



UN-HABITAT

Agenda item 13:

**Follow-up on the implementation of the report of the UN-Joint
Inspection Unit on the review of management and administration in
United Nations Human Settlements Programme**

Executive Board of UN-Habitat: Second session for year 2024
4 to 6 December 2024

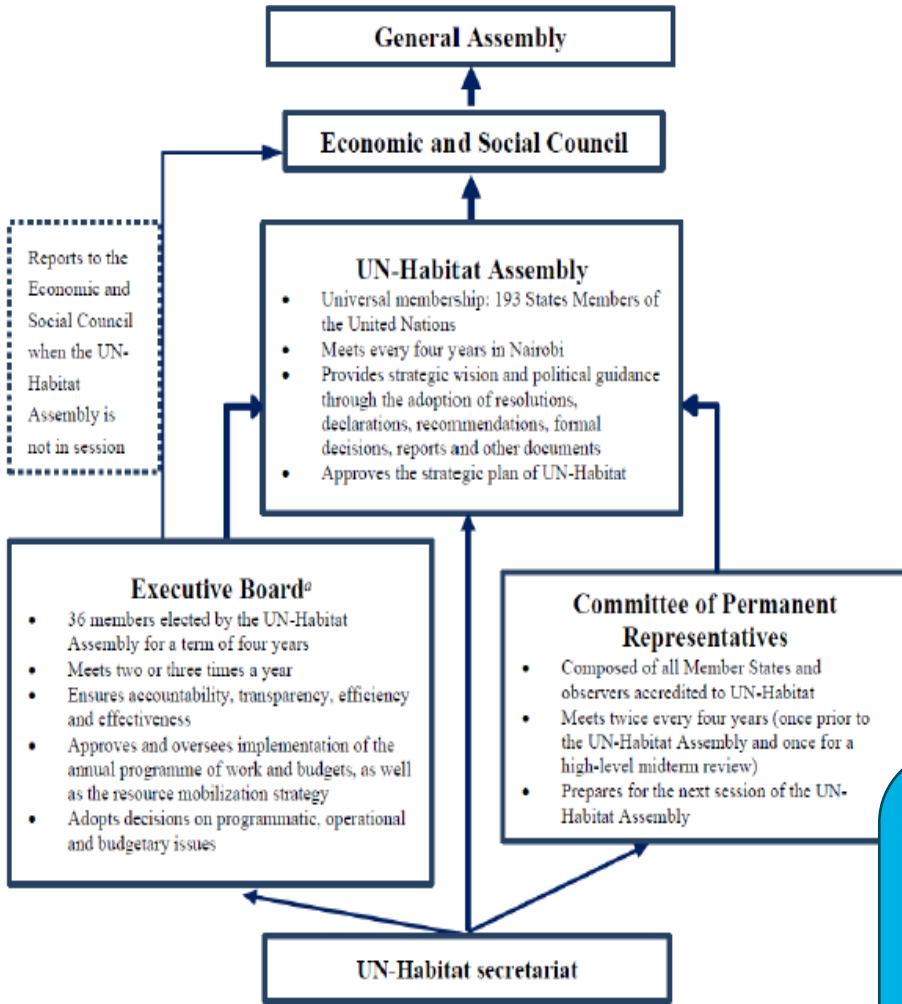
1. INTRODUCTION

- In the United Nations Secretariat, which UN-Habitat is part of, evaluation is mandated by the Regulations and Rules governing programme planning, the programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2018/3), otherwise referred to as PPBME.
- The PPBME mandates both “external” evaluations undertaken by entities external to UN-Habitat, such as the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS); Joint Inspection Unit (JIU); and the new established UNSDG System-Wide Evaluation Office (SWEO); and “internal” evaluations undertaken by UN-Habitat, itself.
- JIU conducts both system-wide and single organization management and administrative evaluations (reviews). It conducted the review of UN-Habitat in 2021-2022. The resulting report JIU/REP/2022/1, with 32 recommendations (8 formal and 24 inform), was presented to the Executive Board at its 2nd session of 2022 by JIU.
- The Executive Board took note of the report and requested the Executive Director to report the Board, at its second or third session of each year on the progress of the implementation of the recommendations.
- The report, HSP/EB.2024/22, is the second report updating on the progress on the status of implementing the review recommendations. At the third session of 2023 the Executive Board, UN-Habitat provided the first update on the implementation of the recommendations.

