



MEDIA ADVISORY

Opening press conference for the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12)

Cairo, 2 November 2024 – Join us for the official opening press conference of the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12). The Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Executive Director of UN-Habitat will brief the media on the Forum's agenda and key features. This year's Forum, taking place in Cairo – a city that intertwines rich history and modernism – marks a significant moment for sustainable urban development as well as a return to the African continent after more than 20 years.

WUF12 will gather national, regional, and local government representatives, academics, business leaders, urban planners, and civil society to discuss the pressing urban challenges facing our world today. The Forum's theme, "**It all starts at home: Local actions for sustainable cities and communities**," underlines the important role of local efforts in tackling global challenges like the housing crisis and climate change.

WHAT: Opening press conference for the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum
WHEN: **4 November 2024**, 13:00-13:45 (GMT+2) and online on UN Web TV
WHERE: WUF12 Press Centre, Egypt International Exhibitions Centre, Cairo, Egypt
WHO: UN-Habitat and the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Moderator:

- **Ali Aslan**

Speakers:

- **Anacláudia Rossbach**, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN-Habitat
- **Mostafa Madbouly**, Prime Minister of Egypt
- **Manal Awad**, Minister of Local Development, Egypt
- **Sherif El-Sherbiny**, Minister of Housing, Utilities, and Urban Communities, Egypt

The press conference will begin with opening remarks followed by a Q&A session with the media and opportunities for interviews.

WUF12 is set to feature nearly 600 events that focus on localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in addressing the global housing crisis, rising living costs, and climate emergencies. Highlights include high-profile dialogues, a ministerial roundtable on multilevel governance to accelerate the implementation of the New Urban

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Agenda, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and other global agendas, and the launch of the flagship World Cities Report 2024 on cities and climate.

About the World Urban Forum

Established in 2001 by the United Nations, the World Urban Forum is the premier global conference on sustainable urbanization, designed to examine the impacts of rapid urbanization on cities, communities, economies, and climate change. Since its inception, WUF has been hosted in cities across the world, with the first session held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 2002.

About UN-Habitat

UN-Habitat is the United Nations entity responsible for sustainable urbanization. It has programmes in over 90 countries supporting policymakers and communities to create socially and environmentally sustainable cities and towns. UN-Habitat promotes transformative change in cities through knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance, and collaborative action. To know more, visit unhabitat.org.

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