

Summary of discussions and recommendations emanating for the Third Bureau Meeting Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN-Habitat

Online – Wednesday 24 February 2021 – 14:00 pm – 16:00 pm EAT

The following Bureau members attended the meeting: Eritrea (Chair); Serbia, Bangladesh and Costa Rica (Vice-chairpersons); United Kingdom representing WEOG in its capacity as Chair of the Regional Group (Office of Rapporteur is vacant)

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
1.	Adoption of the Agenda	
	a) Adoption of the provisional Agenda.	Adopted
	b) Adoption of the draft summary of discussions and recommendations emanating from the second Bureau meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat (CPR) held on 8 December 2020.	Adopted
2.	Recap of the recommendations of the CPR Bureau at its last meeting held on 8 December 2020:	
	<p>The Executive Director provided a brief overview of the recommendations emanating from the second Bureau meeting of the CPR held on 8 December 2020. The full presentation by the Executive Director can be accessed here. The briefing highlighted the following:</p> <p>a) Recommendations on Organization of work and workplan for the CPR and its Bureau for 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Monthly meetings of the CPR Bureau between February and June 2021, except for the month of March 2021 to allow time for preparations for 2021 first session of the Executive Board. ii. Upcoming briefing by the Executive Director to Member States on 9 June 2021 on the status preparations for the high-level midterm review, which will be two weeks prior to the high-level midterm review meeting. iii. High-level CPR midterm review meeting to be held during the week of 28 June to 1 July 2021, noting that the exact number of days is to be further defined. iv. Taking note of the recommendation by the United States of America for the high-level midterm review to only last for a maximum of 2 days. 	The Bureau took note of the recap by the Executive Director including the fact that it had already made its recommendations to that effect.
	<p>b) General guidance on the high-level mid-term review meeting of the CPR in 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agreement on preliminary provisional agenda for the high-level mid-term review and recommendation of an item on the election of a new Bureau in line with rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly. 	The Bureau took note of the recap by the Executive Director including the

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
Agenda item 2 continued	ii. Preliminary guidance on the format of the meeting specifically as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A high-level guest should be invited. b. Most of the work should be conducted in plenary and parallel meetings should be avoided. c. Regional and political groups should have space for their statements d. Member States should be given the opportunity to engage in Group or National Statements. e. Informal consultations on expected outcomes should be included in the schedule. 	fact that it had already made its recommendations to that effect
3.	Discussions on the preparations for the high-level mid-term review meeting of the CPR in 2021;	
a) Review and confirmation of dates of the high-level mid-term review meeting;	a) Following the recommendation by the Executive Director, which full presentation can be accessed here , the high-level mid-term review of the CPR should be held for 3 days from Tuesday, 29 June to Thursday, 1 July 2021 , taking into consideration the need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Strengthen engagement with CPR which has universal membership and takes place once every two years for guidance. b. Maximize on opportunity cost to provide a global and regional picture of the Programme’s activities, challenges, the catalytic role in localizing of SDG 11 and implementing the NUA. c. Ensure “high level” is embedded into the meeting with a meaningful two-way conversation with high level officials and participation of representatives. d. Design the high- level mid- term review meeting to be of a minimum of 3 days that can catalyse meaningful dialogue with Members States as well as between Member states and key stakeholders on important topics within the agenda. 	Agreed
b) Review and confirmation of the provisional Agenda for the high-level mid-term review meeting;	a) Following the recommendation by the Bureau on its second meeting held on 8 December 2020 and by the Executive Director, which full presentation can be accessed here , the revised provisional Agenda for the high-level mid-term review meeting of the CPR will read as follows: 1. Opening of the meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Organizational matters; b) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the high-level mid-term review meeting 	Agreed

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
Agenda item 3 b) continued	<p>2. Mid-term review of the implementation of UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023;</p> <p>3. Progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda:</p> <p>a) Preparations of the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda;</p> <p>b) Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration as adopted during the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly;</p> <p>c) Briefing by the Executive Director on the high-level meeting to assess progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (Quito +5).</p> <p>4. Briefing by the Executive Director on the implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the UN-Habitat Assembly at its first session in May 2019;</p> <p>5. Report of the Executive Director on implementation of the UN-Habitat Covid-19 response plan;</p> <p>6. Update on preparations for the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum;</p> <p>7. Update on the alignment of the planning cycles of UN-Habitat with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process;</p> <p>8. Review of the provisional agenda for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2023;</p> <p>9. Dates and provisional agenda for the open-ended CPR meeting towards preparations for the second UN-Habitat Assembly;</p> <p>10. Election of officers;</p> <p>11. Other matters;</p> <p>12. Closure of the session.</p>	Agreed
c) Briefing on the background documentation to support the Provisional Agenda	a) All substantive agenda items will be supported by background documents.	Agreed
	b) The background documents will have word limits of 5000 words in order to manage costs related to editing and translation.	Agreed
	c) Additional information documents with details will however be availed as appropriate in English only.	Agreed
	d) It will not be possible to have an independent mid term evaluation report of the strategic plan 2020-2023 as such evaluation can only take place in early 2022 after two years of implementation.	Agreed

