



**2025 First Meeting of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives**

Monday, 27 January 2025, 10:00 hrs. to 12:00 noon East Africa Time

**Statement by the Deputy Executive Director**  
*(Draft of 24 January)*

SLIDE 1: Title slide

**SLIDE 2: Provisional Agenda**

*(Adoption of the Agenda to be led by the Chair)*

- 1) Adoption of the Provisional Agenda
- 2) Preparations for the third open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR) in 2025:
  - a. Expectations and possible outcomes of the third OECPR.
  - b. Elections of the next Bureau of the CPR.
  - c. Consideration of the Roadmap towards the OECPR and the resumed second Session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly including informal consultations.
  - d. Registration and logistical arrangements.
- 3) Consideration of the proposed organization of work during the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
- 4) Any other matters.



**SLIDE 3: (Title Slide) Agenda item 2: Preparations for the third open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (OECPR) in 2025:**

- a. Expectations and possible outcomes of the third OECPR.**
- b. Elections of the next Bureau of the CPR.**
- c. Consideration of the Roadmap towards the OECPR and the resumed second Session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly including informal consultations.**
- d. Registration and logistical arrangements.**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Excellencies,

Good morning.

Let me first of all apologise for the absence of our Executive Director at this meeting and for my inability to join you physically in Nairobi today due to other important official engagements we both have currently. I thank you for your understanding and assure you that this is an exception as we will always prioritise the work of this Bureau and our Governing Bodies.

This being the first meeting of 2025, let me wish you all a very productive 2025. On behalf of the Executive Director, I want to thank you for your support in 2024. We will continue to count on your guidance this year which promises to be a very busy one for all of us.



Mr. Chairman

The guidance that the Bureau gave us during the last meeting in September 2024 was very helpful and enabled us to finalize the dates and provisional agenda for the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and the third OECPR. These have now been formally communicated to Member States through the Notification of the Executive Director which was sent out on 20 December 2024 in line with the rules of Procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

**Slide 4: Item 2a - Expectations and possible outcomes of the third OECPR.**

Coming back to the agenda of this meeting, under item 2a, it is important that we begin to carefully consider the possible outcomes of the third OECPR.

From our perspective, there are two types of outcomes,

- (i) those outcomes to be recommended to the UN-Habitat Assembly as part of the OECPR's preparations of the Assembly and.
- (ii) Those outcomes of the third OECPR itself, recognizing that there are to elements of midterm review in the provisional agenda.



For the first category it is a bit clearer as this Bureau has recommended that the outcomes should only focus on the unfinished business of the Assembly based on its work at the adjourned second session held in 2023. In this regard, the outcomes would ideally include the following:

1. Draft resolution adopting the draft strategic plan 2026 to 2029.
2. Draft resolution adopting the draft international guidelines on people centered smart cities.
3. Draft decision on the draft stakeholder engagement policy
4. Draft decision on the dates and agenda of the third session of the UN-Habitat Assembly to be held in 2029.

#### Excellencies

When it comes to the second set of the outcomes of the third OECPR, we can base our expectations on the first OECPR midterm review meeting held in 2022 during which the OECPR made a few recommendations related to its midterm review of the strategic plan and the new Urban Agenda, among others.

As you are aware, the third OECPR agenda also contains discussions on the current strategic plan 2020 to 2025, the World Urban Forum and the New Urban Agenda particularly as it relates to the fourth coming quadrennial report of the Secretary General on implementation of the New Urban Agenda, due in 2026.



The secretariat will remain attentive to any support that Member States will need in preparing the outcomes of the third OECPR, including the dates and provisional agenda for the fourth OECPR meeting to be held in 2027 which will be fully a midterm review meeting.

Mr. Chairman, while the Bureau begins to discuss what the potential outcomes of the third OECPR could be, it may be important to consider reasonable deadlines when outcomes should be submitted for consideration through the informal consultations led by the Chair of the CPR prior to the OECPR, and during the OECPR itself. We understand this is very important for the efficient preparations and conduct of the OECPR meeting. The resumed second session of the Assembly, notably, is only two days, and prior consultations will be key to the success of the Assembly.

