2023 FIRST MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE UNITED NATIONS HABITAT ASSEMBLY

15 FEBRUARY 2023

MAIMUNAH MOHD SHARIF
Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director
1. Adoption of the provisional Agenda.

2. General update on the status of preparations of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

3. Preparations for the elections of the members of the Executive Board for the term 2023-2027 and officers of the 2023-2027 Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

4. Any other matters.
2. GENERAL UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS HABITAT ASSEMBLY.
Notification for the second session of the Assembly was shared on 31 December 2022 in all UN official languages.

The Notification contained the dates and the provisional Agenda for the session. It also contained the theme of the session and other preliminary information.
The theme of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly is

“A sustainable urban future through inclusive and effective multilateralism: Achieving the SDGs in times of global crises”
EXPECTED STRUCTURE OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY.

- Member States are encouraged to participate fully in the five-day session.
- Detailed discussions are expected under each item of the provisional Agenda.
- High-level segment on the special theme of the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly with expected participation of Governments, Partners and Stakeholders.
- The High-level segment should include the presence and participation of Heads of State, and in addition, there is a possibility for the First Lady’s roundtable to take place within the days assigned for high level segment but outside of the plenary activities.
- Member States will have the opportunity to deliver National Statements – most likely delivered at the Ministerial level.
- It is expected that various partners and stakeholders, notably subnational governments, parliamentarians and non-governmental organizations, will convene their own informal consultations, events and activities prior to and during the session.

The Bureau is expected to firm up the detailed organisation of work of the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

Wednesday, 15 February 2023
INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS TO PREPARE FOR THE OECPR AND THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

- 8 February 2023.
- 6 March 2023.
- 25 April 2023 (morning & afternoon).
- 17 May 2023.
- 24 May 2023 (morning & afternoon).
BUREAU MEETINGS TO PREPARE FOR THE OECPR AND THE SECOND SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY

- 15 February 2023: UN-Habitat Assembly Bureau
- 12 April 2023: CPR Bureau.
- 25 April 2023: UN-Habitat Assembly Bureau.
- 2 May 2023: UN-Habitat Assembly Bureau.
- 10 May 2023: UN-Habitat Assembly Bureau.
- 26 May 2023: Joint Bureaux of the Governing Bodies.
EXPECTED PARTICIPATION AT THE SESSION

1. Expected high-level representation at the **Ministerial level for the 193 State Members of the United Nations**, and for substantive representation at the session.

2. **UN-HABITAT** also expects participation at highest level of Government as has been in the past.

3. The first session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly held in May 2019 was attended by 4000 participants, 60 Ministers and 4 Heads of States.

- Letters inviting Ministers of Foreign Affairs have been transmitted.
- Letters inviting line Ministries are being transmitted by 15 February 2023.
UPCOMING KEY TIMELINES IN THE ROADMAP TO THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY:

- **February 2023**: Invitations to high level Government officials for the second session of the Assembly, particularly Ministers of Foreign Affairs and line Ministers.
- **February 2023**: Call for submissions of side event **proposals and exhibitions** 2023.
- **28-29 March 2023**: First session of the Executive Board for the year 2023 with possible recommendations for the UN-Habitat Assembly.
- **24 April 2023**: Transmission of **pre-session documents** for the UN-Habitat Assembly to all Member States in all languages.
- **29 May – 2 June 2023**: Open-ended meeting of the CPR to prepare for the second session of the **UN-Habitat Assembly**.
- **5-9 June 2023**: Second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
1. Submission of draft resolutions for consideration by the UN-Habitat Assembly is the prerogative of Member States.

2. A Member State or group of Member States may submit draft resolutions for consideration.

3. Draft resolutions may be submitted for consideration by the UN-Habitat Assembly any time before or during the session. Guidance will be given by the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly for consideration by the delegations at the first meeting of the session, on the deadline for submission of resolutions during the session.

4. Member States may wish to start consultations on draft resolutions, guided by the provisional Agenda of the session.

5. Member States may also submit draft resolutions from mid-April 2023 after the pre-session documents, including reports of the Executive Director, have become available. Nothing, however, precludes the submission of resolutions prior to that date.

6. The objective of a resolution may be to offer guidance or recommendations to the Executive Director or to Member States or as a decision on a particular matter based upon the provisional Agenda or matters under discussions.
7. The Secretariat may offer technical and substantive support to Member States in preparing draft resolutions, if requested or as appropriate.

8. It is highly encouraged that resolutions be submitted early to allow sufficient time for negotiations and consensus-building including through informal consultations organized by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and through formal consultations during the open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in preparation for the Assembly.

9. In this regard, the Bureau of the Assembly working with the Bureau of the CPR may issue guidance on the recommended deadline for submissions of resolutions, which may be first considered first by the CPR, under informal consultations and during the second open ended meeting of the CPR, for onward transmission to the Assembly.

10. Draft resolutions that are formally submitted will be considered by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its second session.

