

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/[]: Enhancing UN-Habitat's role in urban crisis response

Submission by Iraq and Ukraine

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 19/7 and 25/4 and General Assembly resolution 59/239, relating to the role of the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) role in supporting the rehabilitation and reconstruction of countries affected by armed conflict or by other human-caused or natural disasters, and recalling in particular UN-Habitat's Strategic Policy on Human Settlements in Crisis, endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives in November 2007, and recognizing that the Policy needs to be updated taking into account the changing nature of crises and relevant new commitments made by member States over the last 10 years,

Recalling also the New Urban Agenda, which reaffirms the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, as a focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements and which acknowledges that in implementing the New Urban Agenda particular attention should be paid to addressing the unique and emerging urban development challenges facing all countries and that special attention should be given to countries in situations of conflict, countries and territories under foreign occupation, post-conflict countries and countries affected by natural and human-caused disasters,

Acknowledging the efforts made by UN-Habitat in response to paragraph 45 of Governing Council resolution 25/4 to strengthen and coordinate its partnerships with humanitarian and development actors, including through its City Resilience Profiling Programme, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Reference Group on Meeting Humanitarian Challenges in Urban Areas, and the Global Alliance for Urban Crises as an innovative multi-stakeholder platform, and the progress made in response to paragraph 14 of resolution 25/4 to support and reinforce the coordination of the efforts of the United Nations system, through the Global Land Tool Network, to achieve coherence taking into account conflict and land issues,

Taking note of the principles and commitments outlined in the Urban Crises Charter of the Global Alliance for Urban Crises,

Recalling the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review¹, the positive role that sustainable development can play in mitigating drivers of conflicts, disaster risks, humanitarian crises and complex emergencies, recalling that a comprehensive whole-of-system response, including greater cooperation and complementarity among development, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian action and sustaining peace, is fundamental to addressing needs and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals as efficiently and effectively as possible, recalling General Assembly resolution 70/262, which emphasizes that sustaining peace is a shared task and responsibility that needs to be fulfilled by each Government and all other national stakeholders and should flow through all three pillars of the

¹ General Assembly resolution 71/243, para. 14.

United Nations engagement at all stages of conflict, and in all its dimensions, and requires sustained international attention and assistance,

Emphasizing paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 70/165, which encourages strengthened international cooperation, in particular between humanitarian and development actors, including (among other things) the integration of the human rights and needs of internally displaced persons into both rural and urban development strategies,

Taking note of paragraph 28 of the New Urban Agenda, which states that “[w]e commit ourselves to ensuring full respect for the human rights of refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, regardless of their migration status, and support their host cities in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances and recognizing that, although the movement of large populations into towns and cities poses a variety of challenges, it can also bring significant social, economic and cultural contributions to urban life”,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to establish a fund, financed through voluntary contributions earmarked for use by the fund, in accordance with the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations, aimed at facilitating the rapid deployment of UN-Habitat in response to urban crises and emergencies within existing human resources and calls upon member States and others in a position to do so to contribute generously to the fund;

2. *Also requests* the Executive Director to use the fund established in accordance with the preceding paragraph, in consultation with member States, to update UN-Habitat’s Strategic Policy on Human Settlements in Crisis, in line with its mandate:

(a) To better support the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, with input from all UN-Habitat subprogrammes, in countries affected by conflict and natural and human-caused disasters;

(b) To ensure that UN-Habitat’s work contributes, in a coordinated manner, to the United Nations system commitment to sustaining peace and a comprehensive whole-of-system response to complex emergencies;

(c) To better support member States in their efforts to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction;

(d) To better support member States facing challenges caused by the mass influx of migrants and include this within the operations of the fund;

3. *Further requests* the Executive Director to continue to support innovative partnerships and to work in close collaboration with humanitarian and development organizations, associations of local governments, professional networks and the private sector to make the partnerships more effective in preventing, preparing for and responding to humanitarian crises in urban environments;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.