

# | UN System, Coordination, and Reform

## What are the components of the UN System? [https://www.un.org/en/pdfs/un\\_system\\_chart.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/pdfs/un_system_chart.pdf)

- Functional Commissions** (statistical, status of women, social development, population); **Economic Commissions** (ECLAC and all regions); **Other Bodies** (Committee on NGOs, UNAIDS, UNRISD, etc.).
- Funds and Programmes:** UNDP (UNV and CDF), UNEP, UNFPA, **UN-Habitat**, UNICEF, and WFP
- Specialized Agencies:** FAO, ICAO, IFAD, ILO, IMF, IMO, ITU, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNWTO, UPU, WHO, WMO, WB; **Other Entities:** ITC, UNCTAD, UNHCR, UNOPS, UNRWA, UN-Women
- 13 Peacekeeping Operations and 11 Political Missions:** mandated by the United Nations Security Council, administered by the DPO and DPPA, and executed by SRSGs
- Other Secretariat Departments and Offices:** EOSG, DCO, DESA, DGAMC, DGC, DMSPC, DOS, DSS, OCHA, OCT, ODA, OHCHR, OIOS, OLA, OSAA, UNDRR, UNODC, UNOG, OHRLS, UNOP, UNON, UNOP, UNOV, SRSG-CAAC, SRSG-SVC, SRSG-VAC.



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## Evolution of UN-Habitat from Committee to Centre to Programme

- ❑ **Committee on Housing, Building and Planning**, established by ECOSOC resolution 903 C (XXXIV), August 1962, in New York, comprised of professional planners, architects, and engineers, addressing urgent housing shortages and challenges of urbanization
- ❑ **United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation**, established by GA, 3327 (XXIX) of 1975, as part of UNEP, to mobilize finance for housing and human settlements.
- ❑ **United Nations Centre for Human Settlements**: established by GA in its resolution A/RES/32/162 of 1977, based in Nairobi, incorporating both the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning *and* the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation.
- ❑ **United Nations Human Settlements Programme**: established by GA in its resolution A/RES/56/206 of Dec 2001, following special session of GA, Istanbul+5, Aug 2001.



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## What are the global coordination mechanisms of the United Nations?

- Chief Executives Board for Coordination** (semi-annually)
  - High-Level Committee on Programmes** (semi-annually prior to CEB)
  - High-Level Committee on Management** (semi-annually prior to CEB)
- Senior Management Group** (monthly)
- Executive Committee** (weekly)
- United Nations Sustainable Development Group** (semi-annually, ad hoc)
- Inter-Agency Standing Committee Humanitarian Affairs** (semi-annually, ad hoc)



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### How does UN-Habitat advance mandate through global coordination mechanisms?

- ❑ **SMG on Urbanization, June 2018:** ED presents New Urban Agenda; SG concludes that urbanization a megatrend and that will require a whole-of-system approach.
- ❑ **HLCP, September 2018 – April 2019:** Chair of HLCP and DG, ILO Guy Ryder establishes inter-agency task force led by UN-Habitat to develop systemwide strategy
- ❑ **CEB May 2019:** SG endorses UN systemwide strategy on sustainable urban development
- ❑ **SMG on Future of Cities, July 2020:** SG notes the importance of cities in fight against COVID and as a driver of sustainable development, especially green recovery.
- ❑ **Task Force on Future of Cities, Nov. 2020:** ASG Volker Turk, on behalf of SG, establishes task force to review role of local governments in the future of multilateralism
- ❑ **HLCP, April – November 2021:** in coordination with EOSG and Task Force on Future of Cities, HLCP conducts review of Implementation of UN systemwide strategy on sustainable urban development

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## What is the QCPR and what are the origins of UN Reform?

- ❑ **Objectives of the General Assembly** – Utilize the SDGs as a framework for integrated programming to increase coherence among disparate UN entities; ensure country ownership; improve accountability and efficiency; leverage UN to enable countries mobilize public and private resources to achieve the SDGs; better harness UN regional assets
- ❑ **Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review 2017-2020** – in December 2016, the GA adopts A/RES/71/243 calling upon the Secretary-General to align the operational activities for the development of the UN system with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- ❑ **Repositioning the UN Development System** – in June 2018, GA adopts A/RES/72/279 calling upon the Secretary-General to establish new coordination structures to support the integration of the UN development system in the context of the QCPR 2017-2020.
- ❑ **QCPR 2021-2024** – A/RES/75/233, UN reform, from structures to results at scale.



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## UN Reforms at Country-Level

- ❑ **Revitalization of UN Resident Coordinator System:** Resident Coordination reporting to SG/DSG through Development Coordination Office; RC assumes political, strategic and coordination roles for UN system; Resident Coordinator Office established with head, economist, political officer, and data analyst; 360-degree Mutual Accountability Framework.
- ❑ **UN Country Teams and Instruments:** Common Country Analysis; United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework; Implementation and Monitoring of Strategic Results Pillars; Configuration of UNCTs based on UNSDCFs; Common Back Office
- ❑ **Humanitarian Contexts:** Alignment of Resident Coordinators, Humanitarian Coordinators and Heads of Political Missions; integration of development, humanitarian and peace and security operations; alignment of Country Strategic Framework with UNSDCF.
- ❑ **Small Island and Developing Countries:** Revitalization of multi-country offices.



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## Emerging UN Regional Architecture

- ❑ **Regional Forum on Sustainable Development:** annual meeting of Member States to review progress on achievement of SDGs, advise UN system on priorities and strategy, provide input to annual High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (NY, July)
- ❑ **Regional Collaboration Platform:** platform for representatives of all UN entities culminating in annual meeting first quarter each year to adopt regional annual action plans; chaired by Deputy Secretary-General with Economic Commissions and UNDP serving as Vice-Chairs, Development Coordination Office as Secretariat, and all UN regional representatives
- ❑ **Regional Instruments:** Issue-Based Coalitions; UN entity focal point system for select countries; Data and Knowledge Management Hubs
- ❑ **Regional and Sub-Regional Structures:** Economic Commissions, UN Global Service Delivery Hubs, UN entity regional knowledge hubs; historical regional offices of UN entities

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## Alignment of UN-Habitat strategy and structure to support UN reform

- ❑ **Strategic Plan 2020-2023:** strategic plan contributes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, establishing subprogrammes designed to leverage the New Urban Agenda to reduce poverty and inequality (SP1); contribute to economic transformation (SP2); advance climate action and environment (SP3); and reduce crisis and enhance recovery (SP4).
- ❑ **Organizational Structure:** launched in 2020, the new structure establishes branches in divisions in Nairobi HQ mandated to provide technical support to and assess country operations, including UN-Habitat contributions to CCAs and UNSDCFs; appoints regional representatives to position urban issues in regional collaboration platforms and provide political support to country operations; introduces sub-regional offices that support UN country teams to design urban programs, provide integrated policy support, and execute technical cooperation projects; assigns New York Office to facilitate UN systemwide coordination.





# THANK YOU!

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