

AGENDA ITEM 4 - Financial, budgetary, and administrative matters, including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan for the period 2020–2025; a report on the fully costed scalability model and action by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to address geographical and gender imbalances in the composition of its staff.

Thank you, Chair, for giving me the floor.

I extend my gratitude to the ED and the Secretariat for their presentations on the financial status of the Program, the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy, the scalability model, and the steps taken by UN-Habitat to address geographical and gender imbalances in its staff composition. These are critical issues that our delegation closely monitors.

Regarding the financial status, I commend the Secretariat for continuing to be on the right track in controlling the Program's expenses in line with its revenue. As Brazil has previously indicated, UN-Habitat's first surplus in more than a decade, the fully funded financial reserve, and the repayment of the first instalment of its 2017 loan testify to the excellent management of the Program and the successful functioning of this Board.

On the scalability model, Brazil welcomes the progress made by UN-Habitat, in line with previous decisions, on the fully costed scalability model for the non-earmarked Foundation. We expect that the model will guide the preparation of future draft budgets of the non-earmarked Foundation and the expansion of the Program towards its real potential, subject to the projected spending capacity of the Program.

We welcome the balanced way the packages were designed, aiming to address all seven thematic pillars linked to the priorities reported to the Executive Board. We strongly believe that the effective implementation of UNHA resolutions hinges on sufficient human resources. Therefore, we believe the new temporary positions created within each package will enhance the Program's capacity to implement its mandate.

We also deem it essential for the New Urban Agenda to be the conceptual framework that gives the foundation for any future expansion.

It is the guiding document, produced in one of the most inclusive UN Conferences, that gives shape to our collective vision of cities for all, referring to the equal use and enjoyment of cities and human settlements, seeking to promote inclusivity and ensure that all inhabitants, of present and future generations, without discrimination of any kind, can inhabit and produce just, safe, healthy, accessible, affordable, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements. The New Urban Agenda brings foundational concepts on a territorial approach that can inform debates on sustainable urbanization in this and other fora, addressing complex and diverse issues such as housing, sanitation, health, climate change, finance, road safety, energy, mobility, and migration, among many others. That's the view that will guide Brazil's position throughout this Executive Board. Finally, Brazil also highlights the importance of addressing the geographical and gender imbalances, as well as diversity, in the composition of UN-Habitat's staff. We wish to see more female representation in the higher categories and due consideration for geographical and gender balance in the recruitment process for new posts. In that regard, we commend the appointment of two female candidates at the P-5 level and two female candidates at the D-1 level in the past year.