



**Committee of Permanent Representatives
to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme
Second open-ended meeting: preparations for the
second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly
Nairobi, 29–31 May and 2 June 2023
Item 7 of the provisional agenda***

**Consideration of the Chair's draft summary
of the second open-ended meeting of the
Committee of Permanent Representatives**

Second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Summary by the Chair

I. Introduction

1. The Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) held its second open-ended meeting, in preparation for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UN-Habitat Assembly), in Nairobi from 29 to 31 May and on 2 June 2023. More than 400 participants took part in the meeting, both in person and online, including ministers and ambassadors and other representatives of Member States.

2. The present summary by the Chair captures the proceedings of the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in preparation for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly. The summary complements the report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the work of its second open-ended meeting (HSP/OECPR.2023/2), the reflection of the outcomes of the meeting in the draft report of the meeting (HSP/OECPR.2023/L.1), and the following outcomes:

- (a) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.2/Rev.2 – Draft ministerial declaration
- (b) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.3/Rev.2 – Procedural decisions
- (c) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.4/Rev.2 – Smart cities
- (d) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.5/Rev.2 – Accelerating transformation of informal settlements and slums by 2030
- (e) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.6/Rev.2 – World Cleanup Day
- (f) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.7/Rev.2 – Biodiverse and resilient cities – mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into urban and territorial planning

* HSP/OECPR.2023/1.

- (g) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.8/Rev.2 – Enhancing the interlinkage between urbanization and climate change resilience
- (h) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.9/Rev.2 – Localization of the Sustainable Development Goals
- (i) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.10/Rev.2 – Adequate housing for all
- (j) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.11/Rev.2 – Urban planning and sustainable infrastructure
- (k) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.12/Rev.2 – Creation of a human settlements resilience framework (early warning, foresight, risk reduction, crisis response and post-crisis recovery and reconstruction)
- (l) HSP/OECPR.2023/CRP.13/Rev.2 – Equitable financing and effective monitoring of the implementation of resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

II. Agenda item 1

Opening of the meeting

3. At the first plenary meeting of the Committee, on Monday, 29 May 2023, the Chair, Saqlain Syedah, Permanent Representative of Pakistan to UN-Habitat, called to order the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat, welcomed participants and representatives, and invited high-level officials to deliver opening remarks.

A. Opening statements

4. In her welcoming remarks, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Maimunah Mohd Sharif, noted that homelessness was increasing at a time of enormous wealth, with the highest levels in cities. That phenomenon had been heightened by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as reported in the UN-Habitat *World Cities Report 2022*.¹ The report indicated that up to 163 million people had slipped into poverty in 2021 owing to the pandemic, with more than 1 billion people living in slums. Noting that Goal 11 of the Sustainable Development Goals was a docking station for 63 per cent of all the other Goals, she emphasized the crucial role of the Committee of the Permanent Representatives in revitalizing the Goals.

B. Organizational matters

5. The Chair briefed participants on the work conducted by the Bureau in preparation for the meeting and presented the organization of work. The secretariat gave a presentation on the organization of work, focusing on the clustering of draft resolutions for consideration by the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

C. Adoption of the agenda and workplan for the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

6. The Committee of Permanent Representatives adopted the agenda (HSP/OECPR.2023/1) and agreed on the workplan for the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

III. Agenda item 2

Adoption of the report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the work of its first open-ended meeting

A. Presentation

7. The Chair presented the report of the first open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (HSP/OECPR.2021/7), held from 29 June to 1 July 2021, as cleared by the Rapporteur.

¹ UN-Habitat, *World Cities Report 2022: Envisaging the Future of Cities* (Nairobi, 2022).

B. Opening statements by regional groups

1. Group of Asia-Pacific States

8. Belal Fannoun, Deputy Permanent Representative of the State of Palestine to UN-Habitat, speaking on behalf of the group of Asia-Pacific States, emphasized the importance of Member States providing full support to UN-Habitat, in recognition of its crucial role in helping the world achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. He extended the group's gratitude to UN-Habitat, under the leadership of its Executive Director Ms. Mohd Sharif, for its remarkable efforts in improving the organization's financial stability, overall effectiveness, and in emerging from challenging circumstances, which had positioned UN-Habitat to better address the needs of Member States. In acknowledging the importance of aligning the strategic planning cycles of UN-Habitat with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process, the group of Asia-Pacific States fully supported the extension of the current UN-Habitat strategic plan until 2025.

