

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

Hybrid

Thursday, 1 December 2022

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

Statement by the Executive Director

(draft of 30 November 2022)

SLIDE 0: Title slide

Slide 1: Provisional Agenda

Adoption of the Provisional Agenda led by the Chair

1. Adoption of the provisional Agenda.
2. Informal consultations with Member States to discuss the proposed title of the theme for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
3. Review and confirmation of the dates of the open-ended meeting of the CPR in preparations for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
4. Timeline for 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.
5. Legal opinion on the election for the position of Rapporteur representing the Regional Group on Eastern Europe to the 2022-2023 Bureau of the CPR.
6. Any other matters

SLIDE 2: (Title Slide) Agenda item 2: Informal consultations with Member States to discuss the proposed title of the theme for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

Title slide

SLIDE 3: Proposed versions of the Theme title so far Suggested

To be led by the Chair.

Chair will first call on the ED to react after her introductory Statement on this item.

On the slide to be introduced by the Chair is the following:

Additional proposed language versions of the theme by Member States:

- 1. Inclusive, transformative and effective multilateralism for a better urban future: *Achieving the SDGs in times of global crises***
- 2. Inclusive, reinvigorated and effective multilateralism for better urban future: *Achieving the SDGs in times of global crises***
- 3. Inclusive, reinvigorated and effective multilateralism for a just and sustainable urban future: *Achieving the SDGs in times of global crises***
- 4. Inclusive, reinvigorated and effective multilateralism for a prosperous, just and sustainable urban future: *Achieving the SDGs in times of global crises***
- 5. Inclusive, transformative and effective multilateralism for a sustainable urban future: *Achieving the SDGs in times of global crises.***
- 6. *Achieving the SDGs: Promoting Inclusive and effective multilateralism in times of Global Crises for a sustainable and resilient urban future***

SLIDE 4: Proposed version of the Theme title to be discussed during the informal consultations on 6 December 2022

Reaction by the ED

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

Excellencies,

Good morning, good afternoon and good evening.

First, I want to thank all of you for your and guidance during our last meeting on 15 June 2022 and for the active engagement in the in two joint Bureaux meetings we have had since then under the leadership of the President of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

Excellencies,

As you would recall, in line with resolution 20/21 of the Governing Council on theme of the sessions of the Governing bodies, I had initially proposed the theme title to the Joint Bureaux of the Governing bodies on 18 October 2022 to be:

“Inclusive, transformative and effective multilateralism for a better urban future:”

Having considered, the inputs received so far from Member States, I would like to suggest the following title which is also a slight revision to my original proposal for your consideration:

“Inclusive and effective multilateralism for a better urban future: *Achieving the SDGs in times of global crises.*”

You Excellencies,

I feel that this revised proposal is lighter and much better for communication purposes. The words “Inclusive” and “Effective” have been used in various

forums and are therefore widely acceptable. I have taken out the word “transformative” which has been controversial among some Member States. And as you are aware, the word “better” is part of our logo and our vision which is for “a better urban future”.

With your permission Madam Chair and if the Bureau agrees, I would like to propose that this version of the title be considered by the Bureau as a starting point for the informal consultations with Member States beginning on 6 December 2022. This may perchance help us to work towards building consensus much faster than presenting all six versions to Member States during the Informal consultations on 6 December 2022.

Thank you, Madam Chair, back to you.

SLIDE 5: (Title Slide) Agenda item 3: Review and confirmation of the dates of the open-ended meeting of the CPR in preparations for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

Title slide

SLIDE 6: item 3: dates of the open-ended meeting of the CPR in preparations for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

Madam Chair,

Excellencies,

As you are aware and in line with recommendation 1/3 of the CPR, the open-ended meeting is scheduled to take place from 29 May to 2 June 2023. We have also been notified that by the Division of Conference Services that 1 June 2023 is a public Holiday in our Host Country Kenya, specifically

“Madaraka Day” which is a celebration of the day that the Republic of Kenya attained internal self-rule in 1963. In this regard It is my advice based upon consultations with the Division of Conferences in UNON that the best option would be to conduct the business of the CPR on 29 May, 30 May and 31 May, then suspend the meeting on 1 June 2023 and resume to conclude the meeting on 2 June 2023.

Madam Chairperson, owing to the global calendar of meetings of the United Nations, and the fact that the upcoming meeting was already included in that calendar and is ready to be serviced by the Division of Conference Services, it is my proposal that we work with the dates of 29 May, 30 May, 31 May and 2 June 2023 , that is four days to conclude the work of the CPR in preparing for the second session of the Assembly.

