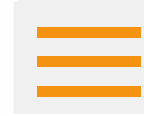# UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY

5 to 9 June 2023

Achieving SDGs in times of global crises

Side Event 7

THE NEED FOR BALANCE: AFFORDABLE LIVING AND ADEQUATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ALL

📅 5 JUNE 2023, 1.15 - 2.15pm

📍 Conference Room 14

SUMMARY

Affordability is a global concern plaguing key cities around the world in both developing and advanced economies. With rapid urbanisation, high urban migration, limited resources, and demand for housing has made cities become more inequitable and unaffordable to live. SDG 11 emphasize upon: "Making cities safe and sustainable by ensuring access to safe and affordable housing." Where affordable housing is defined as residential property or homes which fulfils the basic needs in terms of cost, quality, and location. Many nations and cities today have a growing concern to improve affordable housing outcomes especially for their very low to moderate income households, where affordable housing helps to improve the quality of life of residents, allows better access to social amenities and infrastructure, reduces social gaps, and contributes to economic growth.

Malaysia strongly advocates housing for all, where the primary objective of Malaysia housing policy is to ensure that all her citizens, particularly the low-income groups have access to adequate and decent home. Affordable housing programs have been long established and prioritised since the 70's, to ensure they are well-designed, well-located, and affordable. This however is becoming increasingly challenging as we face rising costs of construction and a large and growing mismatch between demand and supply, owing to significant changes in our housing markets and demographic shifts. Moving forward, Malaysia placed great importance on the affordable housing delivery eco-system that able to meet current and future challenges. These includes having an integrated database system, innovative affordable housing schemes and financing to meet all segments of society as well as fostering collaborative partnerships to deliver affordable housing. Affordable housing remains fundamental to our socio-economic development and housing stability helps ensure that households can meet other basic needs, establish stronger communities, and overcome the displacement of low-income vulnerable households. The complex challenge of affordable housing requires us to think creatively and act collectively to ensure no one is left behind.

Key Action Areas

Equitable access to adequate affordable housing.

Objective of Side Event

1. To position affordable housing and living at the centre and its transformational impact on social, economic, and environmental outcomes that contributes toward building better cities and settlements;

2. To develop co-learnings from successful models and practices on affordable housing;

3. To discuss on innovations and best practices to adopt as well as lessons/pitfalls to avoid for a sustainable and resilient housing sector; and

https://unhabitat.org/governance/un-habitat-assembly/second-session-2023

4. To explore common grounds that would lead to potential collaborations and partnerships in addressing housing needs.

Organizers

Ministry of Local Government Development, Malaysia (https://www.kpkt.gov.my)
Urbanice Malaysia (https://www.urbanicemalaysia.com.my)
PR1MA Corporation Malaysia (https://www.pr1ma.my)
UN-Habitat (https://unhabitat.org)

Moderator

Ms Norliza Hashim, CEO Urbanice Malaysia

Program and Speakers

1.00 pm - Arrival and registration of participants

1.15 pm - Opening Remarks by
Honourable Mr Nga Kor Ming
Minister of Local Government Development, Malaysia

1.25 pm - Panel Deliberation and Discussion

Panellists

a. Her Excellency Saqlain Syedah
High Commissioner for Pakistan to Kenya

b. H.E Mr Mohammed AlMansouri
Managing Director, Sheikh Zayed Housing Programme

c. Ms Ezlina Adnan, Head of Division, Corporate Affairs
PR1MA Corporation Malaysia

d. Mr Jonathan Reckford, Chief Executive Officer
Habitat for Humanity International

2.05 pm - Discussant Overview
Mr Christophe Lalande, Housing Unit Leader, UN-Habitat Nairobi

2.15 pm - End of Side Event