2. European Union

9. Caroline Vicini, Permanent Representative of Sweden to UN-Habitat, speaking on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States, expressed support to UN-Habitat and its programmes through engagement in various efforts to improve urban areas. She highlighted the group's readiness to continue its efforts to make urban areas across the world more sustainable in the most efficient manner. She encouraged Member States to collaborate towards broadly supporting resolutions with maximum convergence and agreement. The group emphasized the need to deliver substantive and realistic, implementable resolutions which added value, building on the existing work of UN-Habitat and its three main priority areas.

C. National opening statements

10. The representative of Ghana posted a statement,² taking note of the technical assistance provided by UN-Habitat to the country over the years. The invaluable guidance and contributions from various experts had helped enrich Ghana's draft revised national urban policy, as their perspectives in the global context were brought to bear on the policy document. Through close collaboration with UN-Habitat, the Government of Ghana had launched the report on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda on 3 October 2022 as part of the celebration of World Habitat Day. Ghana continued to encourage Member States to consider issues related to urban-rural linkages and the commitment to ensuring no one was left behind in the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals.

D. Conclusions

11. The Committee of Permanent Representatives took note of the report of the first open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (HSP/OECPR.2021/7), the outcomes of the first open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (HSP/OECPR.2021/8) and the summary by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the work of the Committee at its first open-ended meeting (HSP/OECPR.2021/9).

IV. Agenda item 3

Strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

A. Implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023

1. Presentation by UN-Habitat

12. The Executive Director introduced the agenda item and called upon a representative of the secretariat to present the status of implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023.

13. A representative of the secretariat presented an overview of the results achieved during the implementation of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2020–2023. The strategic plan had proven to be a robust framework for recovery and a road map to accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The outcome-oriented nature of

² See https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2023/05/un_habitat_statement_4.pdf.

the strategic plan had strengthened programming and allowed for more integrated solutions and programming, delivering results across the strategic plan. Furthermore, the alignment with the United Nations system-wide strategy on sustainable urban development had created much stronger strategic partnerships with other United Nations entities. Three policy priority areas, namely climate, housing and crisis, and two drivers for sustainable urban development, including localization and finance, had emerged from multilateral processes over the period of the strategic plan, in full alignment with the four domains of change of the plan. Highlights of impact included access to basic services for 3.4 million people in slums and informal settlements in more than 45 countries; safe access to more than 137 upgraded public spaces in 30 cities for 2.32 million people; the adoption of people-centered smart city approaches by more than 30 local governments and of an urban recovery framework by 68 cities, among other things.

2. Discussion

14. No Member States asked for the floor.

B. Status of preparation of the strategic plan for the next period by the Executive Board

1. Presentation by UN-Habitat

15. The Executive Director introduced the agenda item and called upon a representative of the secretariat to proceed with presenting the status of preparation by the Executive Board of the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029.

16. A representative of the secretariat started the presentation by referring to the ongoing Office of Internal Oversight Services evaluation of the implementation of the strategic plan and previous evaluation recommendations which would be taken into account in the preparation of the next strategic plan. The key considerations in the drafting of the next strategic plan were highlighted and, in that respect, UN-Habitat would draw on a stronger evidence base gathered from the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda,³ the report on the progress made towards Goal 11,⁴ the analysis done in the *World Cities Report 2022* and the outcomes of the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and other key intergovernmental meetings such as the high-level meeting to assess progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, convened by the President of the General Assembly in 2022, the upcoming meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development with a focus on Goal 11, and the Sustainable Development Goals Summit in September 2023. UN-Habitat would carefully review and integrate lessons learned and recommendations from various assessments and evaluations of its normative and operational work at all levels. UN-Habitat would also hold consultations with a wide range of urban stakeholders, including within the United Nations system through the United Nations system-wide strategy on sustainable urban development and leveraging other national and global forums, engaging relevant stakeholders. The preparation would commence following the conclusion of the Office of Internal Oversight Services evaluation of the implementation of the strategic plan during the 2020–2024 period, after which consultations within the United Nations and with stakeholders would begin, with a view to presenting the draft plan for adoption in 2025 by the UN-Habitat Assembly.

