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**Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group
on Adequate Housing for All**
Nairobi, 9–11 December 2024
Item 2(a) of the provisional agenda

**Organizational matters: Adoption of the agenda for the
first session**

Annotated provisional agenda for the first session of the Open- Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All

Item 1

Opening of the session

1. On 9 June 2023, the United Nations Habitat Assembly, in resolution 2/7, established the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All.
2. In the same resolution, the United Nations Habitat Assembly decided that the Working Group's activities and programme of work would be determined in consultation with the Executive Board.
3. The United Nations Habitat Assembly also decided that the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group may adopt terms of reference with respect to its work and functions, particularly for matters not addressed by the rules of procedure of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, which, in accordance with rule 64, shall apply, mutatis mutandis, where the terms of reference are silent.
4. In addition, the United Nations Habitat Assembly decided that the Executive Board would decide on the timing and duration of the sessions of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group.
5. On 8 May 2024, the Executive Board, in decision 2024/3 decided that the first session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All would be held for a duration of three days from 9-11 December 2024, in Nairobi.
6. It is anticipated that the session will be opened at 9 a.m. on Monday, 9 December 2024.
7. Under item 1 of the provisional agenda, it is proposed that a member of the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly or the Bureau of the Executive Board will declare the first session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All open and outline the procedures for the session. In the event that a Member of either Bureau is not available, it is proposed the Executive Director will preside over the opening of the session until Officers are elected under item 2 of the provisional agenda.

Documentation

Resolution 2/7 on Adequate housing for all (HSP/HA.2/Res.7)

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first session of 2024 (HSP/EB.2024/13)

Item 2

Organizational matters

a) Adoption of the agenda for the first session

8. Under this sub-item, the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group will adopt the agenda for its first session and thereafter decide on the organization of work for the session. The provisional agenda was approved by the Executive Board at its first session of 2024, held in Nairobi from 6 to 8 May 2024.

Documentation

Provisional agenda (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/1) (for decision)

Annotated provisional agenda (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/1/Add.1)

List of documents (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/INF/1)

b) Election of officers

9. Under this sub-item, the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group will elect its officers in accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

Documentation

Rules of procedure of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (HSP/HA.1/HLS.2)

c) Terms of reference of Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group

10. Under this sub-item, the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group may adopt terms of reference with respect to its work and functions, particularly for matters not addressed by the rules of procedure of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

Documentation

Rules of procedure of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (HSP/HA.1/HLS.2)

Note by the secretariat on the terms of reference of the of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/CRP.1) (In-session document)

Item 3

State of efforts to progressively realize adequate housing for all

11. Under this item, the Executive Director will report to the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on, among other things, the state of efforts to progressively realize adequate housing for all.
12. The Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group may consider the guidance it wishes to provide for the development of pre-session documents for this agenda item at its second session.

Documentation

Report of the Executive Director on the state of efforts to progressively realize adequate housing for all (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/3)

Preliminary survey of the state of efforts to progressively realize adequate housing for all (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/INF/2)

Item 4

Development of a framework for measuring and reporting on the adequacy of housing across diverse national and local contexts.

13. Under this item, the Executive Director will report to the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on, among other things, the development of a framework for measuring and reporting on the adequacy of housing across diverse national and local contexts.
14. The Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group may consider the guidance it wishes to provide for the development of pre-session documents for this agenda item at its second session.

Documentation

Report of the Executive Director on the development of a framework for measuring and reporting on the adequacy of housing across diverse national and local contexts (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/4)

Review of existing elements and options for the development of a framework for measuring and reporting on the adequacy of housing across diverse national and local contexts (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/INF/3)

Item 5**Progress made in implementing the UN-Habitat programme of work related to adequate housing, including addressing homelessness and slum upgrading.**

15. Under this item, the Executive Director will report to the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on, among other things, the progress made in implementing the UN-Habitat programme of work related to adequate housing, including addressing homelessness and slum upgrading.
16. The Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group may consider the guidance it wishes to provide for the development of pre-session documents for this agenda item at its second session.