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
d) Briefing on the background documentation to support the Provisional Agenda (continued)	e) Documents pertaining to the agenda item on midterm review of the strategic plan will therefore be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Annual report on implementation of the strategic plan for the year 2020 and, ii. An internal “self evaluation” document on progress, challenges, and opportunities for implementing the strategic plan 2020-2023. 	Agreed
e) Review of the format and venue of the high-level mid-term review meeting in light of the Covid-19 global situation	The Bureau recommended its preference for combination of in-person meeting, if feasible, with Member States based in Nairobi but online with capital-based delegations.	Agreed
	The Bureau recommended the Executive Director to continue monitoring the situation regarding COVID- 19 and report to the Bureau soon in case there is any significant developments on the possibility of physical meetings in the UN Complex.	Agreed
f) Discussion on the level of participation at the high-level mid-term review meeting	The Bureau agreed with the recommendation that they would benefit from the participation of the following high- level officials in the High-level mid- term review meeting of the CPR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. President of the Republic of Kenya ii. President of the General Assembly iii. President of the UN-Habitat Assembly iv. Selected Ministers of sustainable urbanization and human settlements by region v. An option to invite all Ministers of sustainable urbanization and human settlements to the CPR High level midterm review meeting. 	Agreed
g) Preliminary discussion on the Organization of work during the high-level mid-term review meeting	a) The Bureau will further consider in its fourth meeting if there should be side or special events during the high- level midterm review.	Agreed
	b) Under this sub- item, the Executive Director presented her preliminary thoughts of the Secretariat on proposed Dialogue (s) on topics within the agenda during the high- level mid-term review meeting as part of the work during plenary. The full presentation by the Executive Director can be accessed here . The Bureau recommended the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The dialogue could be one of the innovative ways and format for the midterm review meeting of the CPR to ensure that all Member States remain fully engaged in the discussions and also to help distinguish the high- level midterm review meeting from the sessions of the Executive Board. ii. The debate and dialogue among Member States and Partners could be on topics such as the New Urban Agenda, preparing for the 2022 High Level meeting on Quito +5, Cities and the Covid-19 Pandemic, among other topics of importance which are in sync with the agenda of the meeting to foster a constructive dialogue. 	Agreed

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
Agenda item 3 f) continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. The dialogue could benefit from a “thought leader” to provoke the discussions or could be in the form of a “moderated debate” with carefully identified panellists that may include ministers and partners. iv. The dialogue could have “regional inputs” as a way to enhance participation of Member states. v. The Dialogue should be designed to be part of the formal agenda of the meeting and not as a parallel or side event. 	Agreed
	<p>c) Areas of possible outcome for the high- level midterm review meeting will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Recommendation on the High- Level meeting on Quito+5 of the General Assembly in 2022 line with GA resolution <i>A/RES/75/224</i>. ii. Recommendation on WUF 10 outcome and WUF 11 preparations in line with GC resolution 26/6 on the World urban Forum. iii. Recommendation on the progress in implementing the UN-Habitat Assembly resolutions and including specifically resolution 1/1 on the strategic plan. iv. Recommendation on financing the mandate of UN-Habitat through support for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, the New urban Agenda and SDGs v. Recommendation on the dates and agenda of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and the dates and agenda for the Open-Ended CPR meeting. 	Agreed
4. Discussion on the Vacancy of the office of Rapporteur		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The role of the Rapporteur is of utmost importance, especially during the high-level mid-term review meeting in June, to report on the proceedings and outcomes of the meeting and ensure that the discussions and views of member States are clearly reflected to ensure genuine practical value for the meeting outcome. b) The Chair therefore strongly encourages the regional group of Western European and Others (WEOG) to fill the vacancy of rapporteur of the Bureau of the CPR or to agree to nominate the Chair of the WEOG Regional Group to fill that position. 	Noted
	<p>c) The next Bureau of the CPR would be elected at the end of the high-level mid-term review and will hold office for 2 years until the end of the Open-ended CPR meeting held in preparations for the UN-Habitat Assembly scheduled in June 2023.</p> <p>In line with the tentative draft of the Scenarios of the Bureau(x) shared with Member States in preparations of the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in May 2019, the</p>	Noted

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
Agenda item 4 continued	<p>composition of the next CPR Bureau in terms of the seats for the respective regional groups are as follows;</p> <p>Chair: WEOG, Vice-Chairs: African States, Asian States, Latin American and Caribbean States Rapporteur: Eastern European States</p> <p>d) At the next Bureau meeting planned for Wednesday 28 April 2021, the Bureau is expected to further discuss invitation on behalf of the Chair which will be sent to all regional groups to start caucusing towards identifying nominations for their respective representatives to the new Bureau of the CPR.</p>	Noted
5. Any other Matters		
	<p>a) The Executive Director referred to her letter to Member States dated 1 February 2021 forwarding General Assembly resolution A/RES/75/224 on the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda (“Quito +5”) to be held on April 2022 and further informed that she is likely to brief Nairobi based Member States on 23 March 2021 regarding the QUITO +5 meeting after her briefing on the preparations for the 2021 first session of the Executive Board.</p>	Noted