2. Discussions

17. No representatives of Member States asked for the floor.

C. Alignment of the planning cycles of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process

1. Presentation by UN-Habitat

18. The Executive Director introduced the agenda item and presented three options on how to align the strategic planning cycles of UN-Habitat with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process:

³ A/76/639–E/2022/10.

⁴ See https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2023/07/sdg_11_synthesis_report_2023_executive_summary_final.pdf.

(a) **Option 1.** Hold the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2025 and the third session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2029. This would enable Member States to adopt in 2025 the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2026–2029 in line with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review for the period 2025–2028; and the third regular session in 2029 would enable Member States to adopt the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2030–2033 in line with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review for the period 2029–2032;

(b) **Option 2.** Hold a special session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2025 and the third session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2027. While providing Member States the opportunity to adopt the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2026–2029, this option would not provide a long-term solution. Member States would not be able to align UN-Habitat strategic planning cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process and would be required to hold special sessions in 2025, 2029 and 2033 to adopt the strategic plans, and then hold regular sessions in 2027, 2031 and 2035;

(c) **Option 3.** Maintain the status quo by holding the third regular session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2027. This option was less favorable as it would take place two years too late, thus preventing the UN-Habitat Assembly from adopting the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2026–2029 at its third session.

2. Discussions

19. The representatives of Kenya, Morocco, South Africa and the United States of America welcomed the remarks of the Executive Director and expressed support for option 1. That option would allow for the alignment of the UN-Habitat strategic planning cycle with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process and the approval of the next UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2026–2029 at a resumed session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2025.

D. Conclusions

The Committee of Permanent Representatives took note of the report of the Executive Director on the proposed extension of the current strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2020–2023 to cover the period 2024–2025 including alignment of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review with UN-Habitat Planning cycles (HSP/HA.2/8), the strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the period 2020–2023 (HSP/HA/1/7) and the mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023 (HSP/HA.2/9).

V. Agenda item 4

Review of the status of preparations for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly

A. Presentation

20. The Deputy Executive Director of UN-Habitat, providing a briefing on the preparations for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, focused on the following:

- (a) Notification by the Executive Director on the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, the provisional agenda (HSP/HA.2/1) and other pre-session documents for the session;
- (b) The theme of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly;
- (c) An overview of the detailed programme of the Assembly, including plenary meetings, meetings of the Committee of the Whole and of the drafting committee and national statements;
- (d) Draft outcomes of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly;
- (e) Other high-level meetings and events held during the session;
- (f) Participation of least developed countries;
- (g) Registration in numbers.

21. The secretariat sent the notification by the Executive Director to Member States on 30 December 2022, with the provisional agenda for the session attached. The pre-session documents for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly are available at <https://unhabitat.org/governance/un->

[habitat-assembly/second-session-2023](#). The list of documents (HSP/HA.2/INF/1) is available on the same website.

22. The theme of the second session of the Assembly is “A sustainable urban future through inclusive and effective multilateralism: achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in times of global crises”, which was agreed upon through informal consultations with the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The theme focuses on five key action areas to help structure the deliberations of the UN-Habitat Assembly on global urban policies, namely universal access to adequate housing, urban climate action and environmental protection, urban crisis recovery, localization of the Sustainable Development Goals and multilevel governance, prosperity and finance. These reflect the priorities expressed by Member States during the United Nations General Assembly high-level meeting on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, held in New York in April 2022.

23. The programme of the Assembly session also includes several key events, including a presidential dialogue on Monday, 5 June 2023, a first ladies’ round table on Tuesday, 6 June 2023, and a high-level dialogue on the theme of the session on Wednesday, 7 June 2023. The high-level dialogue would have two keynote statements by experts, and four panels as follows:

- (a) Panel 1: The big challenges of our time;
- (b) Panel 2: The key enablers driving the Sustainable Development Goals in times of crisis;
- (c) Panel 3: Multilevel governance and Sustainable Development Goals localization;
- (d) Panel 4: Closing panel – key takeaways and directions for the Summit of the Future.

24. As at 25 May 2023, 4,500 participants had registered, with 51 ministers and 27 vice-ministers confirmed to participate in the session, surpassing the number of participants in the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

B. Discussions

25. One representative emphasized the need to adhere to the UN-Habitat Assembly rules of procedure on the need to present credentials for the second session of the Assembly.