Documentation

Report of the Executive Director on the progress made in implementing the UN-Habitat programme of work related to adequate housing, including addressing homelessness and slum upgrading (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/5)

Summary of progress made in implementing the UN-Habitat programme of work related to adequate housing, including addressing homelessness and slum upgrading (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/INF/4)

Item 6**Existing multilateral and bilateral support for the development and implementation of effective housing policies, programmes and projects.**

17. Under this item, the Executive Director will report to the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on, among other things, existing multilateral and bilateral support for the development and implementation of effective housing policies, programmes and projects.
18. The Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group may consider the guidance it wishes to provide for the development of pre-session documents for this agenda item at its second session.

Documentation

Report of the Executive Director on the existing multilateral and bilateral support for the development and implementation of effective housing policies, programmes and projects (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/6)

Survey of existing multilateral and bilateral support for the development and implementation of effective housing policies, programmes and projects (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/INF/5)

Item 7**Establishment of a publicly accessible, complementary platform that includes summaries of the most recently available data on the provision of adequate housing.**

19. Under this item, the Executive Director will report to the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on, among other things, the establishment of a publicly accessible, complementary platform that includes summaries of the most recently available data on the provision of adequate housing.
20. The Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group may consider the guidance it wishes to provide for the development of pre-session documents for this agenda item at its second session.

Documentation

Report of the Executive Director on the establishment of a publicly accessible, complementary platform that includes summaries of the most recently available data on the provision of adequate housing (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/7)

Preliminary needs assessment survey on the establishment of a publicly accessible, complementary platform that includes summaries of the most recently available data on the provision of adequate housing (HSP/OEWG-H.2024/INF/6)

Item 8

Other matters.

21. Under this item, the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group will consider matters which, although not covered under any particular agenda item, are thought to warrant its attention. These may include recommendations on the dates and duration, and guidance for the preparation of the provisional agenda, of its second session.

Item 9

Closure of the session.

22. It is expected that the first session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group will conclude its work by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, 11 December 2024.

Annex I

Resolution 2/7: Adequate housing for all

The United Nations Habitat Assembly,

Recalling the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its article 25 recognizing housing as part of the right to an adequate standard of living,

Recalling also the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements adopted by the First United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat I) and its recognition that adequate shelter and services are a basic human right, which places an obligation on Governments to ensure their attainment by all people,

Recalling further the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements adopted by the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and its commitment to the full and progressive realization of the right to adequate housing,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, calling upon Member States to ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services, and its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 76/133 of 16 December 2021 on inclusive policies and programmes to address homelessness, including in the aftermath of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), in which the Assembly encouraged national and local governments to improve access to affordable housing through integrated housing policies and social protection measures,

Recalling Governing Council resolutions 23/16 of 15 April 2011 on the formulation of a global housing strategy, 24/9 of 19 April 2013 on inclusive national and local housing strategies to achieve the global housing strategy paradigm shift, and 25/4 of 23 April 2015 on the implementation of the strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) for 2014–2019, which takes note of the “housing at the centre” approach that positions housing at the centre of national urban policies and of cities,

Recalling the New Urban Agenda and its commitment to promoting national, subnational and local housing policies that support the progressive realization of the right to adequate housing for all as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, that address all forms of discrimination and violence and prevent arbitrary forced evictions, and that focus on the needs of homeless persons in vulnerable situations, low-income groups and persons with disabilities while enabling the participation and engagement of communities and relevant stakeholders in the planning and implementation of these policies, according to national legislation and standards,

Reaffirming the recognition in the New Urban Agenda of the importance of applying the principle of subsidiarity, as appropriate, in housing policy in order to ensure coherence among national, subnational and local development strategies, land policies and housing supply,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 49/17 of 31 March 2022 on the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, including its recognition that security of tenure enhances the enjoyment of the right to adequate housing and is significant for the enjoyment of many other economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights, and its call to Member States to give due consideration to integrating the human right to adequate housing into the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with a particular view to the right to non-discrimination in this context,