### **Slide 5: item 2b. Elections of the next Bureau of the CPR**

Mr. Chairman.

Excellencies

Let me now come to item 2b on elections of the next Bureau of the CPR.

Mr. Chairman, we have previously discussed this matter in this Bureau and confirmed that the elections will take place during the final plenary meeting of the OECPR as part of the organization of work during the meeting.

What is important now is to encourage regional groups to continue caucusing and that we receive nominees for each position way ahead of the OECPR



meeting so we can prepare adequately in advance for, hopefully, a smooth process.

Just to remind all of us, the composition of the next CPR Bureau for the period 2025 to 2027 is 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

**Slide 6: item 2c. Consideration of the Roadmap towards the OECPR and the resumed second Session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly including informal consultations.**

Mr. Chairman

At the last Bureau meeting, we held preliminary discussions in the organization of work prior to the session and in this regard, there was general agreement on early preparations which would include both Bureau meetings and informal consultations under the Chair of the CPR as mentioned earlier.

We have reflected these elements within the roadmap for your consideration, especially since we are simultaneously preparing for the 2025 first session of the Executive Board. As such the key dates which you can see on the screen are as follows:



**Bureau meetings are proposed to be held on:**

1. Monday, 27 January 2025: CPR Bureau meeting, which is today;
2. Friday 21 February 2025: Meeting of the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly Bureau which includes CPR Bureau members as vice presidents;
3. Monday 7 April 2025: Meeting of the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly which includes CPR Bureau members as vice presidents.;
4. Wednesday 30 April 2025: Meeting of the Bureau of the CPR;
5. Wednesday 21 May 2025: Meeting of the Bureau of the CPR; and
6. Wednesday 21 May 2025- Meeting of the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly which includes CPR Bureau members as vice presidents.

The dates reserved for **Informal consultations to be** led by the Chair on the preparations and possible outcomes of the OECPR and Assembly are:

1. Monday 14 April 2025 – both morning and afternoon;
2. Monday 28 April 2025 – both morning and afternoon; and,
3. A third date will be reserved in May 2025 for such consultations to continue prior to the session if needed.

I note that the roadmap is our compass as we prepare but it remains flexible for any changes that this Bureau may recommend.



## **Slide 7: item 2d. Registration and logistical arrangements.**

Finally, Mr. Chairman on item 2d, on registration and logistical arrangements, we intend to open online registration for the OECPR and the Assembly by 5 March 2025 if not earlier.

1. As indicated in the Executive Director's Notification sent to Member States on 20 December 2024;
  - The substantive documents for the resumed second session of the Assembly will be issued by 17 April 2025, at least 42 days in advance of the session, in accordance with paragraph 3 of rule 30 of the rules of procedure
  - The substantive documents for the OECPR meeting will be issued by 14 April 2025, 42 days prior to the start of the meeting, in line with applicable rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly
2. We will make provisions for regional consultations during the OECPR and the Assembly
3. We hope to receive credentials with names of representatives to the OECPR by the first plenary meeting of the OECPR as stipulated in rule 16 and 17 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly which guides the work of the OECPR.

Excellencies,

Thank you for your kind attention. Back to you Mr. Chairman.





**SLIDE 10: (TITLE SLIDE): Agenda item 3) Consideration of the proposed organization of work during the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Excellencies,

Under this item we would like to share with you our preliminary thoughts on the organization of work during the Assembly for your guidance and for further consideration by the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly at its next meeting.

**SLIDE 11. Key highlights of the proposed organization of work during the resumed second session**

Let me highlight a few points on the draft organization of work we are proposing, then my colleagues Chris and Ulf will take over, if needed.

1. We foresee a very short opening segment with probably statements from the Director General of UNON, the Executive Director and the Host Country.