26. Some representatives noted that while the UN-Habitat Assembly rules of procedure provided for the submission of credentials, they did not specify whether those credentials should be signed by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Some felt that formal communications, including notes verbales from permanent missions accredited to UN-Habitat, were sufficient to qualify as credentials pursuant to rule 17 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly.

27. Other representatives responded that credentials generally meant a formal document signed by the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs to attend meetings such as an Assembly session. They stated that even when accredited to the United Nations in New York, accreditation signed by the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs was required to attend certain meetings of United Nations entities, including sessions of the General Assembly.

28. It was also noted that in practice, notwithstanding rule 27 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on credentials, Member States had attended meetings with formal documents not signed by the Head of State or Government of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

C. Organization of work on resolutions

29. The Chair described the proposed organization of work for agenda item 5, structured around four clusters, as follows:

- (a) Cluster 1: Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities;
 - (i) Adequate housing for all;
 - (ii) Accelerating transformation of informal settlements and slums by 2030;
- (b) Cluster 2: Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions;
 - (i) Localization of the Sustainable Development Goals;
 - (ii) International guidelines on people-centered smart cities;

- (c) Cluster 3: Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment;
 - (i) World Clean Up Day;
 - (ii) Biodiverse and resilient cities;
 - (iii) Enhancing the linkage between urbanization and climate change;
- (d) Cluster 4: Effective urban crisis prevention and response;
 - (i) Urban planning and sustainable infrastructure;
 - (ii) Creation of a human settlements resilience framework.

30. It was clarified that the discussion on the draft resolution on equitable financing and effective monitoring of the implementation of resolutions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly would take place in plenary.

D. Conclusions

31. The Committee of Permanent Representatives took note of the note by the secretariat on the status of preparations for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly (HSP/OECPR.2023/INF/2).

VI. Agenda item 5

Preparation of draft resolutions, declarations and decisions of the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, including on the dates and provisional of the third session

A. Introduction of draft resolutions

32. The Chair invited proponents of draft resolutions that had not been introduced to introduce those draft resolutions. Accordingly, proponents introduced the following draft resolutions:

- (a) Draft resolution on urban planning and sustainable infrastructure;
- (b) Draft resolution on the creation of a human settlements resilience framework for early warning, foresight, risk reduction, crisis response and post-crisis recovery and reconstruction;
- (c) Draft resolution on equitable financing and effective monitoring of the implementation of resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly.

B. Discussion on the draft ministerial declaration

33. The Chair asked the secretariat to display the draft ministerial declaration, which incorporated input from the informal consultations held on Wednesday 24 May 2023. The Chair then invited Member States to discuss the draft ministerial declaration.

34. In the ensuing discussions, specific actions related to inclusive and effective multilateralism were discussed and proposals were made to add references to specific issues and initiatives including the positive aspects of urbanization, human rights, people-centered smart cities, discussions at the 2023 Conference for the Midterm Comprehensive Review of Implementation of the United Nations Decade for Action on Water and Sanitation (2018–2028), the urban-rural dimension of urbanization, the “universal right” to adequate housing, the circular economy and sustainable consumption and production, Urban October, the Sharm-El-Sheikh Implementation Plan,⁵ recognizing the role of cities in addressing and responding to climate change, and the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

35. In their discussions, participants also sought to clarify specific language and concepts, including in relation to human settlements versus communities, balanced territorial development, multiple crises, transformative approaches and solutions. There was also further discussion on whether or not to include some issues and proposals, including the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) initiative and the “UN-Habitat@50” commemoration proposed for 2025.

⁵ See decision 1/CP.27 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

C. Discussion on draft resolutions

1. Cluster 1: Reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities

36. On the draft resolution on adequate housing for all, sponsored by Bahrain, France, Jordan, Kenya and Malaysia, participants considered the proposal to establish an intergovernmental working group on adequate housing, with requests expressed for clarification on its purpose, scope, operations, costs and impact and its connection to ongoing UN-Habitat work. In that regard, the issue of modalities for involving experts in the proposed working group was further queried, with some proposals made to include civil society representatives and international financial institutions, among others. A call was made to ensure accurate use of language on housing, vulnerability and marginalization from the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Sustainable Development Goal 11 and the New Urban Agenda. Participants also considered the inclusion of concepts such as sustainability, climate-neutral housing and equal rights to adequate housing for women. The establishment of a publicly accessible platform to provide the most recently available data, case studies, tools and best practices was supported. Participants also proposed the inclusion of references to the role and work of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing and multilevel governance, among other things.

