



**UNITED
NATIONS**

HSP/OECPR.2023/CPR2

**UN HABITAT United Nations
Human Settlements
Programme**

Distr.: General
29 May 2023

Original: English

**Committee of Permanent Representatives
to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme
Second open-ended meeting: preparations for the
second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly
Nairobi, 29–31 May and 2 June 2023**

Draft Ministerial Declaration

“A sustainable urban future through inclusive and effective multilateralism: achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in times of global crises”

1. We, the Ministers [responsible for cities and human settlements], gathered for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, being held in Nairobi from 5 to 9 June 2023, together with representatives of local authorities, international organizations and other stakeholders, recognize that urbanization constitutes both [an opportunity and] a challenge [and an opportunity] to promote [and achieve] [sustainable development] [and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.] [particularly] [in times of global crises].
2. We acknowledge [that the universal nature of] the [key role played by the] Assembly [in] as the [main] [leading UN body] [leading UN forum on that provides us with the opportunity to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 11 and to accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda] [universal platform] [legislative body] [for] global urban policymaking [provides us with an opportunity to accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda] [in which Member States commit to make cities and settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable as well as to leave no one behind] [to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 11, by making cities and other human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable]
3. We recognize that inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable human settlements enable the formation of strong social networks and civic engagement leading to shared prosperity and environmental protection for current and future generations. Cities, in particular, hold most of the world’s population, and when well-managed, are major sources of Member States’ gross domestic product, shared prosperity and solutions to address climate change through mitigation and adaptation at scale and tackle biodiversity loss, pollution, desertification and drought, among other challenges. Ad Ref 29 May 2023 15.50
4. We reaffirm our commitment to the New Urban Agenda and its implementation plan, including our commitment to urban and rural development that is people centered, protects the planet and is age ,gender and disability responsive and to the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, facilitating living together, ending all forms of discrimination and violence, and empowering all individuals and communities while enabling their full and meaningful participation [,as well as pledge that no one will be left behind.] {NGA+, EUN-}
5. While we welcome multilateral efforts to accelerate achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, we are, deeply concerned by the multiple crises that threaten the very future of humanity and the fate of our planet. More people and places are being left behind with the ripple effects of various cascading shocks threatening communities globally. Inequality continues to deepen between and within countries and territories, with social and economic exclusion and spatial segregation often an irrefutable reality in cities and human settlements, thus, lowering their resilience. Ad Ref 29 May 2023 16.48
6. We welcome the 2022 report of the Secretary General on the Progress on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda. We acknowledge the importance of local action for tackling global challenges. We recognize that well-managed urbanization can enable countries to increase productivity and enhance economic growth, inclusion and stability, as well as improved urban planning and balanced territorial development while reducing negative environmental impacts such as climate change. We are convinced that expanding implementation of the transformative and inclusive approaches and solutions provided under the New Urban Agenda will support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. [We encourage all Member States to carry out periodic follow-up and review [to ensure] coherence at the national, regional and global levels, in order to track progress, assess impact and ensure the Agenda’s effective and timely implementation] {USA+, BRA reserve}

