

# The Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Internal Governance



A document to provide governance guidelines for the functioning of the MUFPP

January 2026

## 1. Governance structure of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact

In May 2016, the Drafting Committee<sup>1</sup> of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP) voted to define the governance of the MUFPP by establishing a **Secretariat** and a **Steering Committee** (SC), indicating the **Chair** and defining the **Milan Pact's internal rules**. The Drafting Committee also established the criteria and requirements for the selection of Hosting Cities of MUFPP Global Forum.

## 2. Chair of the MUFPP

The **Mayor of Milan**, representing the founding city, **is the Chair of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact**. The Municipality of Milan is also a **permanent member of the SC**. As Chair, **the Municipality of Milan hosts the MUFPP Secretariat** and ensures the proper and smooth running of its activities through dedicated staff and resources.

## 3. The MUFPP Secretariat

Since May 2016, the Municipality of Milan has ensured the operation of the MUFPP Secretariat through the establishment of an office with dedicated director and staff. The Secretariat is now **established within the Food Policy Department in the Education Division, of the Municipality of Milan**.

Its duty is to **ensure the constant and strategic functioning of the network**, with reference to:

1. **supporting the work of the Chair** in achieving the MUFPP mission;
2. **supporting the Steering Committee and signatory cities' activities** in the implementation of the MUFPP;
3. the co-organizing of the **MUFPP Global and Regional Fora**, including tailored support to the Hosting City;
4. organizing the **Milan Pact Awards** (MPA);
5. promoting and coordinating **partnerships** among international and regional food networks, international organizations;
6. coordinating **advocacy and communication actions** to address international debates;
7. providing **useful tools, research and knowledge products** for signatory cities for the implementation of sustainable urban food policies;
8. promoting **knowledge exchange activities** through trainings and capacity building activities;
9. developing **project proposals**.

## 4. The MUFPP Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is the **representation of the MUFPP signatory cities at a regional level**, providing strategic oversight to ensure the MUFPP mission and mandate are fully fulfilled in the different regions. The SC is **directly involved in driving the MUFPP governance** and collective vision, along with the Chair and the Secretariat.

<sup>1</sup>Members of the Drafting Committee were: Baltimore, Belo Horizonte, Bethlehem, Dakar, Douala, Medellin, Milan, São Paulo, s-Hertogenbosch, Tel Aviv-Yafo and Turin.

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## 4.1 Composition

The Steering Committee shall be composed of **13 members** representing each geographic area, thus subdivided in:

- Africa: 2 cities;
- Asia Pacific: 2 cities;
- Eurasia & South West Asia: 2 cities;
- Europe: 2 cities plus the city of Milan as permanent member;
- North & Central America: 2 cities;
- South America: 2 cities;

The **first Steering Committee** served between 2017–2018 and was composed of: Abidjan, Astana, Athens, Baltimore, Belo Horizonte, Buenos Aires, Dakar, Milan, Nairobi, São Paulo, Tel Aviv–Yafo, Toronto, Valencia.

The **second Steering Committee** served between 2019–2020 and was composed of: Abidjan, Almere, Belo Horizonte, Dakar, Milan, Nairobi, New Haven, Rio de Janeiro, San Antonio de Areco, Seoul, Tel Aviv – Yafo, Toronto, Valencia.

The **third Steering Committee** served between 2021–2022 and was composed of: Antananarivo, Bandung, Barcelona, Belo Horizonte, Birmingham, Kazan, Mérida, Milan, New Haven, Ouagadougou, Rosario, Seoul, Tel Aviv–Yafo.

The **fourth Steering Committee** served between 2023–2025 and was composed of: Addis Ababa, Baltimore, Bandung, Barcelona, Belo Horizonte, Birmingham, Dakar, Guadalajara, Istanbul, Jabalpur, Milan, Rosario, Seoul.

## 4.2 Responsibilities of SC members

Members of the Steering Committee shall:

- 1.**represent the signatory cities** of their respective regions;
  - 2.**participate in Steering Committee meetings;**
  - 3.**develop and implement**, in accordance with the MUFPP Secretariat, **a Leadership Plan** for their respective regions;
  - 4.**engage and communicate** with other signatory cities in their region about **the work of the Steering Committee** and to **report back** to the Steering Committee **about relevant issues in the region;**
  - 5.promote along with the MUFPP Secretariat the MUFPP mission within their region by:
    - **encouraging other cities** active on food policy **to sign the Milan Pact** involving regional stakeholders;
    - **engaging signatory cities in the MUFPP activities;**
    - **supporting the organisation of Regional Forum** in their geographical area (at least one during the mandate);
    - supporting cities of each own region in **submitting practices to the MPA;**
    - **facilitating knowledge exchange and interaction among signatory cities;**
    - **engaging in advocacy actions** at the regional and international level;
  - 6.provide **advice and assistance to the Secretariat** relating to the implementation of the activities undertaken by the MUFPP.
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7. proposing **candidacies to host the Global Forum** from signatory cities of their respective regions;
8. **decide on the selection and approval of the Global Forum Hosting City**;
9. collaborate with the Secretariat to **support the Hosting City in developing** the main themes of **the Global Forum**;
10. **mobilize funding opportunities** for cities in the respective regions;
11. provide for **suspension procedures** for SC member cities not complying with their tasks and duties within the Steering Committee, as stipulated in par. 4.6.

#### 4.3 Election

Every signatory city has **the right and the duty to vote for its representatives**. Each city shall vote **only for candidate cities belonging to its geographical area**. Each city may cast **up to 2 votes** as long as they are not belonging to the same country. Europe shall be represented by 2 cities plus the Municipality of Milan (as Chair of the MUFPP and permanent SC member). The **two cities per each region receiving the highest number of votes will be considered the elected cities** in the Steering Committee.

#### 4.4 Duration of Mandate

The SC shall serve for a **two-year term** from the moment of its election.

#### 4.5 Frequency of meetings and Decision-making process

The Steering Committee shall hold **regular meetings**, at least **3 times per year (online)**, and **one in-person meeting**, coinciding with the MUFPP Global Forum. The Steering Committee will **discuss key issues** related to its responsibilities pursuant to par. 4.2. The Steering Committee shall **adopt decisions by simple majority**. The Municipality of Milan shall not vote unless a tie break vote is necessary.

#### 4.6 Suspension procedure

Should a member of the Steering Committee **consistently fail to comply** with its tasks and duties, it shall be put up to a **simple majority vote** by the SC **to be removed from its role**.

MUFPP Steering Committee representatives during the SC in-person meeting held at Palazzo Marino on the first day of the MUFPP Global Forum 2025 in Milan





## ANNEX

Criteria and minimum requirements to select Hosting cities of MUFPP Global Fora.

Candidate cities, in order to be considered for hosting an MUFPP Global Forum must provide for:

1. an **adequate hosting venue**;
2. **organizational and logistic expertise** in managing large international events;
3. **full financial means** to support the entire organization and logistics of the event travel expenses and hospitality for participating members of LDCs (Least Developed Countries);
4. **Global Forum event theme and concept**;
5. synergy with a larger international event;

6. the **dates proposed should be around the World Food Day (mid-October)**;

7. **adequate online platform** (in the MUFPP website) dedicated to the event, real-time release of information (photographs, videos, etc.) and PR strategies to increase media coverage.

8. **participation in the works and meetings of the SC** (with no voting rights) for the duration of the year of interest only if not already a member of the Steering Committee

In January 2020 the Steering Committee approved the “Guidelines to host the MUFPP Global Forum” with detailed information to be made available to all cities interested in hosting the event.

13 October 2025, Milan.  
In-person Steering Committee meeting