37. On the draft resolution on accelerating the transformation of informal settlements and slums by 2030, sponsored by South Africa, participants queried the reference to a global action plan and its attendant components. Requests were made to provide revised language in reference to the global action plan and the endorsement of 10 key actions for slum transformation which governments were invited to support. Discussions also centered around the accuracy of and source for data on slums and informal settlements, and on the concepts and definition of slums. There were further discussions on the scope and feasibility of and need for a request to UN-Habitat to continue placing slum transformation at the centre of strategic plan implementation and to produce technical guidelines on slum transformation.

2. Cluster 2: Enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions

38. On the draft resolution on localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, sponsored by Brazil, participants proposed strengthening references to coordination with international initiatives including Local2030 and the Group of 20 Platform on Sustainable Development Goals Localization and Intermediary Cities. In addition, discussions centred on multilevel coordination for Sustainable Development Goal implementation and reporting, including stronger linkages between voluntary local reviews, voluntary national reviews and voluntary subnational reviews, as well as financing options, including possibly concessional financing. Discussions also focused on the inclusion of the principle of leaving no one behind, and specifically on the participation of local communities and those in vulnerable situations in decision-making and implementation processes. In line with other resolutions, the terminology “local and regional authorities and governments” was adopted. Member States also considered how to reference the normative and/or operational work of UN-Habitat and to reflect on the potential implications for the core budget of UN-Habitat.

39. On the draft resolution on international guidelines on people-centered smart cities, there were extensive discussions on references to privacy rights, human rights, marginalized and vulnerable groups. Moreover, to address concerns about the legal implications of the guidelines, the proposal of using “non-binding” to describe the nature of the guidelines in the draft resolution was agreed to. Member States also considered the process for the preparation of the guidelines including the modalities for consultations with experts and the adoption of the draft resolution by the UN-Habitat Assembly. There was also consideration of whether the resolution should include references to and request the implementation of people-centered smart city approaches, beyond their adoption. The differentiated needs and circumstances of countries was expressed through calls for knowledge and technology transfer and financial support from Member States to developing countries.

3. Cluster 3: Strengthened climate action and improved urban environment

40. On the draft resolution on World Cleanup Day sponsored by Estonia, Member States considered how and to what extent to reference previous similar initiatives in specific countries and regions. While one suggestion was to include a specific example, there was an alternative suggestion to refer to prior similar initiatives generically. There was also discussion of the budgetary implications for UN-Habitat to implement the resolution. A request was made for the estimated costs to be carefully reconsidered and aligned with that requested within the resolution.

41. On the draft resolution on biodiverse and resilient cities, sponsored by Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Germany and Singapore, Member States considered making the preambular paragraphs more concise, while adding several more. There were also discussions on how to clarify and refine several key conceptual terms in the first operative paragraph, including embedding biodiversity in cities, mapping natural habitats, measuring ecosystem services, promoting multilevel governance and preservation. Calls were made to also reference related prior agreements, including under the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. There was also a request to clarify how UN-Habitat would collaborate with relevant entities in implementing the resolution. There were also discussions on whether to mandate UN-Habitat to produce international guidelines.

42. On the draft resolution on enhancing the linkage between urbanization and climate change sponsored by the group of African States and Pakistan and presented by Egypt, there were extensive discussions on incorporating the ministerial meetings on urbanization and climate change as a regular agenda item of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as opposed to such a meeting being held on the margins of the sessions of the Conference of the Parties. There were also discussions on the SURGe initiative, including the genesis of the initiative and whether the governing bodies of UN-Habitat had previously endorsed it, the role of UN-Habitat as one of the coordinators of the initiative with the Presidency of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability. Further discussions focused on the interpretation of the “operationalization” of the initiative, and whether that operationalization was already ongoing. Discussions also focused on the role of Member States within the initiative. The proponents of the resolution and the secretariat stated that the initiative had been presented to Member States at a briefing by the Presidency of the twenty-seventh session of the Conference of the Parties and the Executive Director of UN-Habitat in Nairobi in September 2022 and that 17 Member States and approximately 180 stakeholders had endorsed SURGe. Some Member States requested that new paragraphs emanating from the incorporation of text from the resolution proposed by Pakistan be bracketed, as they had not had time to consult on those with their capitals.