Recognizing that each State Party¹ undertakes to take steps, individually and through international assistance and cooperation, especially economic and technical, to the extent enabled by its available resources, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to adequate housing,

Concerned that the right to adequate housing, as derived from the right to an adequate standard of living, is not realized for many throughout the world, and that an estimated more than 1.6 billion people are currently living in substandard housing, or experiencing homelessness, or at immediate risk

¹ To the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

of homelessness,² inadequate housing conditions, unaffordable housing, overcrowding, or settlements in risk-prone areas, and concerned by the finding in the United Nations publication *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022* that Sustainable Development Goal indicator 11.1.1 – reduce the proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing – is one of nine indicators whose implementation has regressed globally,

Acknowledging the work of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living and the right to non-discrimination in this context,

Concerned that in most countries the disparity between housing costs and income levels has grown while access to finance is constrained,

1. *Decides* to establish an open-ended intergovernmental expert working group to consider and make recommendations to the Assembly on the development and content of policies for accelerating progress towards the universal achievement of safe, sustainable, adequate and affordable housing, and, specifically, requests the expert working group, subject to the availability of resources, to:

(a) Assess the state of efforts to progressively realize adequate housing for all;

(b) Identify policy best practices for the progressive realization of adequate housing and, as appropriate, examples of such best practices and the contexts in which they were developed;

(c) Propose a framework for measuring and reporting on the adequacy of housing across diverse national and local contexts;

(d) Consider the progress made in implementing the UN-Habitat programme of work related to adequate housing:

(e) Map and evaluate existing multilateral and bilateral support for the development and implementation of effective housing policies, programmes and projects;

(f) Report on its recommendations to the Assembly at its third session;

2. *Decides* that the Chair of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group will regularly report to the Executive Board of UN-Habitat on the working group's activities and programme of work, which are to be determined in consultation with the Executive Board;

3. *Decides* to review, at its third session, the recommendations of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group and to consider its report as a potential basis for guidelines for accelerating progress towards the universal achievement of safe, sustainable, adequate and affordable housing;

4. *Decides* that the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group may adopt terms of reference with respect to its work and functions, particularly for matters not addressed by the rules of procedure of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, which, in accordance with rule 64, shall apply, *mutatis mutandis*, where the terms of reference are silent;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to provide all necessary support to all meetings of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group, including the conduct of research and the preparation of information documents and analysis as may be requested by the working group or the Executive Board;

6. *Invites* the five United Nations regional commissions, other United Nations entities with expertise and experience in the area of adequate housing, and international financial institutions to contribute to the activities of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group;

7. *Decides* that the Executive Board will decide on the timing and duration of the sessions of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group and that, in any case, the working group will not hold more than one regular session per year;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director to assess available platforms and resources that provide data and tools to national and local authorities or governments and other key stakeholders related to achieving access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing; to create a publicly accessible, complementary platform that includes summaries of the most recently available data on the provision of adequate housing – disaggregated by factors such as geography, gender, age, disability and any other relevant risks or causes of exclusion – and summarizes relevant policies, case studies, tools and best practices that could be provided and used by Member States, members of United Nations

² See General Assembly resolution 76/133.

specialized agencies, local and regional authorities or governments, housing providers, academia and other stakeholders; and to provide any other information that the Executive Director may deem relevant to the universal achievement of adequate housing for all;

9. *Urges* Member States to prioritize access to adequate housing, including addressing homelessness and slum transformation, as a central element of inclusive, resilient post-pandemic recovery and achievement of the New Urban Agenda and of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda;

10. *Calls on* Member States and local and regional authorities to expand access to safe, sustainable, adequate and affordable housing through inclusive, integrated and holistic strategies and programmes, with respect for the human rights of all, targeting all households and all forms of tenure, with targeted efforts aimed at providing housing solutions for lower-income households and those households facing the greatest cost burdens and risk of displacement and the most inadequate housing conditions;

11. *Calls on* Member States and, in accordance with national legislation, local and regional authorities or governments to collect and release disaggregated and local data on adequate housing in order to inform action and monitor the impact of measures;

