

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco
Nairobi



سفارة المملكة المغربية
نairobi

First Session of the Executive Board 2025

25-27 March 2025

I/ Intervention of the Kingdom of Morocco on Agenda item3: Reports by the chairs of the ad hoc working groups established by the Executive Board.

Thank you Mr Chair,

- At the outset, the Kingdom of Morocco would like to thank unreservedly Mozambique and Egypt for their outstanding leadership of the Africa Group and the G77+China, for ensuring that all concerns of member countries belonging to these two regional groups are taken into consideration. Morocco expresses its full alignment with the statements read by Mozambique on behalf of the Africa Group, and by Egypt on behalf of the G77+China.

Mr Chair

- On behalf of the Kingdom of Morocco, I would like to thank Mme Executive Director for her general remarks before the First session of the Executive Board, which my delegation very much welcomes;
- I would like also to thank, H.E Ambassador of Colombia, the Chair of the ad hoc working Group on programmatic, administrative and budgetary matters for the efforts invested in steering the work of this ad hoc working group in an efficient manner including in the preparations of this session and consideration of its draft outcomes. We wish him all the best in his endeavours leading all the future meetings of the ad hoc working group on PBA, including the preparations of the forthcoming resumed Second session of the Habitat Assembly.
- Morocco would like also to thank the Deputy Permanent Representative of Portugal as the Chair of the ad hoc working group on the development of a stakeholder engagement policy for the efforts engaged in leading member States to reach consensus **on some of the contentious issues in the draft.**
- Morocco assures of its full support to the Chair's endeavours, and seizes this opportunity to underline the importance of the **intergovernmental nature of UN-HABITAT, the sacrosanct principle of State Sovereignty, that in no way should be undermined.**
- **In this regard we thank the legal advisor for the legal opinion who came to establish according to international law, and UN Best practices, the legal basis that should govern deliberations of the CPR, as per resolution of the Governing Council 19/8.**

- The Kingdom of Morocco would like to remind the board of the consensual nature of the decisions taken by the CPR. Consensus, which has always governed the work of the CPR, since its inception, should be uphold and maintained, to guarantee the non-politization of the work of UN-HABITAT. **Division within the CPR of a technical organisation such as UN-HABITAT is certainly something all of us should avoid. And that is exactly why the rules of procedure of the Habitat Assembly have limited the vote to its highest governing body.**
- Morocco will continue engaging with other countries in the ongoing discussions, including within the group of the “Friends of the Chair” that hopefully, will succeed in reaching consensus and approving a policy that is efficient and practical for the engagement of stakeholders that bring an added value to the work of UN-HABITAT, **and most importantly a stakeholder’s policy that is respectful of the sovereignty of States.**

Thank you.