



Executive Board of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme
First session of 2021
Online, 7 and 8 April 2021

Proposed draft decisions for consideration by the Executive Board at first session for the year 2021*

Draft Decision 2021/1: Status of the draft work programme and budget of UN-Habitat for the year 2022; implementation by UN-Habitat of the reform of the development system and management of the United Nations and alignment of the planning cycles of UN-Habitat with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process

The Executive Board

(a) **The status of the draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the year 2022**

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2022¹;

{ **1 bis. Placeholder related to para 4:** insertion of a paragraph mentioning that other projected sources for funding should contribute to the implementation of the Work Programme and the Strategic Plan. }

2. *Recalls* its decision 2020/6, in particular paragraph 8², which requests the Ad-Hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters of the Executive Board to discuss the draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for 2022 for submission to the United Nations Controller followed by a review by the Committee for Programme and Coordination and subsequent approval by the Executive Board; and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in line with the recommended budget range for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation non-earmarked budget of UN-Habitat for 2022 of between \$10 million and \$12 million and other extrabudgetary resources, for submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, followed by subsequent approval by the Executive Board;

3. *Takes note* of the recommendation by the Ad-hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters for an amount of \$10 million for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation non-earmarked budget for 2022;

4. *Decides* to accept the recommendation by the Ad-hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters that the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation non-earmarked budget of UN-Habitat for 2022 be within the threshold of \$10 million and

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

¹ HSP/EB.2021/4 and HSP/EB.2021/INF 2.

² HSP/EB/.2020/29.

further *requests* the Executive Director to finalize a draft annual work programme [and budget] of UN-Habitat for 2022 based on feedback from the Committee of Programme and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [,other projected sources for funding which all should contribute to the implementation of the Work Programme and the Strategic Plan] and to present it for further consideration by the Executive Board at its second session in 2021;

5. *Approves* preliminary estimates of \$11.2 million USD for program support, \$69.1 million USD for foundation earmarked, and \$149.8 million USD for technical cooperation budgets and *requests* UN-Habitat provide final estimates for approval at the second Executive Board meeting of 2021 a minimum of 30 days prior to the scheduled meeting date;

[6. *Approves* UN-Habitat recommended Regular Budget of \$13.289 million USD which is subject to further analysis, review, and approval by Fifth Committee;]

[7. *Approves* preliminary budget of \$10 million USD for Foundation Non-earmarked budget subject to final approval at the second Executive Board meeting of 2021;]

8. *Requests* UN-Habitat provide 2022 national budget allocations at projected 2021 revenue levels for the Foundation Non-earmarked, Foundation earmarked, Technical Cooperation and Program Support budgets at least 30 days prior to the second Executive Board meeting of 2021, to provide the Executive Board with UN-Habitat's prioritization of 2022 expenditures in the event 2021 revenue is less than the budgets approved by the first session of the 2021 Executive Board;

9. *Requests* UN-Habitat provide a report detailing cost recovery methodology, cost classifications, cost recovery rates, discounts, and waivers including a detailed itemization of each discount and waiver and associated U.S. Dollar value for 2020 and for the first 6 months of 2021 thirty days prior to the Second Executive Board meeting of 2021.

{Section b) only to be included if reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions relevant to the work of UN-Habitat have been issued since the last session of the Executive Board and are available at the time of the session :}

(b) Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions relevant to the work and activities of UN-Habitat issued since the most recent session of the Executive Board.

10. *Takes note* of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on {title of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions relevant to the work of UN-Habitat which may have been issued since the last session of the Executive Board to be inserted when available} for 2021, and *requests* the Executive Director to follow up on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and to update the Executive Board at its next session on the progress made;

(c) Alignment of the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review Process (QCPR) with UN-Habitat planning cycles

11. *Takes note* of the update and the report of the Executive Director on the alignment of the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) with UN-Habitat planning cycles³ ;

(d) Implementation by UN-Habitat of the reform of the development system and management of the United Nations

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on implementation by UN-Habitat of the reform of the development system and management of the United Nations⁴ [and further *recommends* the following actions:] {*possible follow-up actions*}.

³ HSP/EB.2020/16/Add.1.

⁴ HSP/EB.2021/7.

Draft Decision 2021/2: Financial, budgetary and administrative matters of UN Habitat including the improvement of the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat and actions by UN-Habitat to strengthen protection against sexual and any other type of exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in the workplace

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the reports entitled Report of the Executive Director on Financial, budgetary and administrative matters: interim financial status of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme as at 31 December 2020⁵; Staffing of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme as at 31 December 2020⁶; Financial budgetary and administrative matters: implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan⁷ and, Report of the Executive Director on Staff update, equitable geographical distribution and gender parity⁸ and *recommends* [that the Secretariat should look for more structural solution to deal with decreased non-earmarked funding, while ensuring that all sources of funding contribute to a full implementation of the Strategic Plan and the Work Programme. The Secretariat is requested to present a relevant discussion paper for the next Executive Board session;]

2. *Takes note* of the update provided by the Executive Director on the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan⁹ [and *recommends* that the Secretariat [is requested for future reports on the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy to be submitted to the Executive Board to include factual and analytical information] [presents in the next Executive Board session a factual and analytical report] on achieving the objectives of the resource mobilization strategy;]

3. *Takes note* of the update by the Executive Director on the restructuring of UN-Habitat as reflected in the report of the Executive Director¹⁰ and [*recommends* UN-Habitat to further review its regional and field presence with a view to best support the implementation of UN-Habitat's mandate and of its Strategic Plan and in order to continue to contribute to the work of the UN country teams [in the most efficient way;]

4. *Takes note* of the update by the Executive Director on the improvement of the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat as reflected in the report of the Executive Director¹¹ [and *recommends* the following actions:] {*possible follow-up actions*}.

