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Executive Board of the United Nations  
Human Settlements Programme  
Second session of 2022

21-23 November 2022

## Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its second session of 2022

**Draft decision 2022/[A] : Implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023, financial, budgetary and administrative matters of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the findings of its review of the management and administration of UN-Habitat and draft work programme and budget for 2023**

**(a) Implementation of the strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the period 2020–2023**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note of* the report of the Executive Director on the *Annual Report 2021* on the implementation of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2020–2023 and the summary thereof;
2. *Requests* the Executive Director to report back to the Executive Board at its first session of 2023 on the mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023 to assess progress towards the strategic result of the strategic plan;

**(b) Financial, budgetary and administrative matters of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme**

3. *Takes note of* the report and update of the Executive Director on:

- The financial status as at 30 June 2022,
- The interim financial status as at 31 October 2022,
- The staffing of UN-Habitat as at 30 June 2022,
- The recruitment, including on equitable geographical distribution and gender parity,
- The implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in line with the strategic plan,
- The ongoing restructuring of UN-Habitat,
- The UN-Habitat financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021,
- The report of the Board of Auditors.
- Protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in the workplace

4. *Decides* to include an agenda item on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors at the second or third session of each year;
- (c) **Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the findings of its review of the management and administration of UN-Habitat, the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the report of the Ethics Office**
5. *Takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on its review of the management and administration of UN-Habitat<sup>1</sup> and *requests* the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board at its second or third session each year on progress in the implementation of those recommendations beginning at its first session of 2023;
6. *Recalling* General Assembly Resolution 73/239 adopted on 20 December 2018, in particular paragraph 2, and Decisions 1/1 and 1/2 of the United Nations Habitat Assembly on 31 May 2019;
7. *Notes* that the current governance structure of UN-Habitat was established only in 2019 and that adequate time is required for the structure to function before any effective assessment could be conducted;
8. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, *welcomes* the related update by the Executive Director and *calls upon* the Executive Director to further implement the recommendations contained in the report;
9. *Welcomes* the report of the Ethics Office and *takes note* of the related update by the Executive Director;
- (d) **Work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2023**
10. *Recalling* its [decision 2022/1, in particular paragraph 4](#), *approves* the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the non-earmarked budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2023 of \$3 million, as reflected in the report of the Executive Director on the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and draft budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Foundation for 2023 set out in document HSP/EB.2022/4/Rev.1;
11. *Recalls* Decision 2020/4 on the level of the financial reserve in the non-earmarked Foundation and, *decides* to set the minimum level of the reserve at \$3 million or 20 per cent of the approved budget for the following financial period, whichever is higher ;
12. *Decides* that the Executive Director is authorized to enter into planned commitments from available balance of the financial reserve to compensate for short term requirements and liquidity due to uneven cashflows in accordance with approved work programme and budget and requests that such commitments be reported to the Executive Board;
13. *Further requests* the Executive Director in consultation with Member State to prepare guidelines on the use of the financial reserve for consideration of the Executive Board at the second or third session of 2023 including, on unforeseen requirements, long term investment and long term liabilities;
14. *Welcomes* the report on the scalability model for the non-earmarked Foundation budget and recalls in that regard, the mandate of the Executive Board specified in Rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the EB adopted in 2019 and pursuant to rules 10.4 (g), rule 24.3 and rule 25 of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly, and *requests* the Executive Director to present an updated model for the non-earmarked Foundation budget, subject to various funding levels up to \$ 12 million;

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<sup>1</sup> JIU/REP/2022/1

(e) **Preparation of the draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2024**

15. *Takes note* of the need to align the sessions of the Executive Board in 2023 with the preparatory and approval process for the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2024;

16. *Requests* the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters of the Executive Board to discuss a draft work programme and draft budget of UN-Habitat for 2024 in line with the Executive Director's recommended budget for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

17. *Requests* Executive Director to update the Executive Board at its first session of 2023 on the status of the draft work programme and draft budget for 2024, taking into account the recommendations of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters;

