

Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

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Agenda item 5

Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including coordination matters

Draft resolution 26/[]: Regional technical support on sustainable housing and urban development by regional consultative structures

Submission by the Islamic Republic of Iran

The Governing Council,

Cognizant of the commitment in the New Urban Agenda “to strengthen mobilization efforts through partnerships, advocacy and awareness-raising activities relating to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda using existing initiatives”,¹ as well as Sustainable Development Goal 17² and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,³

Recalling its resolution 24/8, which encourages the exploration of the opportunities for strengthening South-South cooperation and the exchange of experiences among the Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector and requests the Executive Director to extend his support to United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) regional and thematic offices to support regional forums,

Recalling also its resolution 20/2, which invited Governments to strengthen or establish regional consultative structures and to use them in raising the profile of issues addressed by the Governing Council,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, which acknowledged the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development and noted that regional frameworks could complement and facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level,

Noting with appreciation the supporting role and continuous participation of UN-Habitat and its regional, thematic and country offices in organizing regional consultative structures including, inter alia, the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development, the Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean, the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization and the Arab States Ministerial Forum on Housing and Urban Development, as well as relevant United Nations offices and regional arrangements,

Recognizing the importance of cooperation between member States of regional consultative structures and UN-Habitat for achieving the goals of sustainable housing and urbanization in each region,

¹ New Urban Agenda: Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All, para. 169.

² General Assembly resolution 70/1.

³ Available at http://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/AAAA_Outcome.pdf.

Commending the organization of regular regional ministerial conferences and welcoming the forthcoming ministerial conferences in the Latin American and the Caribbean region, in Argentina in June 2017; in the Arab region, in Morocco in December 2017; in the Asia-Pacific region, in the Islamic Republic of Iran in September/October 2018; and in the African region, in Ethiopia in December 2018,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to extend support, within available resources and within its existing mandate, to UN-Habitat regional, thematic and country offices to support such regional consultative structures and to work closely with them to achieve the aims of the New Urban Agenda;
2. *Encourages* those regional consultative structures to explore opportunities for strengthening South-South cooperation and to exchange experiences concerning, inter alia, the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda among themselves and with relevant United Nations offices and regional arrangements;
3. *Encourages* the member States of those regional consultative structures to share, on favourable and accepted terms, their knowledge and proactive contributions through virtual platforms and other means;
4. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session on implementation of the present resolution.
