



UN HABITAT Executive Board
of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme

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Executive Board of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme
First meeting
Nairobi, 30 May 2019

**Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Human
Settlements Programme on the work of its first meeting**

Rapporteur: Mr. John Chome (Malawi)

I. Introduction

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 73/239 of 20 December 2018, on implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Executive Board of UN-Habitat held its first meeting at the headquarters of UN-Habitat on the afternoon of Thursday, 30 May 2019.
2. In addition, and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 73/239, at its first session, the UN-Habitat Assembly elected by acclamation the 36 members of the Executive Board, taking into account the distribution of seats described in the report on the work of the open-ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/226 (A/73/726), whose findings and recommendations were endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 73/239, as follows: 10 seats for African States; 8 seats for Asia-Pacific States; 4 seats for Eastern European States; 6 seats for Latin American and Caribbean States; and 8 seats for Western European and other States.
3. The UN-Habitat Assembly elected the representatives of the following Member States as members of the Board:
 - (a) From the African States: Angola, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal;
 - (b) From the Asia-Pacific States: China, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka. The Chair of the Asia-Pacific States informed the meeting that the States had agreed that Bahrain and Indonesia would share a seat, with Indonesia serving for the first two years of the four-year term and Bahrain for the following two years;
 - (c) From the Eastern European States: Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation and Serbia;
 - (d) From the Latin American and Caribbean States: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico and Uruguay;
 - (e) From the Western European and other States: Canada, France, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America.

II. Opening of the meeting

4. The first meeting of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat was opened at 3.10 p.m. on Thursday, 30 May 2019 by Ms. Martha Delgado Peralta, President of the UN-Habitat Assembly. The Board proceeded to elect by acclamation Ms. Lori Dando (United States of America) as its Chair.

5. The Chair delivered an opening statement.

III. Adoption of the rules of procedure

6. The Board adopted the rules of procedure for the Executive Board, as contained in documents HSP/HA/1/9 and HSP/EB/1/3, which were forwarded to the UN-Habitat Assembly for subsequent consideration and possible endorsement. The rules of procedure of the Executive Board, as adopted by the Board and subsequently endorsed by the UN-Habitat Assembly, are set out in document HSP/HA/1/HLS.3.

7. Following the adoption of the rules, statements were made by the representatives of the following countries: China, Romania, Brazil, Poland, Senegal, Russian Federation, Ethiopia, Sri Lanka, United States of America and Costa Rica. The representative of the European Union also made a statement.

8. The legal adviser provided clarification on the issues raised.

IV. Organizational matters

A. Adoption of the agenda

9. At its 1st plenary meeting, the Executive Board adopted the agenda for its first meeting, as orally amended, on the basis of the provisional agenda (HSP/EB/1/1), as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board.
3. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda;
 - (b) Election of the Bureau;
 - (c) Consideration and approval of the draft workplan of the Executive Board for 2019–2020, including the schedule of the Bureau’s meetings, items to be regularly considered by the Board, and the date of the Board’s next meeting.
4. Endorsement of the draft United Nations system-wide guidelines on safer cities and human settlements.
5. Approval of the annual work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2020.
6. Other matters.
7. Closure of the meeting.

B. Attendance

10. The meeting was attended by representatives of 36 Member States of the UN-Habitat Executive Board. A number of observers also attending the meeting.

C. Election of the Bureau

11. In accordance with rule 9 of its rules of procedure, the Executive Board elected its Bureau members as follows:

Chair: United States
Vice-Chairs: Argentina
China
Russian Federation
Rapporteur: Malawi

D. Consideration and approval of the draft workplan of the Executive Board for 2019–2020, including the schedule of the Bureau’s meetings, items to be regularly considered by the Board, and the date of the Board’s next meeting

12. The Chair introduced the item, drawing attention to the relevant sections of General Assembly resolution 73/239 of 20 December 2018, and to rule 10 of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board.

13. The Executive Board decided with respect to its workplan:

(a) To hold its second meeting from 18 to 20 November 2019;

(b) That its Bureau would meet in the margins of the ongoing first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, and at least once prior to the second meeting of the Executive Board, and hold Bureau meetings prior to each meeting of the Executive Board;

(c) That the annual work programme and budget and the annual report on the implementation of the strategic plan would be included in the agenda of its meetings on an annual basis.

V. Endorsement of the draft United Nations system-wide guidelines on safer cities and human settlements

14. Introducing the item, the representative of Germany drew attention to a draft decision relating to the draft United Nations system-wide guidelines on safer cities and human settlements (HSP/HA/1/2/Add.3). The representative of South Africa, speaking on behalf of the African States, made a statement.

15. The Board adopted the draft decision, by which it endorsed the draft guidelines for approval by the UN-Habitat Assembly.

VI. Approval of the annual work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2020

16. At the suggestion of the Chair, and following remarks made by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohamed Sharif, the Executive Board decided to defer consideration of the UN-Habitat work programme and budget for the year 2020 to its second meeting, to be held from 18 to 20 November 2019, with a view to enabling the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to review the document at its meeting in June 2019.

VII. Other matters

17. No other matters were raised.

VIII. Closure of the meeting

18. The Chair declared the meeting closed at 4.30 p.m.