2. WHY JIU REVIEW AND WHAT WAS REVIEWED?

- The JIU review aimed at assisting the UN-Habitat governing bodies and its senior management in fulfilling their respective mandates, in the context of UN-Habitat's challenges, particularly of financial constraints.
- The review was based on a risk-based approach used by JIU to identify organizations to schedule for management and administrative reviews.
- The review focused on 4 areas:
 - 1) Governance reform,
 - 2) Financial management,
 - 3) Organizational restructuring and management, and
 - 4) Oversight and evaluation;

3. WHAT THE JIU FOUND



GOVERNANCE REFORM

- Led to more engagement.
- Enhanced oversight.
- Improved accountability.
- Frequent Reporting has increased work and costs for UNH.
- The roles of CPR not clearly articulated in UNH Assembly procedures

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- Over years, core resources low.
- For 2020, the EB approved \$18.9 M for non-earmarked but actual contributions totaled \$4.9 (25.9%) .
- Core functions of normative work, management, advocacy, oversight and evaluation were underfunded and understaffed.
- Most contributions were being made by few Member States.

ORGANIZATIONAL RESTRUCTURING

- 2018 Org. restructuring launched.
- 2019 Org. Structure approved by the EB.
- The organizational restructuring incomplete due to insufficient non-earmarked funding.

OVERSIGHT AND EVALUATION

- Over years, outstanding audit recommendations has increased.
- UNH’s implementation rates of JIU recommendations were low.

4. WHAT JIU RECOMMENDED

8 formal recommendations & 24 informal recommendations were given, intended to improve the overall effectiveness and viability of UN-Habitat.

GOVERNANCE REFORM

- **1 formal recommendation**
- 5 informal recommendations

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- **2 formal recommendations**
- 4 informal recommendations