5. *Takes note* of the update by the Executive Director on UN-Habitat action to strengthen protection against sexual exploitation and any other type of exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in the workplace as reflected in the annual report¹² [and *recommends* the following actions:] {*possible follow-up actions*}.

⁵ HSP/EB.2021/2.

⁶ HSP/EB.2021/2/Add.1.

⁷ HSP/EB.2021/2/Add.2.

⁸ HSP/EB.2021/2/Add.3.

⁹ HSP/EB.2021/2/Add.2.

¹⁰ HSP/EB.2021/3.

¹¹ HSP/EB.2021/9.

¹² HSP/EB.2021/8.

Draft Decision 2021/3: Implementation of normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat including resolutions and decisions of the UN-Habitat Assembly and including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN-Habitat in 2020 and the implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities, and update on the UN-Habitat response to the coronavirus pandemic

The Executive Board

(a) Implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted during the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly

1. *Takes note of* the update and the report by the Executive Director on the progress in the implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted during the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly¹³ [and *recommends* the following actions:] {*possible follow-up actions.*}

2. *Recalling* Resolution 1/2 of the United Nations Habitat Assembly of 31 May 2019 and Executive Board decision 2020/5 of 9 November 2020 in which it took note of a concept note for a review mechanism to assess progress and propose amendments to the United Nations System-Wide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director, taking into account the Guidelines, to provide the Executive Board at its second session of the year 2021 with the terms of reference of a peer review mechanism to assess progress and propose amendments to the guidelines where necessary to ensure their effective implementation;

4. *Recommends* the acceleration UN-Habitat's digital transformation to support the development of innovative capacity building and learning tools accessible to all *and* stresses the importance of strategic partnerships with UN entities and partners to leverage existing initiatives and technologies.

5. *Recalling* its Decision 2020/5 of 9 November 2020 and *takes note of* UN-Habitat's efforts to strengthen its capacities to use digital technologies in the design and delivery of capacity building programmes and activities.

(b) Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN- Habitat

6. *Recalling* General Assembly Resolution 72/226 of 20 December 2017, entitled "Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" and *taking note of* the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, *encourages* the Executive Director to continue ensuring that the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat are balanced and that its normative work guides and is integrated into its operational work;

7. *Takes note of* the report of the Executive Director on the UN-Habitat response to COVID-19¹⁴ [and *recommends* the following actions:] {*possible follow-up actions*}

Draft Decision 2021/4: Methods of work of the Executive Board and workplan of the Executive Board for the year 2021

The Executive Board

(a) Reports of the Executive Board and its Ad-hoc working groups

1. *Adopts* the report of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat on the work of its second session of 2020¹⁵;

¹³ HSP/EB.2021/6.

¹⁴ HSP/EB.2021/INF/3.

¹⁵ HSP/EB.2020/28.

2. *Takes note* of the briefing by the Chair of the Ad-Hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matter and [*recommends*] the following actions: {*possible follow-up actions XX*}

[3. *Recommends* the following with regard to the Ad-Hoc working group on the development of a stakeholder engagement policy: {*possible follow-up actions*}]

(b) Streamlining the annual draft work programme and budget of UN-Habitat to each session of the Executive Board

4. *Takes note* of the fact that pursuant to paragraph 5 of its Resolution 73/239 of 20 December 2018 on the strengthening of UN-Habitat, the General Assembly of the United Nations decided that the additional requirements, including those to service the new intergovernmental governance processes of UN-Habitat, should be met by existing structures and by streamlining operations, and encouraged Member States to make voluntary contributions for the sustainability and predictability of financial resources;

5. *Appreciates* the need to streamline the documents for each session of the Executive Board for cost efficiency, particularly the annual draft work programme and budget document which attracts significant cost implications due to its large size and its production twice per year in the six official languages of the United Nations;

6. [*Recommends*] [*Decides*] [as a provisional measure] that for [all] future sessions of the Executive Board, the draft annual work programme and budget be made available by the Secretariat in English only during the first session of the Executive Board each year for discussion purposes only and further [*recommends*] [*decides*] that the draft annual work programme and budget document be submitted in the six official languages of the United Nations at the second or third session of the Executive Board each year during which it will be discussed and considered for approval based on any recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

(c) Date and Agenda for the next session of the Executive Board

7. *Decides* that the second session of the Executive Board in 2021 will be held from [19 to 21 October 2021];

8. *Decides* that the provisional Agenda for the second session of the year 2021 shall be as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting;
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the second session of 2021;
 - (b) Adoption of the report on the first session of 2021.
3. Reports of the ad hoc working groups established by the Executive Board;
4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan;
5. Discussion and possible approval of the draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2022;
6. Implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023:
 - (a) Annual report for 2020 on the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023;
 - (b) Explanation note on the actual annual income and expenditures in support of the draft financial plan.
7. Normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN-Habitat in 2021 and the implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities, and update on the UN-Habitat response to the coronavirus pandemic;
8. Briefing by the Executive Director on the high-level meeting to assess progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (Quito +5) [adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)].

9. Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the Executive Board;
10. Annual report of the Ethics Office to the Executive Board;
11. Provisional agenda for the next session of the Executive Board;
12. Other matters;
13. Closure of the meeting.

Draft Decision 2021/5: Election of officers of the Bureau of the Executive Board for the term 2021-2022

Decides to elect from among its members holding office starting at the end of the first session of the year 2021, and taking into consideration the need to ensure equitable geographical representation, the new Bureau of the Executive Board as follows:

Chair: _____ for Eastern European States;

Vice-Chairs: _____ for African States; _____ for Asia-Pacific States; _____ for Western European and other States;

Rapporteur: _____ for Latin American and Caribbean States.
