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Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)

First session

New York, 17-18 September 2014

Item 10 of the agenda

Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its first session

Draft report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) on its first session

Rapporteur: Mr. Mamadou Mbodj (Senegal)

Introduction

1. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/216 of 21 December 2012, the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) held its first session from 17 to 18 September 2014 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Committee held four plenary meetings, as well as two meetings of a working group.

Organization of work

A. Opening of the session

2. The first session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) was opened at the United Nations Office at New York on Wednesday 17 September 2014 by the Secretary-General of the Conference Mr. Joan Clos as temporary Chair.. The Preparatory Committee proceeded to elect its two co-Chairs. Opening statements were made by the co-Chairs of the Committee and the Secretary-General of the Conference. A statement was also made by the Secretary-General of the United Nations H.E. Ban Ki-Moon.

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B. Election of officers

3. At its first plenary meeting, on 17 September 2014, the Preparatory Committee elected its chairpersons and officers as follows:

Co-Chairs:

Diego Aulestia (Ecuador);
Maryse Gautier (France)

Bureau Members:

Eric Miangar (Chad)
Barbara Richards (Chile)
Daniela Grabmüllerová (Czech Republic)
Tania Roediger-Vorwerk (Germany)
Csaba Kőrösi (Hungary)
Purnomo A. Chandra (Indonesia)
Mamadou Mbodj (Senegal)
Majid Hasan Al-Suwaidi (United Arab Emirates);

Rapporteur: Mamadou Mbodj (Senegal)

C. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

4. At the first plenary meeting, on 17 September 2014, the Preparatory Committee adopted the agenda for its first session as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work.
4. Preparations for the Conference: progress report by the Secretary-General of the Conference.
5. Organisational matters:
 - (a) Provisional rules of procedure;
 - (b) Arrangements for accreditation and participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the preparatory process and in the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III).
6. Progress to date in the implementation of the outcomes of the second United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat II) and identification of new and emerging challenges on sustainable urban development.
7. Financing of the preparatory process and the Conference.
8. Arrangements for future sessions of the Preparatory Committee.
9. Other matters
10. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on the work of its first session.
11. Conclusion of the session.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee decided to establish a Working Group on operational and administrative matters chaired by Mr. Majid Hasan Al-Suwaidi (United Arab Emirates) which would have two meetings over the course of the two days of the first session, and that the working group will take up agenda item 7 (Financing of the preparatory process and the Conference) as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/INF/3, agenda item 8 (Arrangements for future sessions of the Preparatory Committee) as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/CRP.2 as well as agenda item 5 (a) the draft provisional rules of procedure of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/2/Rev.1., and 5 (b) Arrangements for accreditation and participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the preparatory process and in the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/3, and the Consolidated list of non-governmental organizations and major groups that have applied for special accreditation to attend and to contribute to the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and its preparatory process as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/INF/4. It was also decided that the Working Group would report on the outcome of its discussions at the closing plenary meeting of the first Session.

D. Organizational matters

6. At the first plenary meeting the Preparatory Committee agreed that in keeping with past practice for preparatory committees of conferences in the economic and social fields, the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as the supplementary arrangements established for the Commission on Sustainable Development by the Council in its decisions 1993/215 of 12 February 1993 and 1995/201 of 8 February 1995, shall apply to the meetings of the Preparatory Committee, as applicable.

E. Preparation for the Conference

7. At its first plenary meeting, the Secretary-General of the Conference reported on the activities undertaken by the secretariat in the preparation of the Conference and presented proposals for the improved participation of local authorities and other stakeholders in the preparatory process and in the Conference itself. He also reported on an outline of work to be carried out in the period between September 2014 and the holding of the Conference in 2016.

F. Progress to date in the implementation of the outcomes of the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and identification of new and emerging challenges on sustainable urban development

8. At its first to fourth plenary meeting, the Preparatory Committee had a general exchange of views, during which statements were made by the representatives of: Angola*, Argentina, Benin (on behalf of the Least Developed Countries), Bolivia (on behalf of Group 77 and China), Brazil, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Ecuador,

* Statement delivered at the ministerial level.

Egypt*, Ethiopia*, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Grenada, Indonesia*, Japan, Kenya*, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mexico, Nigeria*, Russian Federation, Senegal*, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Uganda*, United Arab Emirates, United States and Venezuela.

9. At its second and third plenary meeting, statements were made by the following intergovernmental and United Nations system organizations: International Labour Organization (ILO); Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); and International Organization for Migration (IOM).

10. At its second to fourth meeting, statements were also made by the following civil society organizations coalitions: United Cities and Local Governments; the Huairou Commission; Habitat for Humanity International; Habitat International Coalition; Metropolis – World Association of the Major Metropolises; Institute for Transportation and Development Policy; the Major Group of Children and Youth; International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP); and Grassroots organizations operating together in sisterhood (GROOTS International).

G. Other matters

11. The Preparatory Committee took up other matters.

H. Report of the Working Group on Operational and Administrative Matters

12. At the fourth plenary meeting of the Preparatory Committee, the Chair of the Working Group reported on the outcome of its discussions. The Working Group on operational and administrative matters had two meetings over the course of the first session.

I. Decisions adopted by the Preparatory Committee on the outcome of the considerations of the Working Group on Operational and Administrative Matters

13. The Preparatory Committee took note of the proposals contained in the Note by the Secretary-General of the Conference as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/INF/3. The Preparatory Committee also took note of the Note by the Secretariat as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/CRP.2 and recommended that the second session of the Preparatory Committee take place on 14, 15 and 16 April 2015.

14. The Preparatory Committee also decided to recommend consideration of the following documents at its second session: Draft provisional rules of procedure of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/2/Rev.1, Arrangements for accreditation and participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/3, and Consolidated list of non-governmental organizations and major groups recommended for special accreditation, as contained in document A/CONF.226/PC.1/INF/4.

15. The Preparatory Committee took note of the oral report of the Working Group.

* Statement delivered at the ministerial level.

J. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on the work of its first session

15. The Preparatory Committee took note of the draft report on the work of its first session and authorized the Rapporteur to finalize the report.

K. Conclusion of the session

16. The Preparatory Committee concluded its first session with closing statements by the co-Chairs of the Committee and the Secretary-General of the Conference.

L. Annex

17. Documents issued for the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III):

A/CONF.226/PC.1/1 and Rev. 1 Provisional agenda and annotations

A/CONF.226/PC.1/2 and Rev. 1 Draft provisional rules of procedure of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)

AA/CONF.226/PC.1/3 Arrangements for accreditation and participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the preparatory process and in the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)

A/CONF.226/PC.1/4 Preparations for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development - Report of the Secretary-General of the Conference

A/CONF.226/PC.1/5 Progress to date in the implementation of the outcomes of the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and identification of new and emerging challenges on sustainable urban development

A/CONF.226/PC.1/INF/1 List of participants

A/CONF.226/PC.1/INF/2 Draft provisional rules of procedure of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)

A/CONF.226/PC.1/INF/3 Financing of the preparatory process and the Conference

A/CONF.226/PC.1/INF/4 Consolidated list of non-governmental organizations and major groups recommended for special accreditation to the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)

A/CONF.226/PC.1/CRP.1 Draft report of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) on its first session

A/CONF.226/PC.1/CRP.2 Arrangements for future sessions of the Preparatory Committee