18. *Welcomes* UN-Habitat's proposed regular budget allocation for 2023, and UN-Habitat's exploration of innovative sources of financing;

19. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the Sustainable Human Settlements Foundation (SHSF),

20. *Notes* the possibility of reputational risk resulting from investments by private sector entities such as the SHSF,

21. *Requests* the Executive Director to obtain an analysis by the United Nations of the reputational risk associated with potential investments of SHSF and to present a report detailing the findings of the analysis of the risk to the Executive Board at its first session in 2023, and prior to entering into non-earmarked private sector agreements, including the SHSF, on behalf of UN-Habitat, in the interim and further requests an overview of earmarked private sector contribution agreements currently in force;

**Draft decision 2022/[B]: Implementation of the normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, reporting on the programmatic activities of the Programme in 2022, implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities**

(a) **Implementation of the normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme**

*The Executive Board*

1. *Takes note* of the update and report by the Executive Director on the contribution, experiences and added value of UN-Habitat in urban crisis situations;

2. *Encourages* the Executive Director, recalling its Decision 2022/2 paragraph 9, within the limits of available resources, to continue the analysis of its operational and normative work in support of urban crisis prevention and response, to identify regional trends and solutions, and address possible gaps in tools and services provided by UN-Habitat globally;

3. *Welcomes* the continued support provided by UN-Habitat, subject to the availability of funds, to the reconstruction of the human settlements in countries, territories and areas affected by conflict and disasters, as reflected in the Briefing on UN-Habitat interventions in countries, territories and areas affected by conflict and disaster, currently 26 as reflected in the annex to the present document (HSP/EB.2022/INF4/Rev.1), and the report of the Executive Director on the contribution, experiences and added value of UN-Habitat in urban crisis situations (HSP/EB.2022/17) including countries newly affected by conflict and disaster such as Ukraine and Pakistan, and in line with the mandate of the programme and paragraph 9 of Decision 2022/2 of the outcomes adopted by the Executive Board at its first session of 2022, and recommends that the Executive Director reports to the Executive Board on the on-going activities of UN-Habitat in countries, territories and areas affected by conflict and disaster in a uniform manner;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to help ensure that the science and the data on the wide range of crises occurring in urban areas is made accessible to local governments and local actors;
5. *Encourages* the Executive Director to further explore the contribution of urban crisis prevention and response, to climate action, durable solutions for the displaced, sustaining peace and acceleration of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and to continue the extraordinary dialogue that was held on the matter at the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum and to consider a follow-up dialogue at the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly in 2023;
6. *Encourages* the Executive Director to mobilize further extra-budgetary resources or voluntary contributions for UN-Habitat to take up its role of supporting United Nations country teams in managing acute urban displacement and finding durable solutions, in response to the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement;
7. *Requests* the Executive Director to intensify programme development related to urban crisis prevention and response in close consultation with strategic partners inter-alia the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and the International Organization for Migration;
8. *Also takes note of* the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of flagship programmes;
9. *Requests* the Executive Director to mobilize additional capacities and expertise as well as joint secretariat support for the flagship programmes as key instruments for the integration of the normative and operational work of UN-Habitat towards enhancing strategic partnerships across the flagship programmes and integrated work in priority locations, including at the subregional level;
10. *Encourages* the Executive Director to seek further convergence between UN-Habitat global programmes and flagship programmes to deliver more integrated and tailored solutions related to climate change, migration, smart cities, and urban regeneration and resilience;
11. *Encourages* the Executive Director to further highlight the importance of urban regeneration for the localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals, showcasing the linkages between the housing, climate change and the priorities of the Sustainable Development Goals;
12. Requests the Executive Director to explore in a consultative manner the development of international guidelines on people-centred smart cities to scale up good practice;
13. Further requests the Executive Director to develop strategic partnerships for resilient settlements for the urban poor by analysing existing expertise, experience, best practices and lessons learned, and to expand resource mobilization, including by disseminating success stories to relevant stakeholders;
14. *Encourages* the Executive Director to identify geographical areas where there is the greatest need and opportunity for UN-Habitat to add value to wider United Nations efforts in addressing urban migration and displacement challenges across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus;
15. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board on the need and the possible benefits of the development of the model of SDGs cities certification at the next session of the Executive Board;

