

UN HABITAT

FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

62nd REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVES TO UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
PROGRAMME

14 SEPTEMBER 2016

Agenda Item 8:

Report on the Work of the Subcommittees of the CPR (HSP/CPR/62/8)

62nd Regular Meeting of the CPR

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

The Subcommittee of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) held one meeting on 23 June 2016. The briefing from that meeting is provided below.

1. Twelfth Meeting of the Subcommittee on Policy and Programme of Work on the World Urban Campaign

The 2016 twelfth meeting of the Subcommittee on Policy and Programme of Work of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR), was held on 22 June 2016 and discussed the World Urban Campaign.

The Secretariat in its briefing to the Subcommittee gave a background of the World Urban Campaign (WUC) which was launched at the 5th session of the World Urban Forum in 2010 as a global multi-stakeholders platform on sustainable urbanization, resulting from a merger of the first two global campaigns established by UN-Habitat after the Habitat II Conference. The Goals of the WUC were stated as follows;

- To Unite: Convince public, private and social stakeholders that investing in creative, resilient and sustainable cities and communities is essential to our future.
- To Enable: Provide the necessary tools to achieve creative, resilient and sustainable cities and communities.
- To Measure: Establish benchmarks, monitor progress and share knowledge worldwide.
- To Connect: Create synergies and lasting linkages between stakeholders and facilitate the coherent and strategic coordination of partners.

It was stated that the WUC was an integral part of UN-Habitat's Work Programme and Strategic Plan which contributes to the mobilization and engagement of Habitat Agenda Partners and new partners towards Habitat III. In this regard the WUC partners had produced a global manifesto entitled '*The City We Need*' through the engagement of some 7,600 participants from 113 countries and 2,254 organizations, through of Urban Thinkers campuses coordinated by UN-Habitat. '*The City We Need*' manifesto was available online at www.worldurbancampaign.org in different languages. The WUC had some 140 committed partner organizations working on sustainable urbanization and with different levels of association to the Campaign such as sponsor, lead, partner, associate partner and member. The following Governance Structure of the WUC was shared with the Subcommittee as headed by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat with a Secretariat based at the UN-Habitat headquarters. The WUC has a Steering Committee that advised the Executive Director as well as a standing

committee and several working groups as indicated in the attached figure. The Secretariat illustrated the role of the World Urban Campaign towards the Habitat III through the following means:

- a) National Urban Campaigns: In response to resolution 25/5 of the Governing Council, the WUC was organizing some national urban campaigns to support effective participation and contributions stakeholders at national levels towards the Habitat III process

- b) The General Assembly of Partners: Launched in April 2015, The General Assembly of Partners was started as a special initiative of the WUC to support partners' engagement and contribution to the Habitat III Conference, in particular to the New Urban Agenda. Its mandate ends at Habitat III.

- c) Members were informed that the WUC had been suggested by the UN High Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) as the relevant platform for UN agencies coordination to interact with public, civil society and private sector partners through policy dialogue and joint advocacy in order to define and implement issue based initiatives and concrete alliances. Members were further informed that a number of UN agencies had become part of WUC network.

Through these means, the WUC hoped to foster multi stakeholder dialogue and commitment for the New Urban Agenda.

In the discussions that followed members appreciated the information providing as truly showcasing the work of UN-habitat. They saw the WUC as being symbolic of where the United Nations is headed in terms of an ideation process, including crowd sourcing. Members sought clarity on the specific roles of the partners of the WUC, specifically, the Government, the private sector, the civil society and the UN Agencies how coordination was ensured among the partners. These were elaborated with examples.

Arising from members query, the Secretariat explained the different outputs of the WUC including advocacy tools from national urban campaigns as well as projects that were increasingly being owned at national and local levels. It was recommended that the WUC also focus its work on action plans for grassroot /city level implementation. Members also expected further discussions on the roles of different actors in the period leading to Habitat III.