# Report of the Executive Director on UN-Habitat's UN-Habitat's contribution, experiences and added value in urban crisis situations

#### I. Introduction

- 1. The present document highlights UN-Habitat's engagement in countries, territories and areas affected by conflicts and disasters, as a follow up to decision 2022/B of the Executive Board and linked to UN-Habitat's Domain of Change 4 "Effective urban crisis prevention and response" of UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan 2020 2023. It builds on a review of UN-Habitat's project portfolio contributing to the outcomes under Domain of Change 4, a documentation of 26 country briefs as listed in EB decision 2022/2, and the outcomes of the urban crisis track at the 11<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum.
- 2. UN-Habitat has been developing strong experience and expertise in prevention and response to urban crises in line with resolution 26/2 of the Governing Council, enhancing UN-Habitat's role in urban crisis response, as well as the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023 (HSP/CPR/71/10) and the recent decision 2022/2 (para 6-9) of the 2022 first session of the Executive Board.
- 3. The report should allow the Executive Board of UN-Habitat to discuss a further prioritization of UN-Habitat's work on urban crisis prevention and response, and potential measures to support a stronger engagement.

# II. UN-Habitat's normative and operational portfolio on urban crisis prevention and response

### Overview of Domain of change 4: Effective urban crisis prevention and response

- 4. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown how current global crises are increasingly interconnected and difficult to resolve. Densely populated urban areas often bear the brunt of these crises. Sustainability, preparedness, risk management and crisis prevention have become central to both urban planning and reconstruction efforts. To reduce the impact of these crises, UN-Habitat has laid out pre- and post- crisis measures, building on tools and approaches used in development and humanitarian settings, adapting them to urban crisis, migration, or displacement settings. UN-Habitat experience, methodologies and tools help advance the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, in coordination with humanitarian actors. UN-Habitat interventions are articulated around the three domain of change 4 outcomes of the Strategic Plan 2020-2023:
- (a) Outcome 4.1 Enhanced social integration and inclusive communities: UN-Habitat supports Member States in their implementation of strategies and actions for increasing social integration and safety in public space, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable, including women, youth, disabled and older people. To achieve social integration, UN-Habitat promotes participatory and inclusive operational programmes in crisis-affected communities, such as the "People's process" approach, a cross-sectoral community development planning and implementation tool.
- (b) Outcome 4.2 Improved living standards and inclusion of migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons and returnees through effective crisis response and recovery: UN-Habitat has prioritized improved living standards and inclusion of migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons and returnees in urban settings. The Programme provided expertise on the planning of camps and incorporated urban planning standards and tenure arrangements suitable for the transformation of camps into settlements, such as in northern Kenya, for 60,000 refugees. The flagship programme "Inclusive cities Enhancing the positive impact of urban migration" provides a vehicle for the

coordination and integration of normative approaches that support and enhance country-level programming.

(c) Outcome 4.3 – Enhanced resilience of the build environment and infrastructure: work towards this outcome focuses on implementing evidence-based local disaster risk reduction and resilience strategies aligned with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. UN-Habitat approaches, supporting local implementations, mobilizing networks of urban stakeholders and complementing work led by the World Bank, the European Union and the United Nations Development Programme at the national level. The Urban Resilience Global Programme developed urban profiles supporting of mayors with data for decision-making, in, in Paraguay, Spain, Senegal, Mozambique, Vanuatu, Brazil and Russia. The city profiles also adapted to the response to COVID 19.

