

BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA

Permanent Mission to the Office of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) / Human Settlements (UN-HABITAT).

Second session of the UN-Habitat Executive Board for the year 2021

Statement by Ambassador Jesús Manzanilla Puppo Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to UNEP and UN-HABITAT.

Item 7: Normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT)

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman,

- 1. It is an honor for me to address this meeting of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat, in this second period of sessions, on behalf of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.
- 2. First of all, allow me to express our fraternal greetings to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat), Maimunah Mohd Sharify, and to congratulate her, on her excellent work leading this important program of the United Nations System.
- 3. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, attaches great importance to the work carried out by UN-Habitat in support of Member States to promote the development of sustainable human settlements from a social and environmental point of view to provide the right to adequate housing for everyone in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.
- **4.** For this reason, we value with satisfaction the important played role by the UN Human Settlements Program, as a forum for reflection and action on the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda.

5. In this context, Venezuela was recognized in its opportunity by the United Nations System for the rapid adoption of the Millennium Development Goals and is now working in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. Chairman,

- **6.** About the normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT), our country assigns special importance to the population's right to decent housing.
- **7.** Venezuela has built more than 3,785,700 housing units in ten years to date, of which more than 20% have been assigned to immigrant families living in the country, who are displaced by economic crises and regional conflicts. recurring.
- **8.** For our country, this is a strategic task in the context of the social protection policies promoted by the Bolivarian Government, and which have not stopped despite the negative impacts of the coercive and unilateral measures imposed by the government of the United States in an attempt to impose their national interests, in contravention of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Venezuela.

Mr. Chairman,

9. The high-impact social protection system promoted by Venezuela is the product of an approach that prioritizes the well-being of the population without exclusion. Housing is a Human Right in our country and not a commodity.

10. Finally, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela supports a comprehensive approach to urbanization and habitat, which goes beyond technical considerations and encourages the promotion of new sustainable social models that are truly people-centered.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.