



**2023 First Bureau Meeting of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent  
Representatives 2021/2023**

Hybrid

Wednesday, 12 April 2023

14:30 hrs. to 16:00 hrs. East Africa Time

**Statement by the Executive Director**

*(Draft of 11 April 2023)*

SLIDE 0: Title slide

**Slide 1: Provisional Agenda**

*Adoption of the Provisional Agenda led by the Chair.*

1. Adoption of the provisional Agenda.
2. Status of submission of draft resolutions to be considered by the second open-ended meeting of the CPR in preparations for the second session of the United Nations Assembly.
3. Organization of work during the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat (OECPR).
4. Scenarios associated with the upcoming elections to be held during the second OECPR and during the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
5. Any other matters.

**SLIDE 2: (Title Slide) Agenda item 2. Status of submission of draft resolutions to be considered by the second open-ended meeting of the CPR in preparations for the second session of the United Nations Assembly (BY ED)**

***(ED's REMARKS)***

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

Excellencies,

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening.

I welcome all of you to this first meeting of the CPR Bureau for the year 2023, noting that the Members of this Bureau took part in the meeting of the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly which took place on 15 February 2023, in your capacities as Vice Presidents of the Assembly. I also would like to introduce the new Deputy Executive Director Mr. Michal Mlynar who is participating with us in this Bureau meeting for the first time in his new capacity. Madam Chair, with your permission, allow me to give the DED a few minutes just to give us his welcoming words.

With respect to the present agenda item on the status of submission of the draft resolutions to be considered by the OECPR, you would recall that during the meeting on 15 February 2023, the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly recommended that Members States should submit any draft resolutions by 15 April 2023.

Internally, we have organised ourselves within the umbrella of a Task Force that is leading the preparations for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, including, to provide technical inputs to any Member State or a group of Member States in preparing proposed resolutions.

Madam Chair, there has been some progress with regard to our technical support to Member States in the preparations of draft resolutions, and I now wish to call on Raf to provide an update on the status of submission of draft resolutions. Our

colleagues, Shipra and Edlam who have been specifically guiding the technical support to Member States are also at hand to provide any further inputs.

Raf, you have the floor.

**(RAF TAKES OVER.)**

## **SLIDE 3: Expectations and ideas on resolutions so far received: Proposed ideas for substantive resolutions. (BY RAF)**

• Excellencies,

In terms of **resolutions**, you may recall that we had shared guidance on the process earlier with Member States. Currently we have received 8 ideas of substantive resolutions which will hopefully be submitted to the Secretariat by the recommended date of **15 April 2023**. We are hopeful that submitted draft resolutions would take into consideration the needed financial requirements for implementation by the secretariat.

Two resolutions seem to be fairly advanced. These focus on People-centred smart cities sponsored by France with Group of Friends and on BiodiverCities sponsored by Costa Rica and Colombia.

There is also a resolution on Global Action Plan for Transformation of Informal Settlements that may possibly include housing dimension being considered by the Republic of South Africa.

Brazil has expressed interest in introducing a resolution on Localization of SDGs. Pakistan is working on a possible resolution on Climate Change and resilience. There are other ideas which are still shaping up, including from the regional group of African Group States on Planning and Infrastructure and Disaster Reconstruction, **as well as financing and monitoring mechanisms for resolutions.**

## **SLIDE 4: Expectations and ideas on resolutions so far received: Ideas for procedural resolutions and resolutions to be proposed by the Chair (BY RAF)**

There is another set of procedural resolutions or decisions. including the transition to the new cycle of the Strategic Plan 2026-2029, and the election of the new members of the Executive Board, the Bureau of the Executive Board, the Bureau of the CPR and the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

Excellencies,

There are two draft decisions that we expect to be tabled by the Chair. These are on the draft Stakeholder Engagement Policy and the report of the JIU on administrative and management review of UN-Habitat which emanate from requests from the Assembly at its first session in 2019, and recommendations from the Executive Board in 2022, respectively.

These draft resolutions could be discussed in detail during the informal consultations of the CPR, leading to Open Ended Session of the CPR in the week before the Assembly.

We will ensure that the Programme Budget Implications of each draft resolutions are properly assessed and well understood by Member States.

We are hopeful for a very seamless transition from the OECPR to the UN-Habitat Assembly, hopefully with key major resolutions that the Assembly is expected to consider nearly concluded at the CPR level, notwithstanding the fact that it is the prerogative of any Member State to introduce a resolution at the Assembly.

Thank you, ED.

Thank you, Madam Chair.

*(RAF HANDS BACK TO ED)*

***(ED CALLS ON SHIPRA AND EDLAM TO ADD)***

Excellencies, May I now call upon Shipra and Edlam to walk us through each of the resolutions for which we are now providing technical support to.

Shipra, you have the floor first.

**SLIDE 5: Status of Resolutions for which technical inputs have been requested (BY SHIPRA AND EDLAM)**

**(SHIPRA AND EDLAM TO WALK THE BUREAU THROUGH THESE RESOLUTIONS)**

<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Status (Submitted, Under drafting, consultations underway)</b>	<b>Sponsoring Member States (s)</b>
1. Development of international guidelines on people centered smart cities	Submitted	France
2. BiodiverCities 2030 - Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services guidelines into urban-territorial planning	Under drafting: Draft almost complete	Colombia and Costa Rica
3. Global Action Plan: Accelerating Transforming Informal Settlements and Slums by 2030 (with possible linkages to Adequate Housing)	Under Drafting: Draft ready and being finalized for submission	South Africa
4. Localizing SDGs with possible linkages to SDG cities	Under Drafting: Technical inputs being shared with Brazil this week.	Brazil
5. Climate change and resilience	Consultations underway	tbd
6. Africa group resolutions	Consultations underway	Africa Group / tbd

*(AFTER THAT)*

*(ED HANDS BACK TO THE CHAIR)*

Thank you, Madam Chair  
Back to you.

