



First session of 2025 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

25–27 March 2025

Notification by the Executive Director

I. Dates, agenda, venue and participation

1. The Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) held its second session of 2024 in an in-person format from 4 to 6 December 2024. The report of that session is set out in document HSP/EB.2024/23, and the decisions adopted by the Board at the session are set out in document HSP/EB.2024/24.
2. At its second session of 2024, in decision 2024/8, the Executive Board decided that its first session of 2025 would be held for a duration of three days at a date to be decided on by the Bureau of the Executive Board, in consultation with the respective regional groups. In that decision, the Board also decided on the provisional agenda for the session, subject to review by the Bureau.
3. Subsequently, the Bureau met on 17 December 2024 and recommended that the first session of the Board for the year 2025 be held for a duration of three days from 25 to 27 March 2025. At its meeting on 31 January 2025, the Bureau reviewed and recommended the provisional agenda for the session, which is set out in document HSP/EB.2025/1 and can be accessed [here](#).
4. Pursuant to rule 6 of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board, which can be found in document HSP/HA.1/HLS.3, the working documents for the session will be issued in the six official languages of the United Nations by 25 February 2025, four weeks prior to the opening of the session.
5. The first session of the Executive Board of 2025 will be held fully in person at the headquarters of UN-Habitat, which is located at the United Nations Office at Nairobi.
6. The session will begin at 9 a.m. (Nairobi time (UTC + 3)) on Tuesday, 25 March 2025. Participants should be seated by 8.45 a.m. in conference room 2.
7. The [36 members](#) of the Executive Board are expected to participate in the first session of 2025.
8. In accordance with rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the sessions of the Executive Board are also open to any State Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Executive Board and to any member of a specialized agency. In accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure, each member of the Executive Board and any observers should forward to the secretariat of the Executive Board, as soon as possible but no later than 21 March 2025, the names of their accredited representatives, alternate representatives and advisers. Each delegation should consist of an accredited representative and such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

II. Key issues to be discussed

9. Among the key issues to be considered by the Executive Board at its first session of 2025 are the following:
 - (a) Financial, budgetary and administrative matters;
 - (b) Update on the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2026;
 - (c) Update on the preparation of, and possible recommendation of, the draft strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2026–2029;
 - (d) Briefing on the Sustainable Cities and Communities Foundation;

- (e) Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN-Habitat in 2024 and the implementation of its subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities;
- (f) Update on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

III. Proposed organizational arrangements for the first session of 2025

10. The proposed organizational arrangements and timetable are set out in the annex to the present notification for consideration by Member States. It is expected that most of the work of the three-day session will occur in plenary meetings. Agenda items to be considered on each day of the meeting are indicated in the annex and will also be reflected in the programme for the session.

A. Bureau

11. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau of the Executive Board consists of a chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur. The geographical distribution of the current Bureau, which will preside over the conduct of the first session of 2025, is as follows:

- Chair: Nigeria (African States)
- Vice-Chairs: Brazil (Latin American and Caribbean States)
France (Western European and other States)
Poland (Eastern European States)
- Rapporteur: Pakistan (Asia-Pacific States)

12. The Executive Board may consider the rotation of the offices of Chair and Rapporteur, in accordance with rule 9.3 of the rules of procedure.

B. Consultations on draft decisions to be considered by the Executive Board

13. It is recommended, in the interest of efficiency, that the draft outcomes to be considered by the Executive Board at its first session of 2025 be discussed prior to the opening of the session by the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters, which was established by the Executive Board in paragraph 7 of its decision 2019/2. Thereafter, it is anticipated that the chair of the ad hoc working group will forward the draft outcomes, including draft decisions, based on those preliminary discussions, to the Executive Board for further consideration and possible adoption.

14. It is also anticipated that part of the session will be dedicated to informal negotiations on the draft decisions with a view to merging, reconciling or clarifying them, as necessary, prior to their consideration by the Executive Board during a plenary meeting at the session.

C. Informal consultations

15. In order to facilitate the work of the Executive Board, arrangements will be made, upon request, for informal consultations within the regional groups on various matters, including any draft outcomes, such as any draft decisions for consideration and possible adoption by the Executive Board. Such requests should be sent by email to the Secretary to the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat at ulf.bjornholm@un.org and unhabitat-sgb@un.org.

D. Registration

16. All delegates are encouraged to pre-register for the meeting via the link <https://unhabitat.org/meetings/first-session-of-2025-of-the-executive-board> starting from Wednesday, 5 February 2025. All participants should register online before 12 p.m. (Nairobi time (UTC + 3)) on Friday, 21 March 2025 in order to enable the secretariat to record the attendance of all the participants and ensure their access to the venue.

17. In accordance with rule 8 of the rules of procedure, the secretariat of UN-Habitat would be grateful if permanent and observer missions to UN-Habitat in Nairobi and to the United Nations in New York, in addition to registering the members of their respective delegations online, would communicate the names of those members as early as possible, but no later than

Friday, 21 March 2025, to the Secretary to the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat at unhabitat-sgb@un.org.

18. Additional information will be made available on the session website at <https://unhabitat.org/meetings/first-session-of-2025-of-the-executive-board> and <https://unhabitat.org/governance/executive-board>. Enquiries regarding the session should be directed to:

Secretary to the Governing Bodies
United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
P.O. Box 30030, 00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Email: ulf.bjornholm@un.org and unhabitat-sgb@un.org

Annex

Proposed organization of work and timetable for the first session of 2025 of the Executive Board (25–27 March 2025)

<i>Day/date</i>	<i>Time (UTC + 3)</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
Tuesday, 25 March	9 a.m.	1. Opening of the session. 2. Organizational matters: (a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the first session of 2025; (b) Adoption of the report of the Executive Board on the work of its second session of 2024. 3. Reports of the chairs of the ad hoc working groups. 4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters. <i>Informal consultations on draft outcomes.</i>
	2 p.m.	5. Update on the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2026. <i>Informal consultations on draft outcomes.</i>
Wednesday, 26 March	9 a.m.	6. Update on the preparation of, and possible recommendation of, the draft strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2026–2029. 7. Briefing on the Sustainable Cities and Communities Foundation. <i>Informal consultations on draft outcomes.</i>
	2 p.m.	8. Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN Habitat in 2024 and the implementation of its subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities. 9. Update on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly. <i>Informal consultations on draft outcomes.</i>
Thursday, 27 March	9 a.m.	10. Implementation by UN-Habitat of the reform of the development system and management of the United Nations. 11. Action by UN-Habitat to strengthen protection against sexual or any other type of exploitation and abuse and against sexual harassment in the workplace. 12. Annual report on action by the Executive Director to update and improve the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat. <i>Informal consultations on draft outcomes.</i>
	2 p.m.	13. Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the session, including the provisional agenda for the second session of 2025. 14. Other matters. 15. Closure of the session.