, work ethics and dedication will be a significant asset to the Habitat International Coalition. She has the full support of the DPU to take on this challenge.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Julio D. Dávila', written in a cursive style.

Julio D. Dávila, BSc MSc PhD FICE
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