



Summary of the Sixty-first Meeting of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Programmatic, Budgetary, and Administrative Matters of the Executive Board

Monday, 3 February 2025 – 14:30 to 17:00 East Africa Time (EAT)
UNON, Conference Room 4

Chair: H.E. Mr. Pedro Leon Cortes Ruiz
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Colombia to UN-Habitat

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda item 1: Adoption of the provisional Agenda.

1. H.E. Mr. Pedro Leon Cortes Ruiz, Permanent Representative of Colombia to UN-Habitat and Chair of the ad-hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary, and administrative matters of the Executive Board opened the meeting at 14:30 EAT.
2. The Chair expressed his sincere gratitude to the outgoing Secretary to the Governing Bodies, Mr. Chris Mensah for his long-standing service to UN-Habitat and support to Member States and welcomed Mr. Ulf Björnholm as his successor.
3. The provisional Agenda was adopted without any changes.

Agenda item 2: Discussions on the proposed draft work programme for 2026.

4. The Secretariat presented the proposed draft work programme for 2026, which can be accessed [here](#).
5. Member States welcomed the presentation by the Secretariat on the draft work programme for 2026 and provided inputs and comments. A summary of the responses to Member States' questions was prepared by the Secretariat and circulated to Member States on 10 February 2025 and can be accessed [here](#).

Agenda item 3: Any other matters.

6. One Member State proposed that meetings documents shared through the meeting website should indicate the date when they were uploaded and further requested that Member States be duly informed when the roadmap of meetings of the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat changes with regard to dates or agenda.
7. Another Member State asked for additional information regarding regional consultative meetings with the Executive Director to discuss the draft strategic plan 2026-2029.

8. The secretariat outlined plans to streamline the roadmap and make the meeting portals more user-friendly, as well as to make background documents and corresponding PowerPoint slides available more in advance to the meeting to allow more time for Member States to be better prepared for the meetings, and to publish meeting summaries within one week after the meeting wherever possible.
9. The Secretariat also informed Member States that the planned regional consultative meetings on the draft strategic plan 2026-2029 would take place through the regional offices, tailor-made to the specific region, applying a bottom-up approach and focusing on implementation.
10. The sixty-first meeting of the ad-hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary, and administrative matters of the Executive Board was adjourned at 17:00 EAT.