

**Agenda Item 7 Report of the Executive Director on the analysis of the principal obstacles to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda by Member States**

- Thank you Chair for giving me the floor,
- As this is the first time my delegation is taking the floor, we would like to thank the Secretariat for all the preparations of this meeting.
- Moreover, Finland would like to join others in thanking you, Madam Executive Director, for your leadership during your term. We really appreciate your commitment and tireless efforts for the betterment of UN-Habitat and in support of sustainable urban development. We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude.
- My delegation appreciates the in-depth report of the Executive Director which analyses “the principal obstacles to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda”. The report highlights, for example, the relative prioritization of other global agendas and frameworks considered to be more urgent relative to the New Urban Agenda, in national and local policymaking processes.
- During the High Level Political Forum last July, we learned that we are far from target in achieving urban-related sustainable development goals. At the same time, there are gaps in capacities to implement the New Urban Agenda.
- In light of this, it is a wise strategy to continue and broaden UN-Habitat’s work on SDG Localization, as well as, continue supporting the implementation and monitoring of the New Urban Agenda.
- We thank the Executive Director for providing information on the *“Road map to the next quadrennial review of the implementation of*

*the New Urban Agenda in 2026*". This information encourages Member States to prepare for the next reporting cycle.

- Thank you.