4. Cluster 4: Effective urban crisis prevention and response

43. On the draft resolution on urban planning and sustainable infrastructure sponsored by the group of African States, participants considered and sought to clarify the purpose, scope and target audience of the proposed global technical digital platform for urbanization and infrastructure development, including in relation to the existing tools and work of UN-Habitat in that area. The discussion touched on how to clearly reference and leverage existing UN-Habitat platforms on urban planning and infrastructure. Clarification was sought on the scope of existing UN-Habitat platforms and the gaps to be addressed.

44. On the draft resolution on equitable financing and effective monitoring of the implementation of resolutions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly sponsored by the group of African States, there was discussion of the need for, purpose and scope of a new “equity pool”, and how it would relate to existing mechanisms of funding UN-Habitat work. Reservations were expressed on the establishment of such a mechanism, underlined by a perspective that the focus should be on strengthening the core budget as a sufficient mechanism for implementing resolutions. Clarifications were sought on the status, volume and options for use of unspent balances of project funds in UN-Habitat. The proposal to establish a system for tracking and reporting on resolutions was welcomed, but queries arose on how to ensure its efficiency and usability.

D. Discussion on draft decisions and the draft ministerial declaration

45. On draft decision 2/1, on the extension of the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2020–2023 until the year 2025, there was general agreement on the extension of the current strategic plan until 2025 to cover the period 2020–2025. Member States also supported a request for the Executive Director, in consultation with the Executive Board, to start preparations for the next strategic plan.

46. On draft decision 2/2, on the date of the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, Member States agreed to forward to the Assembly a proposal to adjourn the second session on 9 June 2023 and resume it for a duration of two days, from 29 to 30 May 2025, in order to achieve alignment of the UN-Habitat planning cycle with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for the development of the United Nations system.

47. Also in draft decision 2/2, Member States agreed to forward to the Assembly a proposal for the provisional agenda for the resumed second session in 2025 as follows:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Report of the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. Election of the members of the Executive Board.
6. Strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2026–2029.
7. Adoption of the report of the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
8. Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the next regular session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
9. Election of officers.
10. Other matters.
11. Closure of the session.

48. On draft decision 2/3, on the terms of office of the members of the Executive Board and the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly, it was recommended that current members of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat who were elected in 2019 remain in office until the closure of the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and that the terms of office of the officers of the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly elected during the first session in 2019 be extended until the final meeting of the expected resumed second session in 2025.

49. On draft decision 2/4, on the stakeholder engagement policy of UN-Habitat, it was recommended that the Executive Board continue its work to develop a stakeholder engagement policy and to submit the draft policy for consideration and possible approval by the Assembly at the resumed second session to be held in 2025.

50. On draft decision 2/5, on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the review of management and administration in the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (JIU/REP/2022/1), a discussion was held on the first recommendation of the report, which was directed to the UN-Habitat Assembly. Given that the new governance structure was effective in 2019, the sentiment was that it was premature to revisit the rules of procedure, with such consideration possible at a later time.

E. Conclusions

51. It was agreed that the latest versions of draft resolutions, declarations and decisions discussed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives at its second open-ended meeting would be forwarded to the UN-Habitat Assembly at its second session for further consideration. They are available under the section entitled “Draft outcomes of the CPR” on the webpage for the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives at <https://unhabitat.org/open-ended-meeting-of-the-committee-of-permanent-representatives-to-prepare-for-the-second-HabitatAssembly>.

VII. Agenda item 6

Election of the officers of the Bureau

52. The Chair stated that the extension of the current terms of office of the members of the Bureau had been agreed upon by means of informal consultations. There was no objection to the extension of the terms of office of the members of the Bureau until 2025.

VIII. Agenda item 7**Consideration of the Chair's draft summary of the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives**

53. The draft Chair's summary was shared with Member States in session, with the expectation that it would be finalized post session. In addition, the draft proceedings of the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in preparation for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly (HSP/OECPR.2023/2), were made available during the meeting and were finalized thereafter.

IX. Agenda item 8**Any other matters**

54. No other matters were discussed.

X. Agenda item 9**Closure of the meeting**

55. The meeting was closed at 9.40 p.m. on Friday, 2 June 2023.
