



United Nations Human Settlements Programme

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**Third Bureau meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat for the year 2024**

Monday, 2 September 2024  
11:00 hrs – 12:00 hrs EAT  
Hybrid Meeting–UN-Habitat OED Boardroom

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Agenda item 1: Adoption of the provisional Agenda**

1. H.E. Mr. Ibrar Hussain Khan, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) opened the meeting at 11:25 hrs EAT.

2.

**The following members of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives were present:**

1. H.E. Mr. Ibrar Hussain Khan, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to UN-Habitat, Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and Rapporteur of the Executive Board.
2. H.E. Mr. Pedro Leon Cortes Ruiz, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Colombia to UN-Habitat, Vice-Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
3. H.E. Mr. Bernard Yohana Kibesse, Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania, Vice-Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
4. H.E. Mr. Peter Maddens, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Belgium, Vice-Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
5. H.E. Ms. Danijela Čubrilo Martić, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Serbia, Chair of the regional Group of Eastern European States in Nairobi.
6. Ms. Angelica Gutierrez Galvis, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Colombia to UN-Habitat.

**The following UN-Habitat Secretariat members were also present:**

1. Ms. Anacláudia Rossbach, Executive Director.
2. Mr. Michal Mlynar, Deputy Executive Director.
3. Mr. Raf Tuts, Director, Global Solutions Division.



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4. Mr. Erfan Ali, Chief of Staff / Director a.i. Regional Programme Division.
  5. Mr. Chris Mensah, Secretary to the Governing Bodies.
  6. Mr. Stephen Slawsky, Director, Management, Advisory and Compliance Service.
  7. Ms. Shipra Narang Suri, Chief, Urban Practices Branch.
  8. Mr. Saidou N'Dow, Head of Legal Office.
  9. Ms. Bridget Oballa, External Relations Officer, Secretariat of the Governing Bodies.
3. The Chair welcomed all participants to the meeting. The provisional Agenda was adopted without any changes and can be accessed [here](#).

### **Agenda item 2: Preparations for the third open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECP) in 2025.**

4. The Chair recalled that CPR Bureau met on 5 July 2024 to discuss the revised proposed provisional Agenda and Organizational arrangement for the third open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECP) meeting to be held from 26 to 28 May 2025 and to review the provisional Agenda for the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UN-Habitat Assembly) to be held in from 29 to 30 May 2025.
5. The Chair invited the Executive Director to first share her vision for the Organization with Bureau and to provide an update on Agenda item 2.

#### **Executive Director's vision for the organization**

6. The Executive Director expressed gratitude to Member States for their warm welcome in Nairobi and thanked the CPR Bureau for the ongoing support to the Organization. The Executive Director outlined three dedicated areas her vision for the Organization would be shared including a scheduled briefing by the Executive Director to Member States on 11 September 2024, the Strategic Plan retreat planned for 16 September 2024, and regional consultations.
7. The Executive Director highlighted the following three areas of her vision for the Organization:
  - a. Continuity – The Executive Director noted that she did not intend to undertake extensive restructuring of the Organization and would instead focus on a clear Strategic Plan and priorities for the coming years.
  - b. Impact – The Executive Director recognized that UN-Habitat had all the conditions necessary to leverage its impact globally by going beyond outputs and projects and that the focus would be towards strengthening the systemic change needed to overcome all the challenges that the Organization was currently facing.
  - c. Addressing pressing issues – The Executive Director noted that she intended to work to make the Organization fit for purpose to contribute to addressing the world multiple



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crisis such as climate change, as well as the global housing crisis as part of the core mandate of UN-Habitat, noting that these crises are faced by both the Global North and the Global South.

8. The Executive Director further noted the need for integration of portfolio of UN-Habitat's projects and programs, and establishment of a clear focus and narrative of the above priorities in next strategic planning cycle of 2026-2029.
9. The Executive Director added that strengthening the normative work especially at country and regional levels is critical for amplifying the Organization's impact and implementation of UN-Habitat's mandate. She noted that the normative work at country and regional levels can be strengthened by establishing presence and a clear understanding of the needs and opportunities, and building partnerships and the trust with national governments, subnational governments and stakeholders.
10. The Executive Director stated that there were many opportunities ahead for the Organization to listen, learn and share experiences. Those opportunities included the Africa Urban Forum, the High-Level meetings at the 79<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly in New York, the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum and COP29. She added that the outcomes from these key opportunities would contribute to the Organization's legislative process such as the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on adequate housing for all to be held from 9 to 11 December 2024. The Executive Director expressed that she would use the opportunities to leverage the implementation of the mandate of the Organization with clarity, focus and clear priorities.
11. The Bureau welcomed and took note of the Executive Director's vision for the Organization.

### **Provisional Agenda of the third OECPR.**

12. The Executive Director first recalled that the Bureau at its meeting held on 5 July 2024 had discussed the proposed dates of the third OECPR, as being from 26 to 28 May 2025, just prior to the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and that there was no objection to those dates. The Executive Director also recalled that the Bureau at its meetings of 21 June 2024 and 5 July 2024 gave inputs with respect to the provisional Agenda for the third OECPR and requested the Bureau to make a recommendation on the latest version of the provisional Agenda to enable the Organization to proceed with preparation of the necessary documents towards the meeting, including the Executive Director's notification to Members and partners.
13. A member of the Bureau representing the regional Group of African States stated that after consultations the Group was in agreement with the dates for the OECPR, the provisional Agenda and the proposed organization of work of the OECPR. The Bureau member requested the Secretariat to circulate the draft Strategic Plan 2026-2029 early enough to give Member States ample time to review.



