



UN-HABITAT

United Nations Human Settlements Programme

**Thirteenth Bureau Meeting of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat
Monday, 17 December 2024
13:00 hrs – 14:00 hrs East African Time (EAT)**

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting.

1. Mr. Amadi-Ikpe Chibudhom Roosevelt, Acting Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, on behalf of Hon. Ahmed Musa Dangiwa, Minister for Housing and Urban Development of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Chair of the UN-Habitat Executive Board, opened the meeting at 13:08hrs EAT.

The following members of the Bureau of the Executive Board were present:

In-person

1. Mr. Amadi-Ikpe Chibudhom Roosevelt, Acting Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to UN-Habitat.
2. Mr. Clément Payeur, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of France to UN-Habitat.
3. Mr. Adnan J. Khan, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

On-line

1. Ms. Joanna Szymańska, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to UN-Habitat.

The following UN-Habitat secretariat members were present:

1. Mr. Michal Mlynar, Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director.
 2. Mr. Chris Mensah, Secretary to the Governing Bodies.
 3. Mr. Rafael Tuts, Director, Global Solutions Division.
 4. Ms. Bridget Oballa, External Relations Officer.
2. The Chair welcomed all participants to the meeting and the provisional Agenda was adopted without any changes and can be accessed [here](#).

Agenda item 2: Review of the conduct of the 2024 second session of the Executive Board

3. The Chair, on behalf of Honourable Ahmed Musa Dangiwa, Minister for Housing and Urban Development of Nigeria and Chair of the Executive Board, thanked members of the Bureau for their support during the preparations and conduct of the 2024 second session of the Executive Board. He noted that the success of the session would not have been possible without the guidance of the Bureau, the efforts of the Chairs of the ad hoc working groups, and the support from the secretariat led by the Executive Director. He acknowledged that he had been informed that the Executive Director would not be attending due to her official travel. The Chair invited the Deputy Executive Director to share his thoughts about the session.

4. The Deputy Executive Director informed the Bureau that the Executive Director had requested him to represent her in the meeting due to her official travel, and through the Chair, expressed gratitude to Honourable Ahmed Musa Dangiwa, Minister for Housing and Urban Development of Nigeria and Chair of the Executive Board for his stewardship of the Executive Board that led to a successful session, and thanked the members of the Bureau for their commitment to the work of the Executive Board and the organization. He provided a brief review of the 2024 second session of the Executive Board and his statement can be accessed [here](#) and the presentation can be accessed [here](#).
5. A Bureau member expressed gratitude to the Deputy Executive Director's assessment of the conduct of the 2024 second session of the Executive Board and noted the efficient management of time by the Chair and the secretariat which allowed the session to end on time. The Bureau member highlighted that the adoption of the 2025 budget and programme of work and increased budget indicates trust by Member States and donors in the secretariat.
6. The Chair noted that he was pleased with the secretariat's ability to capture and respond to the questions and comments by the Member States during the session and noted that it displayed secretariat's attentiveness and is an encouragement to Member States.

Agenda item 3: Consideration of the date for the first session of the Executive Board in 2025.

7. The Chair noted that the Executive Board in decision 2024/8 decided that the 2025 first session of the Executive Board would be held for a duration of three days at a date to be decided by the Bureau of the Executive Board with the agreement of the respective regional groups. He noted that the Executive Board in its discussions had considered the following three options for the 2025 first session of the Executive Board: i) 17 to 19 March 2025, ii) 25 to 27 March 2025 and iii) 2 to 4 April 2025 for the consideration of the Bureau. The Chair welcomed the Deputy Executive Director to share any views on the options.
8. The Deputy Executive Director noted that the three options provided were based on the global calendar. He provided the secretariat's views of the options, taking into consideration the full processing of draft Strategic Plan 2026 to 2029 and the draft Stakeholder Engagement Policy for the Assembly noting that Member States must receive all pre-session documents intended for the UN-Habitat Assembly by 17 April 2025 in all the six UN languages. The Statement by the Deputy Executive Director can be accessed [here](#) and the presentation can be accessed [here](#).
9. A Bureau member representing the regional group of Asia Pacific States noted that the third option of 2 to 4 April 2024 coincided with the Ramadan and Eid Festivals and there may be lack of representation from the Islamic Countries and recommended the first and second options.
10. Another Bureau member representing the regional group of Western European and Other States noted that the group favored the second option of 25 to 27 March 2024.
11. The Chair in his capacity as a representative of the regional group of African States noted that the Group was flexible and favored the second option of 25 to 27 March 2024 on the condition that time management during the session would consider countries that would be fasting.
12. The Bureau recommended that the 2025 first session of Executive Board be held from 25 to 27 March 2024 and requested that the secretariat communicates the dates to Member States and begin preparation for the session accordingly while keeping the Bureau updated.

Agenda 5: Any other matters.

13. The Deputy Executive Director referred to the second session of the open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All and informed the Bureau that it was important to have preliminary ideas and the dates for the next session to determine further preparations and linkages to other meetings and activities within the global calendar. He expressed gratitude to the Co-Chairs, France and Kenya, for taking up the role of chairing the session.
14. France in its capacity as a Bureau Member and Co-Chair of the open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All, noted that the newly elected Co-Chairs would coordinate and work with the secretariat to propose the dates for the second session.
15. The Deputy Executive Director noted that the secretariat would consult with the Division of Conference Services to get possible available dates for the second session of open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All and the 2025 third session of the Executive Board.

The thirteenth Bureau meeting of the UN-Habitat Executive Board was adjourned at 13:45 pm East African Time (EAT).