ORGANIZATIONAL RESTRUCTURING

- **2 formal recommendations**
- 11 informal recommendations

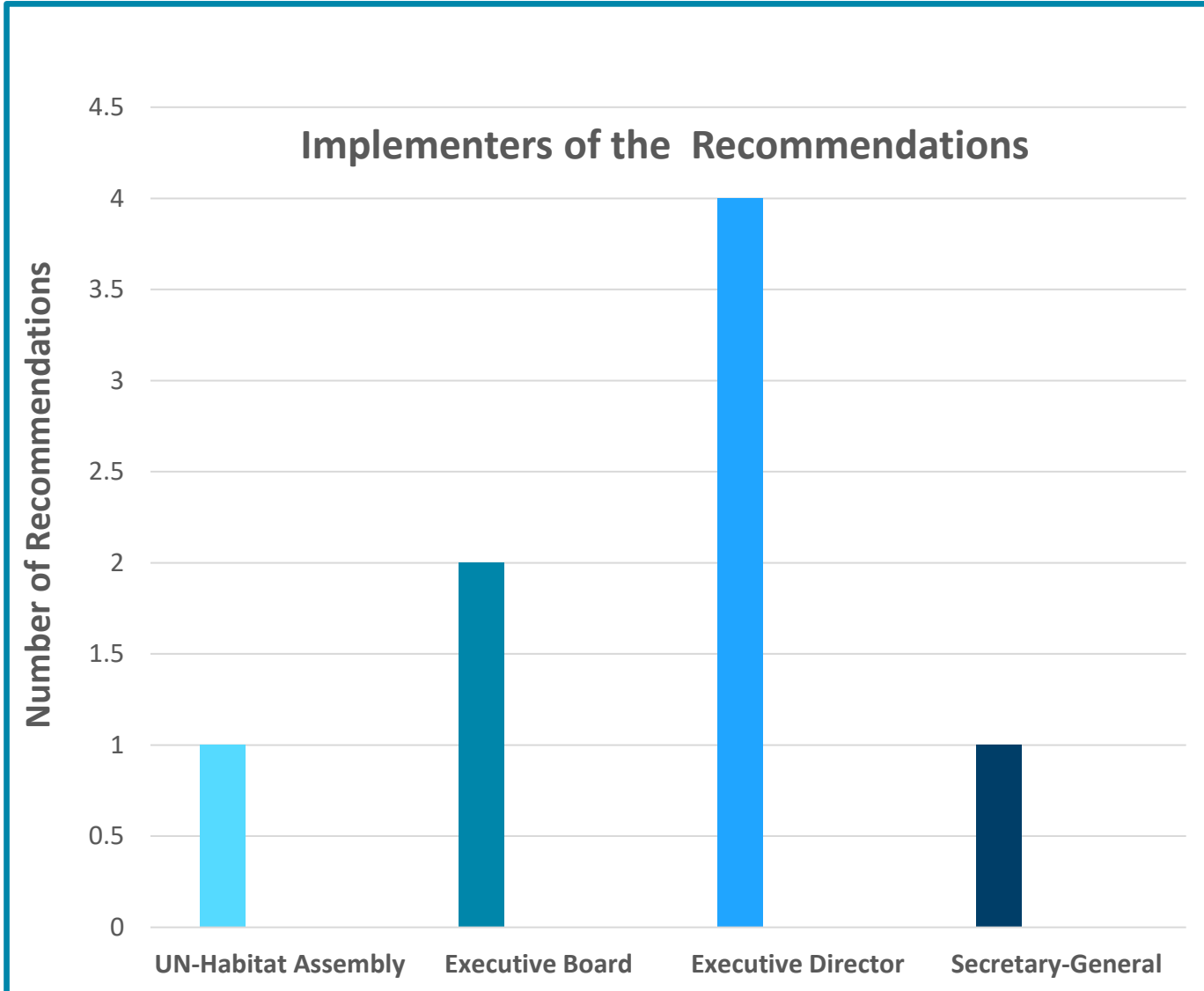
OVERSIGHT & EVALUATION

- **1 formal recommendation**
- 4 informal recommendations

CONCLUSIONS & WAY FORWARD

- **2 formal recommendations**

5. TO WHOM THE FORMAL RECOMMENDATIONS WERE ADDRESSED FOR IMPLEMENTATION

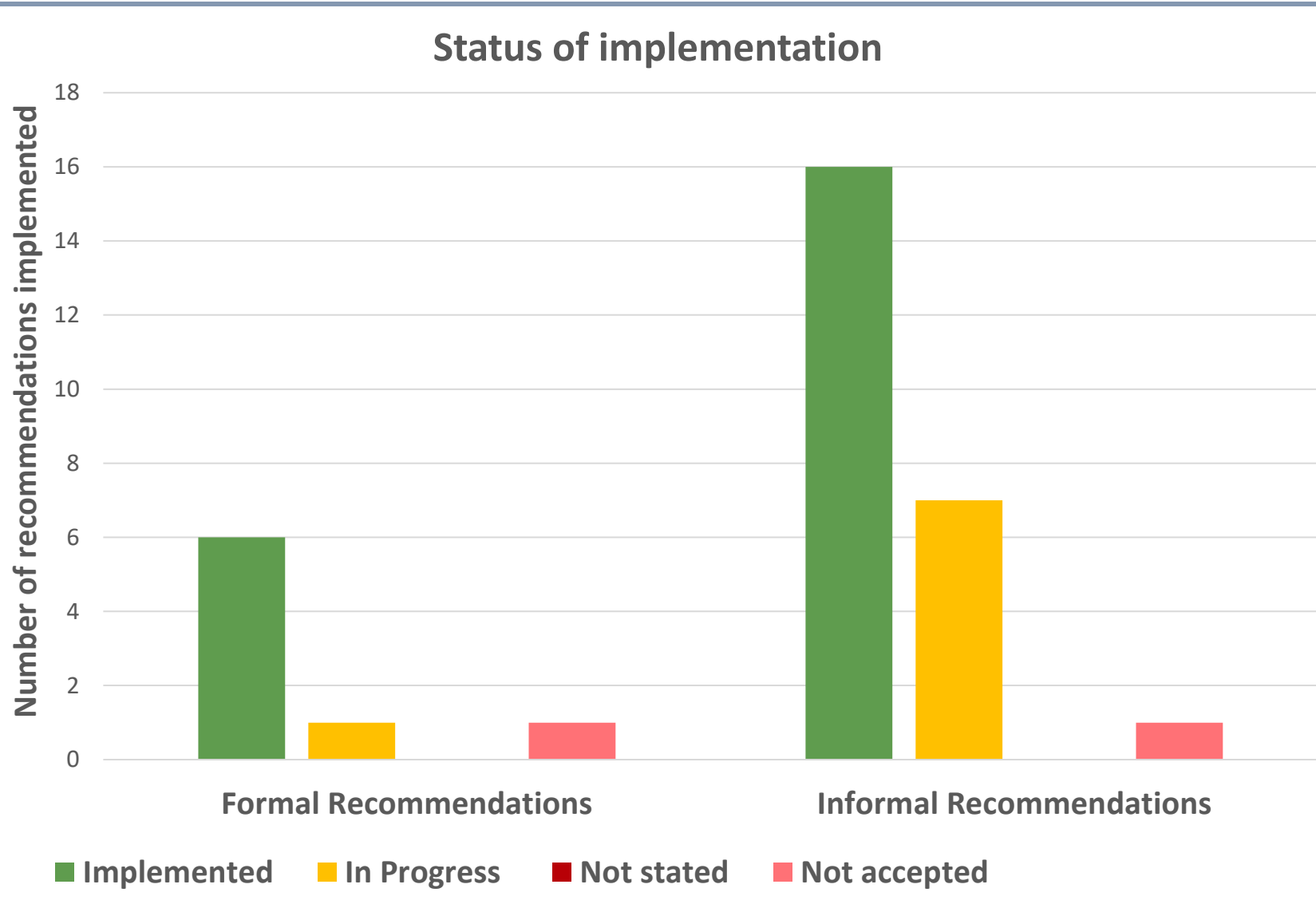


Of the 8 formal recommendations,

- 1 to UN-Habitat Assembly,
- 2 to the Executive Board,
- 4 to Executive Director, and
- 1 to the Secretary-General

24 Inform recommendations were to be implemented by UN-Habitat. They aimed at complementing the 8 formal recommendations and improving the overall effectiveness of UN-Habitat.

6. PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AS SEPTEMBER 2024



As of September 2024, out of the 8 formal recommendations:

- **6 (86%)** were implemented; up from **4** implemented as of September 2023
- **1 (14%)** was in progress of implementation; down from **3** in progress as of September 2023; and
- 1 Was not accepted.

- For 24 informal recommendations, **16 (69.5%)** up from **9** were implemented; **7 (30.5%)** down from **14** were in progress of implementation and one was not accepted.

7. SUGGESTED DECISION

- It is anticipated that all the accepted recommendations (**30 recommendations**) will have been implemented within the time frame of 3 years, given by JIU, from 2022 when the report was issued.
- In fulfilling its mandate of strengthening the accountability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness of UN-Habitat, the Executive Board may wish to take note of the present report and recommend actions to further improve the implementation of the JIU and other evaluation recommendations from external and internal evaluations of UN-Habitat.



Thank you
for your attention.

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