

H.E. Pedro León Cortés Ruiz

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First Session of the UN Executive Board, 6-8 of May 2024

Agenda Item 6

Thank you very much Excellency Chair. Thank you to the secretariat for their informative presentation and the progress made towards the development of the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2026-2029. The workshop on guiding principles has been an important platform for member states, fostering dialogue on the core elements that will shape our strategic direction.

We commend the ongoing dialogue with member states and stakeholders, which has been instrumental in addressing priority areas, it emphasizes a consultative approach that builds on lessons learned and the successes of previous frameworks.

For the 2026-2029 strategic plan, we insist on the need to adopt a regional approach that ensures strategies are localized to address the specific needs of diverse territories and address unique challenges and opportunities within different regions.

We look forward for the Member States' retreat at the end of May which will be a crucial opportunity to further discuss and refine these priorities and the role of UN-Habitat in achieving them. This collaborative approach is essential as we continue shaping a strategy that is ambitious, yet realistic and responsive to the evolving global landscape.

Moreover, the evaluation of the strategic plan for 2020-2025 by the Office of Internal Oversight Services has highlighted areas for improvement, including enhancing the strategic delivery architecture and accountability mechanisms. These insights will be invaluable in strengthening the forthcoming strategic plan, ensuring that UN-Habitat remains a robust catalyst in sustainable urban development.

As we approach the drafting phase, it is crucial that we incorporate these evaluative insights and continue our concerted efforts to address the challenges identified.

Thank you.