SLIDE 7: Item 3. Bureau Meetings, Informal consultations and Notification for the second open- ended meeting of the CPR to prepare for the Assembly.

Excellencies,

Before I give back the floor to the Chair, allow me to recall further that at our last meeting on 15 June 2022, the **Bureau recommended that it will hold monthly meetings** until June 2023 to prepare for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

In addition, it is our hope that once the Chair of the CPR leads in concluding the informal consultations on the theme of the Assembly, the Bureau will recommend **further informal consultations towards the preparations** for the second open ended meeting of the CPR and the Assembly itself in line with paragraph 5 of decision 2021/4 which called for enhanced engagement with Member States in the preparation and delivery of future CPR meetings,

in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure. Such consultations could begin in the later part of January 2023 or early February 2023.

Further, we as a Secretariat are **preparing to send out to all Member States the Convocation Note as soon as possible** within the month of December 2022 followed by the **Notification of the Executive Director** regarding the open-ended meeting of the CPR.

SLIDE 8: Item 3. Provisional Agenda for the second open-ended meeting of the CPR to Prepare for the Assembly.

Madam Chair,
Excellencies,

As a final point under agenda this agenda item 3 and because the Notification needs to go out with the provisional Agenda of the open-ended meeting of the CPR, the provisional Agenda as approved by the CPR in its recommendation 2021/ 4 and which the Bureau already reviewed without any changes during our meeting on 15 June 2023 is on the screen and is as follows;

1. Opening of the meeting:
 - (a) Organizational matters;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in preparation for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
2. Adoption of the report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the work of its first open-ended meeting.
3. Strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme:
 - (a) Implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020-2023;

- (b) Status of preparations of the next strategic plan by the Executive Board;
- (c) Alignment of the planning cycles of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process.

4. Status of preparations for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

5. Preparation of resolutions, declarations and decisions of the United Nations Habitat Assembly at its second session, including dates and provisional agenda for the third session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

6. Election of officers of the Bureau.

7. Draft Chair's summary.

8. Other matters.

9. Closure of the meeting.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson,
Back to you.

Slide 9: (Title Slide): Agenda item 4: Timeline for submission of draft resolutions to be considered by the second open-ended meeting of the CPR in preparations for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

Madam Chair,

Excellencies,

With your permission allow me to **call on Chris Mensah** to share a few points regarding the submission of draft resolutions to be considered by the second open-ended meeting of the CPR in preparations for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

Chris you have the floor.
(ED gives Chris the floor)

Slide 10: item 4: Timeline for 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.

Points to be highlighted by Chris Mensah.

1. Submission of resolutions for consideration by the UN-Habitat Assembly is the prerogative of Member States.
2. A Member State or group of Member States may submit resolutions for consideration.
3. Resolutions may be submitted any time before or during the session, preferably at least two days before the end of the session.
4. For efficiency in consideration of any resolution, guidance may be given by the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly, on the deadline for submission of any resolutions. In this regard and as you may be aware, the five members of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, representing the five regional groups in this with case without the Eastern European Group, jointly serve as additional Vice-Presidents of the Bureau of the Assembly in line with Rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
5. Member States at this stage may already want to begin thinking of any potential resolutions guided by the provisional Agenda of the session which is available.
6. Member States may consider formally submitting resolutions from mid-April 2023 once they receive the pre-session documents including reports of the Executive Director.

7. Resolutions may offer guidance to the Executive Director and the organization
8. The Secretariat may offer technical and substantive support to Member States in preparing draft resolutions if required.
9. It is encouraged that resolutions be submitted early enough to allow for sufficient time for negotiations and consensus building including through informal consultations under the CPR Chair and formal consultations during the CPR open -ended meeting to prepare for the Assembly.
10. Draft Resolutions submitted to the UN-Habitat Assembly and preferably through the CPR will be finally formally considered by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its second session for possible adoption.

Slide 11: (Title Slide): Agenda item 5: Legal opinion on the election for the position of Rapporteur representing the Regional Group on Eastern Europe to the 2022-2023 Bureau of the CPR.

To be led by the Chair.

-Chair will call The Chair after giving a background on the item will then call on the legal officer to share the advice based on the legal opinion.

-ED / Chris Mensah and the Secretariat may come in only if needed or if called upon by the Chair

SLIDE 12: Agenda item 6: Any other Matters.

To be led by the Chair.