Suggested cover letter to contributor (please adapt it to your context)

Re: International Manifesto Relay 2023: How can Architecture contribute to social and environmental change?

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing on behalf of the UIA (International Union of Architects) World Congress 2023 and the CAFx (Copenhagen Architecture Festival).

They are calling for architects, designers, urbanists, and planners from across the planet to create a written or visually composed manifesto addressing the roles and potentialities of architecture and urbanism in the fulfillment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

They have asked us to select up to three leading architects/designers/artists/planners in the field to respond to this call and we have chosen you.

We consider it an urgent call for action and collaboration and support this initiative strongly. Therefore, we hope you will contribute. They are looking for manifestos that can bring a local voice into a bigger global mosaic of perspectives relating to the United Nation’s Agenda to ‘Leave No One Behind’ — covering the 17 SDGs.

The manifestos will be used for kickstarting debates, inspiration and exhibitions leading up to, during and after the UIA World Congress 2023 in Copenhagen, Denmark (www.uia2023cph.org)

The International Manifesto Relay is a continuation and international upscaling of the Copenhagen Architecture Festival’s Manifesto Relay from 2019 (in Danish only). It will focus on the 17 SDGs in the context of the built environment, and it will emphasize the importance of cooperation and transnational exchanges in architecture in a time of planetary and humanitarian crises that require global action and locally rooted transformatory practices. The manifestos received will result in a digital and physical publication that can initiate important conversations and reflections on the societal role of architecture in relation to the 17 SDGs.

Furthermore, the manifestos will be permanently accessible as a free-of-charge online resource to be used globally by grass-roots organisations, professionals, students, decision-makers and others for debates, exhibitions, inspiration, etc.

Attached is the International Manifesto Relay Call describing the motivation behind the call, the guidelines and the intended afterlife of the collected manifestos. The deadline to submit your manifesto is April 12th, 2022. You will find the submission link in the call.

We sincerely hope you will accept our invite to contribute to this inspiring initiative.

On behalf of Copenhagen Architecture Festival, UIA World Congress 2023 CPH and Name of LOCAL ARCHITECTURE ASSOCIATION

Yours sincerely,