(b) **High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda**

16. *Welcomes* the update by the Executive Director on the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to assess progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, held on 28 April 2022, and *takes note of* the Summary by the President of the General Assembly of the high-level meeting on the review of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, including the annex of actions on housing, climate action, localization, and urban crisis recovery to accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda; Ad Ref 22 November 2022 18.51

17. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide an update on programmes and initiatives on the implementation of the NUA including updates on submission of national reports at each session of the Executive Board;

**(c) Eleventh session of the World Urban Forum**

18. *Takes note* of the update and the report by the Executive Director on the summary of the outcomes of the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum and *encourages* Member States to organize regular national urban forums to monitor the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the national and local levels; *urges* the Executive Director to incorporate discussions at sessions of the World Urban Forum as input to the themes of the sessions of the United Nations Habitat Assembly;

**(d) Preparations for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly**

19. *Welcomes* the update by the Executive Director on the preparations for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly scheduled to be held from 5 to 9 June 2023 and *recommends* that Member States prioritise adequate housing, cities and climate change, localization of the Sustainable Development Goals and response to urban crises when formulating resolutions; and recommends Member States to provide adequate voluntary funding, according to their respective capabilities, to implement all resolutions and further recommends that Member States with the support of the secretariat collectively lead orderly, transparent processes for adopting resolutions that avoid the likelihood of parallel negotiations and promote adequate resources to implement all resolutions;

20. *Recalls* paragraph 14 of decision 2021/6, in which it is recommended that the United Nations Habitat Assembly at its second session, in 2023, consider approving the extension of the current strategic plan for the period 2020–2023 until 2025 to cover the period 2020–2025;

**Draft decision 2022/[C] : Methods of work of the Executive Board and the workplan of the Executive Board for 2022**

*The Executive Board*

**(a) Reports of the Executive Board and its working groups**

- 1.*Adopts* the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme on the work of its first session of 2022;
- 2.*Takes note* of the briefing by the chair of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters on the group's work;
3. *Also takes note* of the briefing by the chair of the ad hoc working group on the development of a stakeholder engagement policy on the group's work;

**(b) Working methods of the Executive Board to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of meetings of the Board**

- 4.*Takes note* of the results of the survey conducted by the secretariat following the first session of the Executive Board of 2022 to evaluate the effectiveness of that session so as to further improve the process and outcome of future sessions;

**(c) Date and agenda for the next session of the Executive Board and its workplan for 2023**

- 5.*Decides* that the 2023 sessions of the Executive Board will be held as follows: the first session of 2023 will be held from 28 to 29 March 2023, the second session of 2023 for the election of the Bureau will be held back to back to the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in June 2023 and the third session to be held in November 2023 subject to the review by the Bureau;

- 6.*Also decides* that the provisional agenda for the first session of 2023 shall be reviewed by the Bureau and shared in due course .

## **Annex**

### **Countries, territories and areas affected by conflict and disaster**

1. Afghanistan
2. Bangladesh
3. Cambodia
4. Democratic Republic of the Congo
5. Fiji
6. Haiti
7. Honduras
8. Iran (Islamic Republic of)
9. Iraq
10. Lao People's Democratic Republic
11. Lebanon
12. Libya
13. Mozambique
14. Myanmar
15. Nepal
16. Nigeria
17. Pakistan
18. Philippines
19. Somalia
20. South Sudan
21. Sri Lanka
22. Sudan
23. Syrian Arab Republic
24. Yemen
25. State of Palestine
26. Kosovo<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> 1 All references to Kosovo in the present document should be understood to be in compliance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