**SLIDE 6: (Title Slide) Agenda Item 3. Organization of work during the second open-ended meeting of the CPR to prepare for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly (BY ED)**

Excellencies

On 5 April 2023 we shared with all Member States the Notification of the Executive Director and the Provisional Agenda in all UN official languages, towards the upcoming second OECPR meeting. In the Notification, a proposed organization of work was also shared, taking into account the fact that the OECPR will only take place for four days from 29 to 31 May 2023 and on 2 June 2023, as guided by the Bureau of the Assembly at its meeting on 15 February 2023, in which you all participated as Vice Presidents.

I would like to now share with you that proposed organization of work for any guidance you may have.

**SLIDE 7: item 3. Proposed organization of work during the second open-ended meeting of the CPR**

Madam Chair,

**On Day 1 in the morning**, we propose to cover the following Agenda items:

**Agenda item 1.** Opening of the meeting:

(a) Organizational matters.

(b) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan of the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

**Agenda item 2:** Adoption of the report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the work of its first open-ended meeting.

In addition, we propose to give the Chairs of Regional Groups the space to make **Regional Statements** as was done during the first open-ended OECPR meeting for the High-Level Midterm Review in 2021.

**In the Afternoon of Day 1**, we propose to focus on the following agenda item with its subitems:

**Agenda item 3:** Strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme:

- (a) Implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023.
- (b) Status of preparation of the strategic plan for the next period by the Executive Board.
- (c) Alignment of the planning cycles of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process.

**In the morning of Day 2**, we propose to focus on the following agenda item:

**Agenda item 4:** Review of the status of preparations for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

**In the afternoon of Day 2**, we propose to start discussions on **Agenda item 5**, which is “Preparation of draft resolutions, declarations and decisions of the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, including on the dates and provisional agenda of the third session”.

**Agenda item 5** which is very important in terms of preparing for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly will be the focus on the following day as well, **that is Day 3, both morning and afternoon.**

Should agenda item 5 not be exhausted, time has been made for the **Morning of Day 4** which is the final day of the OECPR, with the hope that the CPR will then be able to forward the draft resolutions, declarations and decisions to the Assembly in a good shape for further consideration.

**Day 4 in the afternoon** will be dedicated to the following items:

**Agenda item 6:** Election of the officers of the Bureau.

**Agenda item 7:** Consideration of the Chair's draft summary of the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

**Agenda item 8:** Other matters, and

**Agenda item 9:** Closure of the meeting.

Of course, Madam Chairperson, nothing stops the Bureau from starting any of these agenda items much earlier as time may allow and for purposes of efficiency.

We also take note that the ongoing informal consultations which you are ably leading Madam Chair will be of great support to the deliberations of the OECPR.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson. Back to you.

**SLIDE 8: (Title Slide) Agenda item 4. Scenarios associated with the upcoming elections to be held during the second OECPR and during the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (ED – supported by CHRIS and LEGAL Officer).**



Madam Chair,

Excellencies,

Before we share with you the Scenarios associated with the upcoming elections to be held during the second OECPR and during the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, let me first recall the current composition of the Bureau as well as the expected composition of the next Bureau CPR Bureau for the period 2023 to 2025. I believe this is important for putting our discussion on this item into context.

**SLIDE 9: CURRENT composition of the CPR Bureau for the period 2021-2023.**

Excellencies

What you are looking at now on the screen is the current composition of the Bureau of the CPR. It is as follows:

Chair: **Pakistan** (Asia-Pacific States)

Vice-Chair: **Tanzania** (African States)

Vice-Chair: **Colombia** (Latin American and Caribbean States)

Vice-Chair: **Belgium** (Western European and other States)

Rapporteur: *Vacant* (Eastern European States)

As you are aware the position of the Rapporteur remains vacant, given that there was one objection to the nomination received from the Eastern European Group, a matter which remains a concern to us because of the important role the Rapporteur is expected to play at the upcoming meeting of the OECPR.

**SLIDE 10: EXPECTED composition of the CPR Bureau for the period 2023-2025.**

Excellencies,

In this slide, what you are looking at is the expected composition of the next Bureau of the CPR for the Period 2023 to 2025 and which is to be elected on the final day of the upcoming OECPR meeting. It is as follows:

Chair: Western European and other States  
Vice-Chair: Asia-Pacific States  
Vice-Chair: Eastern European States  
Vice-Chair: Latin American and Caribbean States  
Rapporteur: African States

Madam Chair,  
Excellencies,

Allow me to call on Mr Chris Mensah and the Legal Officer to walk us through the options available for aligning the QCPR and the Strategic Plan and also Scenarios associated with the upcoming elections to be held during the second OECPR and during the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

With your Permission Madam Chair, Chris you have the floor.

*(CHRIS TAKES THE FLOOR AND SUPPORTED BY THE LEGAL OFFICER AS NECESSARY)*

*(AFTER THAT)*

*(ED HANDS THE FLOOR BACK TO THE CHAIR FOR DISCUSSIONS)*

Thank you, Madam Chair, back to you.

**SLIDE 11: Agenda item 5: Any other Matters.**

*To be led by the Chair.*