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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

***UK Government & Boston University Release Joint Report
on Cities' Net-Zero Ambitions***

BOSTON – A new [Accelerating Cities' Net Zero Action](#) report, created in partnership with Boston University Institute for Sustainable Energy and the UK Government, aims to increase the ambition of cities in the UK and the US to set and achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions targets ahead of COP26 this November.

In the lead up to the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) launched "*Race to Zero*," a global campaign to rally leadership and support from all non-state actors for a healthy, resilient, zero carbon recovery. To support this effort, earlier this year, the Boston University Institute for Sustainable Energy (BU ISE) worked with the UK Government to deliver two virtual roundtables, branded as visioning labs, which convened stakeholders from city government, academia, and net zero experts from North America and the UK.

The result of these visioning labs was the **Accelerating Cities' Net Zero Action** report, developed to promote cross learning and collaboration between US and UK cities during a year focused on ambitious climate action around the world. The participants included representatives of cities who have already set a net zero target and signed up for the "*Race to Zero*" (Austin, TX; Boston, MA; Boulder, CO; Bristol, UK; Columbia, MO; Glasgow, UK; Houston, TX; Providence, RI; Salt Lake City, UT; San Francisco, CA; Vancouver, Canada; Washington, DC) as well as representatives of cities who are considering or beginning to implement a net zero target. Since the conclusion of the visioning labs, several cities have signed on to "*Race to Zero*" campaign (Concord, NH; Orlando & Tampa, FL; Cincinnati, OH; San Antonio, TX; Boise, ID; Hartford, CT).

The involvement of academics and net zero experts from non-profit groups - C40, PCAN, UK100, Climate and Urban Systems Partnerships (CUSP), Climate Mayors, and MetroLab Networks - served to illuminate for cities that networks can support them and provide additional capacity to develop

net zero roadmaps. The visioning labs convened a total of 51 stakeholders including representatives of 28 cities.

"Getting towards the green economy of the future will not be a drag on our overall economic development," said **Peter Abbott OBE, British Consul General to New England**. "Studies suggest that for every dollar spent on climate action \$3-\$8 are returned to the economy. This Net Zero Action Report is a road map for our regional partners to help take their first steps towards making that green economy future a reality."

"City-university partnerships can be a powerful accelerant to our decarbonization transition, supporting the crucial effort to achieve dramatic emissions mitigation in the coming decade to maintain a sustainable future," said **Dr. Jacquie Ashmore, Executive Director, Boston University Institute for Sustainable Energy**.

For more information on the UNFCCC "Race to Zero" visit: <https://unfccc.int/climate-action/race-to-zero-campaign>.

For more information on COP26 visit: <https://ukcop26.org/>.

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