



Executive Director's Briefing to the CPR

Agenda Item 4

**HSP/CPR/62/4
Nairobi, 14 September 2016**

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Thank you very much Excellency and welcome to Nairobi and to UN-Habitat to chair this meeting of the CPR.

It is my pleasure to report to the members of the CPR our activities since the last CPR meeting. The synthesis of that has been distributed. I am not going to go into the detailed explanation of the contents but I will center on the very important issue of the preparations of Habitat III. You might have been informed by your governments that during the last weekend in New York the member states reached an agreement on the content of the resolution on Habitat III.

I think that these are magnificent news, something that was more or less requested to the member states in the preparations towards Habitat III as happened in the past with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda's outcome document approved before the conference. We can inform you now that fortunately we have reached consensus and we already have a document that proposes the resolution. **Thank you very much.**

That came after the Surabaya meeting which was the Third PrepCom. During this PrepCom it was possible for an agreement to be reached regarding Part number A and Part number B of the outcome document. Unfortunately, it was not possible to reach an agreement on Part C. However, fortunately, as I mentioned earlier, all the three parts were agreed during the three days of informal meetings that took place in New York last week. The final session extended the three days to four days. The last session was a consecutive thirty-eight hours of negotiations.

I would like to congratulate all the delegations that participated in the negotiations and I would also like to thank the co-facilitators, the Ambassador of Philippines and the Ambassador of Mexico. I would also like to congratulate the members of the bureau, the co-chairs and the members of the preparatory committee who did a magnificent job.

I think we now have an outcome document that is going to allow us to go to Quito with the main aspect of the negotiation already dealt with and we can now concentrate our efforts on the content of the New Urban Agenda and strategizing for the future development of the New Urban Agenda.

The New Urban Agenda that has been presented to the Member States provides a very interesting and positive vision/strategy consistent with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and aligned with the COP21 Climate Change agreement of Paris. It is also aligned with the resilience conference in Sendai, the Financing for Development

conference in Addis Ababa and also the World Humanitarian Summit, which took place in Istanbul.

In that sense, the New Urban Agenda is a document that follows the profound debate that has taken place in the United Nations in the course of 2015 and 2016. That provides a deepening strategy towards addressing issues of urbanization and engaging the local authorities, in a special manner, in this aspect. In that sense, the New Urban Agenda is also a localization of the Sustainable Development Agenda, that of Climate Change Agenda and that of many conferences taking place in the United Nations.

There is a pending one that is going to take place in New York, which is the one about migration. In that sense; we can also say that the New Urban Agenda is a very good platform as it addresses the fundamentals of urbanization. It is a very good platform to intervene with the issue of migration. As you know, most of the migration that is taking place in the world ends up in urban areas where there are opportunities of jobs and livelihoods for migrants. However, migration also poses a major challenge for cities worldwide.

Therefore, we can be happy that the New Urban Agenda which has taken three years of preparation with the first PrepCom in New York, with the twenty-two issue papers, the ten policy papers and the regional meetings (one in each region) and thematic meetings. For the first time in a UN Conference, we also had the formal consultation process between the member states and local authorities and stakeholders, which took place in New York this spring.

I believe that all that has provided the opportunity to have a long lasting process that has taken three years allowing us to reach this important agreement arrived at following the meeting in Surabaya and the other of New York.

I would like to extend my congratulations to the Government of Indonesia for hosting the PrepCom 3 in Surabaya. The Surabaya meeting was a very important occasion for us to enter in depth into several difficult points in the negotiation process.

Probably the outcome resolution was not fully pleasing to everybody as it usually happens in these occasions but it does please everybody that we have a consensus document. I think that politically it is a very important effort and outcome, which culminates these two or three years of negotiations.

Thank you very much and we are now looking forward to the celebration of Habitat III in Quito. We are going to address this outcome document in more detail during another part of the agenda.