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14. The Secretariat took note of the comment by the Bureau member.
15. The Bureau recommended the revised proposed provisional Agenda of the OECPR which can be accessed [here](#).

### **Confirmation of the dates**

16. The Chair recalled that at the meeting held on 21 June 2024, the Bureau discussed the dates and format of the session and there was no objection to the third OECPR being held for three days from 26 to 28 May 2025, just prior to the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly. The Chair requested the Bureau to confirm the third OECPR to be held for three days from 26 to 28 May 2025.
17. The Bureau recommended that the third OECPR be held for three days from 26 to 28 May 2025.

### **Guidance on format of the meeting (preparatory meeting or midterm review)**

18. Following the tabling of the provisional Agenda of the third OECOR by the Bureau, the Chair recalled that the Bureau meeting held on 21 June 2024, discussed on the issue of the format of the third OECPR meeting, specifically, whether the third OECPR should be (i) a High-level midterm review meeting, (ii) a fully preparatory meeting towards the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly or (iii) a hybrid meeting of High-level midterm review and preparatory meeting.
19. The Chair suggested that the provisional Agenda as discussed and recommended by the Bureau, has the elements of both an OECPR preparatory meeting and a midterm review meeting.
20. The Bureau recommended that the third OECPR should reflect a mixture of the elements that work towards the adequate preparations for the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, and elements that ensures the CPR can continue to undertake its functions associated with a midterm review.

### **Proposed organization of work of the third OECPR**

21. The Executive Director recalled that on 5 July 2024 the Bureau had made inputs into the proposed organization of work of the OECPR taking into account the need for clarity on how the items in the provisional Agenda could be efficiently covered during the third OECPR. She presented the latest version of the proposed organization of work which can be accessed [here](#).
22. In addition, the Executive Director proposed that prior to the third OECPR, and in addition to the Bureau meetings which can be expected to be quite regular especially from January 2025, informal consultations could be held from February 2025 to begin discussions on the various elements of the agenda items before the OECPR, specifically, any draft outcomes that the UN-



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Habitat Assembly should eventually consider at its resumed second session. The Executive Director reiterated the need to ensure a very limited number of draft outcomes to be considered during the OECPR and subsequently by the resumed session of the Assembly.

23. A member of the Bureau expressed gratitude to the Secretariat for revising the proposed organization of work based on recommendations from the discussions held on 5 July 2024. The Bureau member emphasized that adequate time be provided to the agenda item on Strategic Plan as one of the main substantive items of the OECPR and Assembly. The Member also noted the need to avoid the duplication of the work of informal consultations of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters of the Executive Board on the Strategic Plan which was ongoing and the informal consultations of the CPR prior to the OECPR.
24. The Secretariat noted that the agenda item on the Strategic Plan 2026-2029 was placed on the second day of the OECPR as the first item with flexibilities on the timing and that the proposed organizational of work was just a guide.
25. The statement by the Executive Director can be accessed [here](#) and the presentation can be accessed [here](#).
26. The Bureau recommended the proposed organization of work of the OECPR which can be accessed [here](#).

### **Elections of the Bureau during the third OECPR**

27. The Executive Director shared the expected composition of the next Bureau of the CPR to be elected at the end of the third OECPR, for a duration of two years from 2025 to 2027 as follows:

**CHAIR:** Western European and Others State (WEOG)

**VICE-CHAIRS:**

Asia – Pacific States

Eastern European States

Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC)

**RAPPORTEUR:** African States

28. The Bureau took note of the expected composition of the next Bureau of the CPR to be elected at the end of the third OECPR.

### **Agenda Item 3: Discussion on the provisional Agenda of the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly**

29. The Chair recalled that the Bureau meeting held on 5 July 2024, in an expanded Bureau format, discussed the provisional Agenda for the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat



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Assembly to be held from 29 to 30 May 2025 and made a few editorial amendments on Agenda items 4 and 9 for purpose of clarity as follows: Agenda item 4 was changed from “*Credentials*” to “*Report of the Bureau on Credentials*” and Agenda item 9 was changed from “*Election of Officers*” to “*Election of officers of the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly*”. The Chair welcomed the Executive Director to brief the Bureau on the provisional Agenda for the resumed second session of the Assembly.

30. The Executive Director noted that the CPR Bureau at its two past meetings had a chance to look at the provisional Agenda of the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and, based on Decision 2/2 of the Assembly, the Bureau made some preliminary observations on the provisional Agenda and suggested two editorial amendments on Agenda items 4 and 9. The Executive Director welcomed the guidance and recommendation of the provisional Agenda of the Assembly to enable the Organization to proceed with the preparation of the necessary documents.
31. A member of the Bureau requested the Secretariat to clarify whether with respect to the upcoming resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, the newly representatives and participants to UN-Habitat need to provide new or updated credentials and if Member States would be informed when and how to convey the credentials.
32. The Secretariat noted that the notification of the Executive Director would be precise on the topic of credentials and how Member States would be accredited to the UN-Habitat Assembly and any new credentials should be from the Minister of Foreign Affairs or Heads of State. It was also noted that since the upcoming session would be a resumed session, delegates that have already presented credentials for the first session need not present any credentials to attend the resumed session.
33. The Bureau recommended the provisional Agenda of the resumed second Session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, as presented by the Executive Director, noting that the Bureau of the Assembly may wish to further review the agenda.
34. The revised provisional Agenda for the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly can be accessed [here](#)

### **Agenda Item 4: Any Other Matters**

**There were no other matters under discussion and the third meeting of the Bureau of the CPR for the year 2024 was adjourned at 12.20 hrs East African Time (EAT).**