11. Draft resolutions may be addressed to the Chair of the CPR but submitted through the Secretary of the Governing Bodies at chris.mensah@un.org with a copy to unhabitat-sgb@un.org

**NEXT STEP:** Update the guidelines to include any recommendations the Bureau may have.
UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY TASK FORCE

Terms of Reference

The organization-wide task force on the preparations for the second session of the UN-Habitat performs the following tasks.

1. Identifying expected outcomes and proposing innovative approaches to obtain them.
2. In-house and external resource mobilization for the organization of the Assembly.
3. Recommending high-level political representation at the Assembly.
4. Advising on the format of the components of the Assembly, such as the plenary, including dialogue on the theme, the sessional committee, and the opening and closing ceremonies.
5. Identifying which substantive documents are required.
6. Considering how UN-Habitat can best support the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Executive Board as they prepare for the Assembly.
7. Advising on external and internal communications; and
8. Any other tasks as assigned by the Executive Director and Acting Deputy Executive Director.

Wednesday, 15 February 2023
Three sub-groups have been proposed as follows:

**Subgroup 1: high-level participation and protocol.** Key Tasks:
1. High-level attendance.
2. Regional mobilization for high-level participation.

**Subgroup 2: Substantive coordination, including support on dialogue and provision of technical language for draft resolutions.** Key Tasks:
1. Reviewing the format and shaping the dialogue on the theme.
2. Support preparation of draft technical inputs for draft resolutions and decisions to be considered by the UN-Habitat Assembly, in relation to the theme.
3. Preparation of ED’s statements.
4. Clearance of reports.
5. Quality control.
6. Editing the daily journal.
Subgroup 3: Communications, resource mobilization and budget, side-events, exhibitions and logistics of participation, including registration. Key Tasks:

1. Strategic communications towards attracting high-level attendance.
2. Approving the nature of the side-events in relation to the theme.
3. Roundtables or fireplace discussions.
4. Dissemination of information on the session.
5. Assembly and mobilization of participation at the high-level form the regions.
7. Pledging session.
9. Registration.
10. Liaison with the Host Government.
11. Exhibition.
12. Side Events.
13. Webpage.
15. Press and Media.
16. Airport reception.
17. Advertisement/Design.
18. General Support.
### SUB GROUPS OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY TASK FORCE

#### Coordination of the Sub-groups of the Task Force

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<tr>
<th>Subgroup 1: high-level participation and protocol</th>
<th>Subgroup 2: Substantive coordination, including support on dialogue and provision of technical language for draft resolutions</th>
<th>Subgroup 3: Communications, resource mobilization and budget, side-events, exhibitions and logistics of participation, including registration</th>
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a) Proposed ideas for Thematic resolutions

1. Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) cities.
2. Housing.
3. Localizing SDGs.
4. Climate change.
8. Urban planning and Sustainable Urban Infrastructure.
9. Decision on extension of the current Strategic Plan until 2025.
EXPECTATIONS AND IDEAS ON RESOLUTIONS SO FAR RECEIVED

a) Proposed ideas for process / management resolutions

11. Decision on the next session of the UN-Habitat Assembly aligned with the QCPR and the next Strategic Plan.
12. Decision on the stakeholder engagement policy.
13. Resolutions related to the report of the JIU on administrative and management review of UN-Habitat, especially as related to governance.
14. Election of 36 new Members of the Executive Board.
15. Election of a new President and Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
16. Financing and monitoring mechanism for resolutions.
1. **Format of the session:** The Bureau may consider either
   i. Hybrid, or
   ii. fully in-person participation.

2. **Timelines for submitting draft resolutions:** It is proposed that:
   i. Resolutions be submitted to the secretariat as soon as possible from now onwards until 30 April 2023 for consideration by the OECPR.
   ii. Final submissions of draft resolutions for consideration by the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly should be by the end of Day two of the session on 6 June 2023.

3. **Consideration for a CPR subcommittee during the second open OECPR**: 
   iii. The CPR may consider formal creating a subcommittee as provided for in rule 23 of the rules of procedure to assist with its preparatory work.
ISSUES FOR GUIDANCE BY THE BUREAU

4. Preliminary Organization of work prior to the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly:
   i. Informal consultations on preparations for the Assembly and the OECPR should take place at least once a month as proposed, and where possible for a full day, under the leadership of the Chair of the CPR.
   ii. The Bureau of the Assembly (which includes the CPR Bureau) will convene regularly as proposed to prepare for the Assembly.

5. Preliminary Organization of work during the session:
   i. The High-level opening should be on Day 1, 5 June 2023 and the High-Level segment of the Assembly should be designated as Day 1: 5 June 2023 and Day 2; 6 June 2023.
   ii. Most work of the Assembly should be held in the Plenary and as appropriate, through the Committee of the Whole.
   iii. A Drafting Committee will work to conclude any negotiations on the draft resolutions prior to consideration by the plenary.
   iv. Non-legislative activities including special events, side events, regional groups meetings will be held outside the official timings of the session each day.
4.. Any other Matters.
THANK YOU!

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