- 6.bis [We support the transformation towards people centred smart cities, following human rights approach and we encourage UN-Habitat to develop international guidelines to support Member States and relevant stakeholders to implement people centred smart cities approaches] {EUN+}
- 6.ter [We welcome the outcomes of the UN 2023 water conference that demonstrated a strong sense of urgency to manage water in a sustainable way, and live in harmony with nature through a more circular, regenerative, resource-efficient economic model that delivers healthier eco systems, greener cities, sustainable food and energy systems, and better jobs. We recognize that urban planning will need to integrate system-wide water management approaches to limit the footprint that cities have with regards to water quality and quantity, in order to ensure access to clean water for all, including through nature based solutions such as green blue infrastructures.] {EUN+}
6. quater [In addition, we welcome Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan as adopted in COP27, recognizing the role of cities in addressing and responding to Climate Change, and highlight the urgent need for cooperative action in this regard, within the mandate of the programme.] {EGY+}
7. [We commit to advance multilateral engagement and international cooperation on adequate, resilient, safe and affordable housing [[quality] {MYS+} []] {reserve KEN} {EUN+ MYS- MAR-} including through north-south, south-south and triangular regional and international cooperation, reducing poverty and inequality and promoting inclusive planning; urban [and local actions through] {MYS+ MAR+} climate [change] mitigation and adaptation for environmental sustainability; urban crisis reduction [vulnerabilities and build resiliency] {MYS+} and recovery; Sustainable Development Goal localization, integrated urban development and multilevel governance; and sustainable financing from all sources in particular for infrastructure and urban basic services.] {reserve USA} {EUN, USA delete para}
8. [We therefore [encourage Member States and other relevant stakeholders, including through inclusive and effective multilateralism [and international cooperation] {USA+}, as appropriate to: {EUN+ USA+} [] {EUN+ USA+}] {reserve KEN}
- a) Explore mechanisms and platforms to advance evidence-based structural solutions to achieve [] {USA+ BRA- KEN- CRI-} adequate[, resilient and affordable] {TUR+ BRA- CRI-} housing [for all, and improve access to] {USA+} [resilient and] {BRA+ CRI+} [] {USA+} affordable housing and [end] {USA+} homelessness,
 - b) [Explore realistic urban pathways for [environmental] [climate] action, and ways in which integrated urban climate action, measures to curb waste and pollution and biodiversity action can be strengthened, such as through the recently launched initiative on Sustainable Urban Resilience for the next Generation (SURGe) and other global and regional initiatives,]
 - c) Promote inclusive urban recovery frameworks that empower cities to respond to urban crises and support national recovery efforts, considering that crises are increasingly urban and cities are increasingly the places of arrival for displaced people,
 - d) Advance effective multi-level governance, and ensure integrated local and regional planning and investments, particularly to support intermediary and rapidly growing cities,
 - e) Strengthen **Sustainable Development Goals localization**, and empower local [authorities] [and regional governments] as central actors in rebuilding the social contract,
 - f) [Advance cross-border territorial cooperation [through regional multilateralism], such as cross-border urban corridors, with adequate shared infrastructure investments and multilateral coordination of participatory governance,]

- g) Explore policies and [market mechanisms] [initiatives] to ensure that financial flows directed towards urban development are coordinated, guided and sequenced for effective, transparent and distributed expenditures and capital investment planning, while encouraging municipal level value-sharing and local development, and
 - h) Identify[ing] [and promoting engagement with] [which] key multilateral forums [that] could benefit from a stronger and more networked engagement of cities and other local and regional governments, [what] [and identifying] the principles of [such] engagement [could be,] [and] [as well as] [what] their specific role[s] in these forums [could be].
9. We concur that inclusive and effective action with regard to these pathways requires a multi-level, multi-stakeholder and multi-sector approach, with strong attention to data systems and knowledge for evidence-based policies and results monitoring, innovation, advocacy and communications, partnerships, capacity building and digital transformation for accelerated progress.
10. We [take note of] [welcome] the outcomes of the 11th [session of the] World Urban Forum, held in Katowice in 2022, and look forward to actively participating in the 12th [Urban Forum] [session], to be held in Cairo in 2024.
11. We [welcome the] [endorse] the [decision 1/1 on the] extension of the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan for the period [2020 – 2023 until 2025 to cover the period 2020 – 2025] [2020-2025] and the [highlight] [focus] on adequate housing for all, urban climate action, urban crisis response, localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals and financing sustainable urban development.
12. We [reaffirm] [recognize and fully support] [reaffirm our recognition and full support for] the role [and expertise] of UN-Habitat as [a] [the] focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements, [in collaboration with] [Member States, local authorities and] [other United Nations system entities.] We stress the importance of predictable [and sustainable] [adequate] funding for UN-Habitat, particularly through voluntary and other commitments, for the Programme to fulfil its mandate.
13. We aim to ensure that [the Ministerial Declaration] [these pathways] [contribute to] [inform] the outcomes of upcoming meetings, including the High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development, the Sustainable Development Goals Summit, and the “Summit of the Future: multilateral solutions for a better tomorrow.”
14. We call upon the Executive Director, to follow up on the progress in the implementation of the actions set out in the present declaration which fall within [the] mandate [of] [and] UN-Habitat, as part of the overall follow-up of the progress.