#### Analysis of UN-Habitat's interventions in crisis context

- 5. The Executive Board in its decision 2022/2 (para 9) requested the Executive Director to support the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements in countries affected by conflict and disaster [..] and to use all relevant tools at her disposal to engage with countries newly affected by conflict and disaster, such as Ukraine, and continue to provide assistance to countries, territories and areas affected by conflict and disaster, [...] in particular using urban profiling to assess the needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of urban areas and the establishment of urban recovery frameworks.
- 6. UN-Habitat initiated an analysis of its work in countries and territories affected by conflicts and disasters, including those leading to the displacement of people. The analysis was conducted on the country programming of the 26 countries and territories listed in the Annex 1 of the decision 2022/A adopted by the Executive Board in its first session of 2022. Country programmes have identified the nature of the crisis, if the crisis leads to the displacement of persons, the type of interventions of UN-Habitat, their linkages with the Strategic Plan outcomes, and the tools applied from UN-Habitat catalogue of services.
- 7. The methodology adopted allows to identify:
  - (a) the level of integration of the expected outcomes of the Strategic Plan;
  - (b) the approach of UN-Habitat in response to conflict and/or disaster;
  - (c) the regional adaptation of global UN-Habitat expertise and vice versa, regional innovations that can inform global normative work.
- 8. Among the 26 countries and territories analysed, 16 (62%) have been affected by conflicts, 20 countries (77%) have been affected by natural disasters. 11 countries (42%) have been affected by both conflicts and natural disasters, resulting in complex and multi-dimensional crisis situations. In 17 (65%) countries, people have been forced to leave their home, either due to a conflict or a disaster, or both.
- 9. The analysis allows to review how UN-Habitat is supporting Member States in the different contexts and at the different stages of the crisis:
  - (a) The analyses shows the key areas of intervention of UN-Habitat in crisis contexts, from early responses through humanitarian interventions (in 9 countries, 35%) paving the way towards longer term responses through the setup of participatory processes in support of communities for the reconstruction/rehabilitation of houses after a disaster (in 12 countries, 46%) or the rehabilitation/enhancement of basic urban services (14 countries, 54%), as well as the support to local, regional and national governments to build the urban resilience and enhance risk management through disaster risk reduction approaches (12 countries, 46%).

- (b) In conflict contexts, UN-Habitat plays a key role in assessing the needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of urban areas by conducting urban profiling activities (12 countries, 46%). Particularly in the Arab States region, the profiling exercises lead to the development of urban recovery approaches, building on the contextual analysis, participatory recovery planning, implementation of multisectoral interventions and monitoring systems that include environmental, social and political safeguards. UN-Habitat office in Syria has pioneered and developed an Urban Recovery Framework (URF), which can be upscaled and used in similar contexts globally.
- (c) Addressing climate change is an important component of UN-Habitat interventions in crisis contexts, with 17 country programming (65%) engaged in activities to adapt or mitigate climate change impacts on cities. Climate actions are almost systematically undertaken in response to disasters (15 countries, 88%) and is also becoming an important component of UN-Habitat response in conflict situations as well, as 7 countries facing conflict situations integrated components from climate actions in their programming.
- (d) Capacity building of the local, regional and national governments, as well as the operational partners and local communities, is at the core of UN-Habitat interventions in any crisis contexts. 21 countries (81%) engage into capacity building as a key activity to ensure the sustainability of the interventions.
- (e) The analysis also shows how interventions are adapted to regional contexts, allowing UN-Habitat to develop regional expertise on various approaches, such as the People's process, a community development planning and implementation tool, in the Regional Office for Asia Pacific. In the Arab States for instance, UN-Habitat has also built a recognized expertise on Housing, Land and Property (HLP) rights. The analysis reveals the importance of the coordination of the crisis portfolio at global level, to foster experience sharing, peer learning, good practices sharing, among others to enhance UN-Habitat interventions globally.
- 10. The analysis also allowed to identify areas, where UN-Habitat could invest more at scale, to better support Member States and cities globally, such as municipal finance and land base revenues to support equitable delivery of services and building the social contract, or the use of technology/digital innovations in support of urban recovery, to enhance data collection and analysis for evidence-based planning.
- 11. The key normative tools/approaches used in support of Member States to respond to crisis contexts were also identified. Several tools used at country level, promote participatory processes, such as the *City-wide public space assessment toolkit*, the *Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk* Guide, the *Urban Recovery Framework*, or the *People's Process* approach, among others. Specific tools have been developed to support cities in their efforts to build their resilience, such as the *CityRap tool*, or to improve land management systems (tools developed through the *Global Land Tool Network* programme) and urban planning (*Planning for Climate Change Guide*). A more thorough review is ongoing to identify further tailoring to crisis contexts, including issues around protection and social cohesion.