2. We recommend that the agenda item on Credentials be moved to the second day in order to allow time for the Bureau to examine the credentials received, including on day 1, and finalize preparations for the elections, which as you can all understand, can be a delicate matter.
  
3. We recommend that the item on elections of the 36 Members of the Executive Board be moved to day 2 as it is related to the matter on credentials.
  
4. It would be good to also confirm at the earliest possible that the 2025 second session of the Executive Board the sole purpose is only to elect officers its Bureau be held on day 2 of the Assembly, following election of the 36 Members by the Assembly. This will enable us to communicate the date of that session of the Executive Board to Member States early enough, as being 30 May 2025, on the margins of the resumed second session of the Assembly.
  
5. Finally, we see a potential for some very select special events, if time allows, as this is also an opportunity to create visibility for our Organization. I must add that this is still work in progress, given the limited time.

With this, Mr. Chairman, I give the floor to Chris and Ulf to walk us through the draft organization of work during the resumed second session.



**SLIDE 12. Draft proposed organization of work during the resumed second session**

Time	Day 1: 29 May 2025	Day 2: 30 May 2025
08.00-09.00	UN-Habitat Assembly Bureau meeting	UN-Habitat Assembly Bureau meeting
09.00-10.00	Regional group meetings	Regional group meetings
10.00-11.00	<p><b>PLENARY (1)</b></p> <p><b>Agenda item 1:</b> Opening of the session. <i>Statement by the Host Country</i> <i>Statement by the Executive Director</i> <i>Statement by the Director General of UUNON</i></p> <p><b>Agenda item 2:</b> Adoption of the agenda.</p> <p><b>Agenda item 3:</b> Report of the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.</p> <p><i>Plenary 1 adjourns briefly</i></p>	<p><b>PLENARY (3)</b></p> <p><b>Agenda item 4:</b> Report of the Bureau on credentials of representatives.</p> <p><b>Agenda item 5:</b> Election of members of the Executive Board.</p> <p>[Adjournment of the third plenary meeting of resumed session and commencement of the</p>
11.00-12.00	<p><b>TBC: POSSIBLE PLENARY MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AND DRAFTING COMMITTEE</b></p> <p>[Adjournment of the first plenary meeting of the resumed Session; resumption of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole –for creation of a drafting committee to finalize discussions on draft outcomes prepared by OECPR]</p>	<p><b>2025 Second session of the Executive Board f</b></p> <p><b>(Electing officers of the Bureau of the Executive Board)</b></p>
12.00-13.00	<p><b>PLENARY 1 CONTINUES</b></p> <p><b>Agenda item 6:</b> Strategic plan for the period 2026-2029.</p> <p>National Statements</p>	<p><b>TBC: POSSIBLE PLENARY MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE</b></p> <p>[Adjournment of the first plenary meeting of the resumed Session; resumption of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole – if needed, to endorse draft decisions from the drafting committee and forward draft outcomes to the Assembly to possibly adopt at the final plenary meeting.</p>



<b>Lunch Break 13.00 to 15.00</b>	<i>Drafting Committee</i>	<i>Drafting Committee</i>
<b>15.00-18.00</b>	<p><b>PLENARY (2)</b>  <b>Agenda item 6: Continuation of the discussion on Strategic plan for the period 2026-2029.</b></p> <p>National Statements</p> <p><i>Possible continuation of the drafting Committee</i></p>	<p><b>PLENARY (4) Final plenary meeting</b>  <b>Agenda item 9:</b> Election of officers of the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly.</p> <p><b>Agenda item 7:</b> Adoption of the outcomes of the session.</p> <p><b>Agenda item 8:</b> Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the third session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.</p> <p><b>Agenda item 10:</b> Other matters.</p> <p><b>Agenda item 11:</b> Closure of the session.</p>
<b>Evening</b>	<i>Possible Host country Reception Drafting Committee</i>	

Thank you for your kind attention

Thank you, Mr Chairman,

Back to you.

**SLIDE 13: Agenda item 4: Any other Matters.**