NIGERIA'S STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM: 3 REPORTS BY THE CHAIRS OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUPS ESTABLISHED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

(AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DRAFT STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT POLICY)

Presented by:

DR. AKINOLA OLAKUNDE

DIRECTOR, URBAN AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEAD OF DEPARTMENT, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA. Thank you, Mr. Chair, for giving my delegation the floor. I am Dr. Akinola Olakunde, Director, Urban and Regional Development and Head of Department, Federal Ministry of Works and Housing of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Please permit me to assure you of my delegation's full support throughout this first session of the Executive Board for 2023.

2. Nigeria wishes to thank the ad hoc working group on the development of a draft stakeholder engagement policy, through the Chair of the working group, for the meticulous effort deployed to ensure that the expertise, reach, and experience of stakeholders are effectively attracted to UN-Habitat for our collective advantage, by means of a practical stakeholder engagement policy.

3. Nigeria is also pleased with the principles-based approach being employed to order the work and activities of stakeholders within UN-Habitat. My delegation looks forward to the successful completion of this important exercise to promote stakeholder engagement that adds to the effectiveness and efficiency of the organization, further leading to the delivery of UN-Habitat mandate for the benefit of the citizens of our countries and the world at large.

4. In this regard, we fully support the extension of the mandate of this working group to ensure the completion of the document which has reached advanced stages in the deliberation. It is hoped that by the forthcoming Assembly,

this task would have been completed and UN-Habitat will begin to reap the dividends therefrom.

5. I thank you.