#### UN-Habitat engagement in countries newly affected by conflict and disaster

- 12. UN-Habitat has activated its Emergency Director function to ensure more corporate responses, including in countries newly affected by conflict and disaster, including the conflict in Ukraine and the floods in Pakistan. Where needed Ad Hoc Task Forces are set up to ensure a whole-of-house response, as recently in the case of Ukraine.
- 13. Based on the initial engagement with the Ukrainian Government, Ukrainian Cities and civil society actors, validated the request of the Executive Board to use urban profiling to assess the needs, vulnerabilities, and capacities of urban areas and the establishment of urban recovery frameworks. At the 11<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum, 10 events explored how this could be best done calling for broad horizontal partnerships, with a strong engagement of built environment professionals, and confirming the need to support bottom-up urban recovery

efforts, wherever and whenever possible as a complement to nationally led recovery and reconstruction efforts. Evidently the tools and approaches tested in various crisis situations require adaptation to the specific context. The Government of Ukraine has now formally requested UN-Habitat to provide support to local and regional recovery planning.

- 14. A programmatic framework has been created to set out possible UN-Habitat interventions in support of the Ukrainian government at national and local level. Urban Profiling results will be used to inform the development of urban recovery frameworks that should help frame immediate action and progress towards full-scale reconstruction, identify the policy gaps, ensure multi-level governance coherence and explore financing options for urban recovery. The urban profiles will also support the development of urban and spatial plans for priority locations in need of recovery and/or complete reconstruction. The purpose will be to ensure that local authorities are capacitated to engage in local recovery processes, thereby shoring up earlier gains in the decentralisation process. UN-Habitat also plans to assist the Ukrainian Government and other stakeholders with a systematic analysis of housing delivery systems at city and national level, helping to disclose bottlenecks and to identify gaps and opportunities in the housing sector which has been severely impacted by the conflict.
- 15. UN-Habitat through its UNITAC programme plans to contribute to the use of urban data platforms which will house all data and inputs gathered through the above tools. It is intended to digitize and visualize in interactive dashboards the developed urban profiles, compare with historical information, identify grey zones and challenges in the cities, inform both the urban and spatial plans and the sustainability and resilience plans for priority locations and ultimately territorial and urban policy making by respective Governments.
- 16. In complement to the government, partnerships have been explored with a wide range of Ukrainian civil society actors, the UN Country Team, including UNDP, IOM and UNHCR, and members of the Global Alliance of Urban Crisis already present in Ukraine. The intent is to ensure full alignment with Ukrainian priorities, full integration into the UN's response, leveraging Ukrainian capacities, and allowing quick and scalable action working closely with a wide range of actors with established presence and capacity in Ukraine. UN-Habitat is a member of the UN Country Team and is currently focused on mobilizing the necessary financial resources and making the necessary preparations for a quick deployment.

# III. Contribution to UN system-wide engagement relevant to urban crisis prevention and response

17. As the nature of crises has become increasingly urban, UN-Habitat has increasingly focused on supporting humanitarian and development actors, in adjusting to this new reality, as guided also by the New Urban Agenda and UN-Habitat's long experience in working in crisis-affected countries and cities.

#### Sustainable urbanization for sustaining peace

- 18. UN-Habitat's work is embedded in broader UN efforts for peace, security and development. As a development agency, it has a strong mandate to mitigate the increasing root causes and drivers of conflict, in line with the UN's peace and security reform. The Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (GA RES 71/243) acknowledges "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." Anchored in the Strategic Plan under domain of change 4, UN-Habitat's work in urban crisis contexts builds on experiences made and lessons learned in urban development contexts while being adapted to the priorities of a humanitarian crisis response as appropriate. The agency has developed specific tools and guidance documents on urban crisis and conflict response including on land, housing (spatial), data collection, urban and territorial planning, access to services, recovery and reconstruction among others.
- 19. From extensive lessons learnt, UN-Habitat has been able to derive key principles for engagement in urban crisis and conflict contexts. These include:

- (a) <u>Multi-governance</u> coordination between different government levels with a strong focus on including local authorities in decision-making processes;
- (b) <u>Cross-sectoral coordination</u> applying an area-based approach and spatializing data fosters a cross-sector approach which enables multiple sector analysis and visualizing gaps in response;
- (c) <u>Inclusion of all relevant stakeholders/participatory processes</u> to ensure ownership and inclusion of perspectives of all levels and parts of society, including local and national authorities, civil society organisations (including representatives of people in vulnerable situations e.g. in displacement contexts, but also religious and faith leaders, women's and youth associations), local academia and private sector actors;
- (d) Increased coordination between humanitarian-development-peace actors to foster integrated and coordinated approach from data collection and analysis to joint prioritization and recommendations for actions and investments and implementation.
- 20. Key areas of UN-Habitat's work on crises which also create platform for sustainable urbanisation, spans from land and property issues, urban and territorial planning including in refugee and displacement settings, housing, and local economic development and municipal finance. For advancing sustainable urban development, UN-Habitat works with all levels of government for transformative change, providing advisory services ranging from urban legislation and policy development at the national level, to city level projects on planning, inclusive governance structures and municipal finance systems to neighbourhood level interventions and local implementation. The programme is therefore best placed for enhancing communication and coordination across different government levels, and advocate for whole-of-government approaches.
- The UN system-wide strategy on sustainable urban development<sup>1</sup>, adopted by the United Nations Chief Executive Board, chaired by the Secretary-General, in April 2019, points to the potential of sustainable urbanization as a transformative force when responding to cities in crisis, displacement, resilience and peacebuilding. While increased displacement creates great challenges for cities, the UN agrees that cities have a unique opportunity to manage and integrate urban displacement into sustainable urban development strategies, as set out also in the New Urban Agenda. The strategy points out that all crisis response and recovery processes offer opportunities to rebuild in a better way and strengthen overall resilience, requiring a better alignment of humanitarian and development efforts and that cities in post-conflict settings can become critical spaces for rebuilding the social contract, reviving institutions so that they can become more accountable and inclusive and creating transitional justice mechanisms in support of peacebuilding.

#### **Humanitarian-development-peace nexus**

22. On 16 June 2021, UN-Habitat has become an adherent of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus. The DAC Recommendation provides its adherents with a framework which promotes more collaborative and complementary humanitarian, development and peace actions, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected situations. UN-Habitat is currently aligning its normative work with the DAC Recommendation and building the corporate capacities on the framework through the nomination of key-staff to participate in the Nexus Academy, a 6-day training co-designed by UN-Habitat and other DAC adherents.

#### Secretary-General Action Agenda on Internally Displaced People

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://unhabitat.org/un-system-wide-strategy-on-sustainable-urban-development

23. UN-Habitat contributed to the work of the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement, put in place by the United Nations Secretary-General. UN-Habitat, together with the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and the Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS), submitted a paper titled "IDPs in towns and cities – working with the realities of internal displacement in an urban world" and organized the high-level roundtable "Internal Displacement in an Increasingly Urbanized World" to support the consultations of the High-Level Panel with local actors. The round table reunited local authorities particularly from Burkina-Faso, Iraq, Colombia and Ukraine. The Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internally Displaced People recognizes, amongst others, the important role of local authorities and urban planning in managing urban displacement.

#### Humanitarian action: Inter-Agency Standing Committee, cluster system

- 24. UN-Habitat has been part of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee since 2008, the highest-level humanitarian coordination forum of the United Nations system. In recent years, the focus has been on ensuring that the humanitarian response is adjusted to address humanitarian challenges in urban areas, taking into account the increasing urban nature of humanitarian crises. This has included a strong focus on strengthening and empowering the role of local governments in humanitarian response in urban settings.
- 25. UN-Habitat Finally, UN-Habitat is to officially take up again the role of co-chair of the Housing, Land and Property area of responsibility under the Global Protection Cluster in 2023. This will help to advance also the use of the Secretary-General Guidance Note on Land and Conflict [link], approved in 2019, which UN-Habitat facilitated and which allows coherence across the humanitarian, development and peace nexus to deal with acute risks of protection or further displacement, while addressing root causes.

