

# UN HABITAT

FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

**66<sup>th</sup> REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVES TO UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS  
PROGRAMME**

**27 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**Agenda Item 8:**

**Report on the Work of the Subcommittees of the CPR (HSP/CPR/66/8)**

## 66<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of the CPR

### REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (CPR).

The subcommittees of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) held 2 meetings on 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017 respectively as follows:

1. **Fifty-second** Meeting of the Subcommittee on Finance and Administration: Update on Resource Mobilization.
2. **Fifty-third** Meeting of the Subcommittee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussion on the World Urban Forum including update on the preparations for the Ninth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF 9).

### REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (CPR)

#### **1. Fifty-Second meeting of the Subcommittee on Policy and Programme of Work on Resource Mobilization. - 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

The Secretariat in its briefing to the Subcommittee provided a financial update of revenues from 2010 to August 2017 showing trends in the types of financing for the organization which are regular budget, technical cooperation, foundation general purpose and foundation special purpose funds. The details of the results of a donor satisfaction survey which was earlier conducted were elaborated upon. The survey results showed UN-Habitat's added value in sustainable urban development, Particular strengths were noted as, expertise, focused mandate, operational work at national levels, networks at global and national levels and well as research work. On the other hand, areas that were noted to require improvements included the need to provide direct linkage with the wider context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), inadequate core resources, and communication efforts. The survey also provided recommendations in the area of management, financial capabilities, communication and efficiency.

The Secretariat also briefed members in detail on the Donor Information System which is intended strengthen communication of its work with donors in turn improve transparency and accountability. The system gives varied and detailed information on donors profiles, including top donors, income sources, projects distribution by region, country and year, income distribution, and income sources, among others. Detailed information on this system can be found at [www.unhabitat.org/donor-relations](http://www.unhabitat.org/donor-relations).

In the discussion that ensued, Members sought to know what actions had been taken to address the perceived weaknesses that were indicated in the results of the survey.

Members also requested the Secretariat to streamline the use of terminologies such as 'donor countries' and 'donations'. In response, the Secretariat assured Member States that all feedback received in the donor satisfaction survey were being taken seriously and efforts made to address them. One of the actions undertaken to ensure increased transparency is the development of the donor website which conforms to the international aid transparency initiative standards adopted by other UN agencies. Similarly, the Secretariat was also in the process of implementing the partner portal, an informative tool to show the contribution of countries, the distribution of said contribution in the various UN-Habitat funds. The website would be an opportunity for implementing partners to showcase activities and results of various projects.

## **2. Fifty-Third meeting of the Subcommittee on Policy and Programme of Work on World Urban Forum - 20<sup>th</sup> September 2017**

The Secretariat in its briefing to the Subcommittee gave a comprehensive analysis on the preparations towards the ninth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF 9). The unique nature of WUF was emphasized as a transformative, non-legislative platform relevant to achievement of UN-Habitat's strategic plan, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA). WUF was stated as a unique platform for UN-Habitat to share knowledge, expertise, strengthen partnerships, build networks and also to capture challenges in sustainable urbanization and how these could be addressed. It was stated that the results based approach for WUF9 was still under development and would be shared with Members. It was also stated that the theme of WUF had been proposed by UN-Habitat and the Host country Malaysia as "*Cities 2030, Cities for All: Implementing the New Urban Agenda*" and that concept note would be shared with members as soon as possible. The Secretariat informed Members that the global WUF 9 Outreach campaign will begin in October and would include, regional urban forums, national urban forums, urban breakfasts, urban walks, urban journalism academies. It was also stated that Registration, call for side events, networking and trainings events as well as exhibition at WUF 9 would open on 25 September 2017 .

The following substantive activities were stated as planned immediately in the preparations for WUF 9:

- Draft WUF9 Logical Framework
- Draft WUF9 Concept Note with programme (host country + internal consultation)
- Regional mapping and regional frameworks
- National mobilizations and actions plans (in process)
- Draft framework for reporting mechanisms on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda

In the follow up discussions, members requested the Secretariat provide clarity on a number of issues including how the theme of WUF 9 was selected without discussions with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the need for WUF coordination to be conducted at the UN-Habitat Headquarters and on the WUF 11 bidding process. On the WUF 11 bidding process some Members indicated that the requirement by resolution 26/6 of the Governing Council that the selection of the host country of WUF 11 be announced by February 2018 should be revisited by the Committee of Permanent Representatives and suspended for further consideration. The Secretariat on its part noted that a number of requests had been received from Member States to reopen the bidding process for WUF 11 for various reasons. Regarding coordination of WUF at the UN-Habitat Headquarters, the Secretariat assured Members that this aspect, especially with regard to substantive preparation toward WUF 11 will be strengthened with the full input of the various subprogrammes and expertise at the Headquarters. Additionally, the Secretariat undertook to share the concept note of the theme of WUF 9 for discussion by Member States.

It was agreed that specific questions by the various representatives be provided in writing and that the Secretariat would respond in writing for the benefit of all Member States.