12. *Encourages* Member States and local and regional authorities or governments to continue developing inclusive and cross-sectoral strategies that respect and progressively realize the right to adequate housing, as derived from the right to an adequate standard of living for all, and to ensure that these strategies outline clear responsibilities at all levels of government; contain measurable goals, targets and timelines; and include appropriate mechanisms for regular monitoring and review, with particular emphasis on members of different income groups of society, taking into consideration the socioeconomic and cultural integration of marginalized communities, homeless persons and those in vulnerable situations, and preventing segregation;

13. *Invites* international financial institutions to support financing provided by national, regional and local authorities or governments for safe, sustainable, adequate and affordable housing and for promoting the construction of climate-neutral housing;

14. *Invites* Member States and other stakeholders to provide adequate resources for the effective implementation of the present resolution.

Annex II

Proposed organizational arrangements

1. For the efficient conduct of work during the first session of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on adequate housing for all, the Executive Director proposes for consideration by Member States the following proposed organizational arrangements. This proposal has been prepared in line with the general practice of the UN-Habitat Assembly and is subject to further review by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Programmatic, Budgetary and Administrative matters of the Executive Board.

A. Bureau

2. In accordance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group will comprise a chair, vice-chairs and a rapporteur elected with due regard for the principle of equitable geographical distribution by rotation among the regional groups of States. For informational purposes, the composition of bureaux of the governing bodies of UN-Habitat can be found [here](#).

B. Plenary

3. It is recommended that the work of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group be conducted in plenary on each of the first, second and third days of its first session. Part of the morning meeting on the first day will be devoted to organizational matters.
4. In establishing the list of speakers for each agenda item, precedence will be given to heads of government delegations to be followed at the close of each agenda item by a limited number of representatives of subnational governments, other Habitat Agenda partners and other stakeholders, in accordance with rules 66 and 67 of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
5. It is expected that the statements given by representatives of subnational governments and other partners will be the outcome of consultations by those groups with non-governmental organizations, parliamentarians, the private sector, professionals, researchers and other partners. Arrangements will be made for subnational governments and other partners, should they so wish, to hold consultations in Nairobi immediately prior to the session.

C. Summary by the Chair

6. At the end of agenda item 7, the Chair of the first session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group, drawing on the deliberations of the plenary meetings, will prepare a summary of the main issues raised and the conclusions or recommendations made. That summary will reflect the main thrust of the discussions and key positions set out during the plenary and will be submitted for endorsement.
7. Once endorsed by the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group as an accurate reflection of discussions during the session, the conclusions and recommendations of the Chair of the first session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group will serve as guidelines for follow-up action by Governments, subnational governments and other partners, and the secretariat, specifically in preparation for the second session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group.

D. Sessional organs, subcommittees and working groups

8. In line with rule 26 of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly, during the session the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group may set up other sessional organs, subcommittees or working groups as it may deem necessary and refer to them any item on the agenda or any other question for consideration and reporting.
9. It is recommended that the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group not establish sessional organs, subcommittees or working groups at its first session.

Annex III

Proposed organization of work and timetable for the first session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group, 9 to 11 December 2024

<i>Day / date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Plenary</i>
Monday, 9 December	a.m.	1. Opening of the session 2. Organizational matters
	p.m.	3. State of efforts to progressively realize adequate housing for all.
Tuesday, 10 December	a.m.	4. Development of a framework for measuring and reporting on the adequacy of housing across diverse national and local contexts. 5. Progress made in implementing the UN-Habitat programme of work related to adequate housing, including addressing homelessness and slum upgrading.
	p.m.	6. Existing multilateral and bilateral support for the development and implementation of effective housing policies, programmes and projects. 7. Establishment of a publicly accessible, complementary platform that includes summaries of the most recently available data on the provision of adequate housing.
Wednesday, 11 December	a.m.	Consideration of the Chair's summary on items 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
	p.m.	8. Other matters. 9. Closure of the session.