#### Strategic partnerships

26. Since 2019, in recognition of the increasingly urban nature of displacement, UN-Habitat has enhanced its engagement with UNHCR through a global Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Building on their respective mandates, the MOU promotes complementary expertise of the agencies, their capacities and tools that can improve response to urban migration crisis. The partnership recognizes the positive role that sustainable development can play in mitigating drivers of conflicts, disaster risks, humanitarian crises and complex emergencies, and that a comprehensive response is fundamental to addressing needs and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals. The partnership covers both normative and operational aspects related to humanitarian and development responses in support of the respective mandates, the Global Compact on Refugees and other global agreements such as the Agenda 2030, Paris Agreement for Climate Change, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the New Urban Agenda. The collaboration has already resulted in more holistic and integrated settlements-based approaches being applied in refugee settings (e.g. in East and Horn of Africa), city profiles developed under the Urban Planning in Migration Contexts programme (Cameroon, Jordan, Egypt), where the profiling tool has been adapted and the financial planning component included, expanded operational engagement in refugee settings (e.g. inclusion of UN-Habitat in the Solutions Initiative for South-Sudan and Sudan), as well as the deployment of technical experts from UN-Habitat in key refugee operations (Bangladesh), to the secondment of UNHCR senior advisor to UN-Habitat Headquarters in support to the urban crisis work stream. The collaboration has been underpinned by dissemination of lessons learnt from joint field responses through internal staff learning events jointly held by the two agencies and the development of joint normative tools (e.g. Settlement profiling tool, Guidance for Responding to Displacement in Urban Areas), as well as participation of UN-Habitat in the revision of UNHCR's urban refugee policy. The enhanced collaboration of the agencies was reflected in UNHCR's substantive participation in the Urban Crises track during the WUF11. Similarly, UN-Habitat has made three pledges at the Global Refugee Forum (improved

 $<sup>^2\</sup> https://www.un.org/internal-displacement-panel/sites/www.un.org.internal-displacement-panel/files/published\_iied\_jips\_unh\_submission.pdf$ 

data on urban migration, youth inclusion, normative tools for integrated settlements) which have all been incorporated in the agency migration work.

27. In addition to the partnership with UNHCR, UN-Habitat has already engaged in discussions with other UN agencies, such as IOM, to elevate the field level operational partnerships to global level partnership, which could further enhance UN-Habitat work on migration. A draft global MOU with FAO is currently undergoing internal review process. This partnership would support the urban crises work in the areas of land issues as well as urban-rural linkages, and green public spaces that can promote inclusion and community cohesion.

#### Networks relevant to urban crisis prevention and response

- In 2016, at the World Humanitarian Summit, held in Istanbul, UN-Habitat launched a Global Alliance for Urban Crises as a multi-disciplinary, collaborative community of practice working to prevent, prepare for, effectively respond to, and rapidly recover from the effects of humanitarian crises and displacement in urban settings. The Alliance is an inclusive platform bringing together local governments, built environment professionals, academics, and humanitarian and development actors, working to arrive at systemic change and maximizing their complementary contributions in dealing with urban crises. Almost 100 organizations have joined the Alliance to work towards this vision, and to promote the principles outlined in the Urban Crises Charter. The Alliance has shaped common approaches towards, amongst others, urban profiling of cities affected by crisis and collaboration between humanitarian actors and local governments. A new strategy has been adopted for 2021 to 2024 which focuses on making knowledge and practices on urban crisis prevention and response more accessible to local governments and local actors, including the further development of an Urban Humanitarian Response Portal. The Alliance has also increasingly used the World Urban Forum to foster the dialogue and exchange and shape new partnerships. In the recent 11<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum the Alliance supported the development of an urban crisis track.
- 29. UN-Habitat continues to contribute to and engage with different multi-stakeholder platforms as an effective way to leverage its urban knowledge and expertise to strengthen the responses in a wide range of thematic areas, including resilience building, displacement and migration. As such, UN-Habitat has been a driving force behind the Making Cities Resilient 2030 initiative, led by UNDRR, and is an active member of the UN Network on Migration as well as GP2.0 network, addressing internal displacement.

## IV. Urban crises track at the 11th World Urban Forum

- 30. The 11<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum has for the first time introduced an Urban Crises Track, curating over 40 events that allow a broad sharing of knowledge and best practices among national, regional and local governments, international organizations, urban practitioners, NGOs and academic institutions. Three official events were organized as part of the Urban Crises Track: an *Extraordinary Dialogue on Urban Crisis Response and Recovery*, a Special Session on *Urban Recovery Frameworks* and a Special Session organized by the Government of Poland, on *Rebuilding communities and neighbourhoods after war and natural disasters*. Among dedicated discussions on global crisis, the Urban Crises Track also featured ten events which focused on specific issues related to urban recovery in Ukraine.
- 31. The 11th World Urban Forum highlighted the need of an increased focus on urban crisis prevention and response hand in hand with resilience and disaster preparedness. The climate and biodiversity emergencies, pandemics, violence and conflicts, and other natural and man-made disasters, all converge in cities and surrounding territories. There is an urgent need to build capacities and tools for more effective urban crisis prevention, response, and recovery which support both national and local authorities. Mayors have been recognised as first responders to crises who need to be empowered to both take charge of response but also recovery and transformation towards a better urban future.

