NIGERIA'S STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM: 4 FINANCIAL STATUS OF UN-HABITAT, INCLUDING AN UPDATE ON THE FINANCIAL RESERVE AND THE UPDATED SCALABILITY MODEL FOR THE NON-EARMARKED BUDGET OF THE HABITAT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOUNDATION

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,

Nigeria aligns itself with the statements presented by Eritrea on behalf of the Africa Group and the Group of 77 and China presented by Pakistan.

2. My delegation takes note of the presentation just made and congratulates UN-Habitat for its far-reaching activities through the sterling leadership of the Executive Director, under whose leadership the organisation has demonstrated commendable transparency and has encouraged the consistent supervision by the Executive Board. It is therefore not surprising to note that the organization continues to make significant progress in the discharge of its functions and mandate and in its overall financial profile. We however would want to see the organisation do more, as the reward for hard work is more work.

3. In this connection we note that this Executive Board requested the Secretariat to do more work, as captured in Paragraph 17 of Decision 2022/6, for the New Urban Agenda to retain a pride of place in this organization and we wish to reiterate our preference for increased engagement between the Secretariat and Member States to the effect that the capacity and sundry challenges to the submission of national reports on the New Urban Agenda and related matters are effectively addressed.

4. This is because of the unique impetus which continued reporting will provide to UN-Habitat Member States to sustain activities on the New Urban Agenda. My delegation believes that the first option with regards to the proposed supplementary budget, is a demonstration of the organisation's interest to effectively discharge this task.

5. It is therefore commendable that this Executive Board took a bold step in the right direction at the last session of the Executive Board. Nigeria hopes that we would not fall back on this important commitment but rather affirm our collective commitment to the New Urban Agenda.

6. Thank you, Mr. Chair.