

STATEMENT BY GERMANY

Agenda Item 6: Update on the preparation of, and possible recommendation of, the draft strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2026–2029

- Germany supports the Strategic Plan’s emphasis on adequate housing, land, and basic services, as well as the special attention given to informal settlements. These are critical areas for achieving sustainable urban development.
- Given the current global challenges, Germany underscores the importance of ensuring that the strategic plan prioritizes support for those who are most in need, particularly vulnerable communities.
- After having had a thorough look at the latest draft of the Strategic Plan that has been prepared and submitted for translation, Germany is not fully satisfied with it. The delegation however acknowledges and respects that the draft Strategic Plan is NOT a negotiated document and is willing to apply flexibility.
- Germany recognises that efforts have been made to take into account different positions and to balance diverging member states’ priorities without giving too much attention to some imaginary “red lines” for example with regard to human rights. UN Habitat and its work as part of the wider UN system is rooted in human rights. Taking a human rights approach is self- explanatory. The organization does not need an explicit mandate to it.
- We are confident that the strategic plan will provide clear and focused guidance for UN-Habitat’s work in the coming years, enhancing its impact on global, national and local level.
- While consensus on the plan is important, we want to be clear that it is fundamental, that it is consistent with global commitments and frameworks, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in its entirety and the New Urban Agenda. The latest version of the Strategic Plan is reflective of this and the German delegation appreciates this.