- 32. One of the tested approaches is Urban Recovery Framework (URF) which is an important tool to help drive bottom-up urban recovery, led by local governments in support of nationally conceived reconstruction plans. The discussion at the WUF 11 built on the key role of national governments to leverage local capacities and potential through institutional mechanisms and multi-level governance arrangements, addressing policy gaps, ensuring coordination and backing financing instruments that can support local governments. With maximised capacities, local governments can implement people-centred participatory processes to anchor recovery at community level. The WUF recommended the global adoption of urban recovery frameworks, to be used in urban crises contexts, which could support governments at all levels, the UN System and partners to respond more effectively to urban crises, in a more coordinated way and help overcome the humanitarian development divide and empower local governments. UN-Habitat has recently adopted the tool extensively used in the MENA region for deployment in Ukraine.
- As set out in the WUF 11 Declared Actions, UN-Habitat as the human settlements mandated agency needs to help expand the science, research and data on the future of urban crises and make it available to local governments so they can mobilize the political will and resources to take the needed actions at scale and shift fundamental policies and practices to accelerate progress. A key instrument to respond to urban crisis, and increase effectiveness in the humanitarian, development and peace nexus, is the use of urban recovery frameworks, aligning nationally led and locally driven responses with a strong focus on multi-level governance and financing instruments. UN-Habitat will continue to advocate for its broader use by the international community, building on collaborations also with the European Commission and the World Bank.
- 34. For UN-Habitat, this requires a stronger focus on urban crisis prevention and response in its normative work, expanding its catalytic role within the UN-system and in multi-stakeholder platforms, such as the Global Alliance for Urban Crises, and further strengthening of strategic partnerships, in particular with UNHCR, IOM and UNDP. The creation of a subprogramme 4 in its Strategic Plan 2020 2023 has laid the foundations to do so. This requires a further review of the capacities needed to strengthen the internal coordination and response mechanisms. Flagship 4 on "Inclusive cities Enhancing the positive impact of urban migration", and its related global programme, thus require further resourcing that would allow it to play its role.

## V. Way Forward

- 35. Going forward, UN-Habitat will, within the limits of available resources, strengthen the analysis of its operational and normative work in support of urban crisis prevention and response, not limited to the 26 countries included in this report, to identify regional trends and solutions. This will also help to identify gaps, to determine the need for normative work and eventual gaps in existing tools and services provided by UN-Habitat globally.
- 36. UN-Habitat will also explore how to further strengthen its urban crisis response capacities, including the emergency director function, needed internal mechanisms, surge capacities and the engagement in the crisis related mechanisms in Geneva and New York (ex. IASC, humanitarian cluster system, etc.).
- 37. UN-Habitat intends to help ensure that there is sufficient focus on the specific nature of urban crises in data collection and analysis, including on displacement, refugees and migration, working closely with UNHCR, IOM and the World Bank. In response to the call at the 11<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum, UN-Habitat should also help ensure that the science and the data on the wide range of crises converging in urban areas is accessible and 'at the fingertips' of local governments and local actors.
- 38. This convergence of crises in urban areas requires a further development of the narrative on urban crisis prevention and response, and its contribution to climate action, durable solutions for the displaced, sustaining peace and acceleration towards the SDGs, as initiated in the extra-ordinary dialogue at the 11<sup>th</sup> World

Urban Forum. It is suggested to consider building on this at the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2023 in preparation also for UN-Habitat's next Strategic Plan.

- 39. UN-Habitat also plans to focus on mobilizing the needed resources to take up its role of supporting UN Country Teams in managing acute urban displacement and finding durable solutions, in response to the United Nations Secretary-General's Action Agenda for IDPs.
- 40. Working closely with the regional and sub-regional offices, including through the Flagship 4 on urban migration, UN-Habitat will increase its focus on programme development related to urban crisis prevention and response, to be further detailed in close consultation also with strategic partners such the UN Development System.