

**SINGAPORE'S STATEMENT AT THE HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE
ON ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR ALL**

**THE RESUMED 2ND SESSION OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY
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Guiding Question:

How can adequate housing policies drive poverty reduction, job creation, climate action, and recovery from crises?

What successful models exist, and what innovations or reforms are needed?

Distinguished Delegates and Colleagues,

1. As Head of the Singapore delegation to this esteemed forum, I extend our highest regard for the work of the UN-Habitat, under the leadership of Executive Director, Anacláudia Rossbach.

Supporting Multilateralism and Global Cooperation

2. Singapore joined the international community at the 2nd session of the Assembly in 2023 to strongly affirm global efforts to uphold multilateralism and cooperation, and partner the UN-Habitat in the pursuit of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda.

3. Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities and UN-Habitat jointly conduct the Singapore-UN Habitat International Leaders in Urban Governance Programme. With the completion of the 5th run of the programme in March this year, close to 200 participants from 75 African and Latin American cities have benefited from

this programme, bringing us closer to meeting our target of 100 cities by 2030. With the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between Singapore and UN-Habitat this year, we can do more to deepen the cross-pollination of ideas and sharing practical knowledge on Affordable and Adequate Housing and Sustainable Urban Development with more cities.

Affordable public housing

4. To address the guiding question for this Dialogue:

- Singapore recognises the importance of housing, and **home ownership is a fundamental social provision for our residents.**
- Singapore's housing policy and programmes cater to all strata of societal needs, with 80% of our population residing in public housing today, of which 90% own their homes.
- Very low-income households who are not yet ready to purchase public housing are offered **subsidised rental rates** while they progress towards home ownership.

Designing for climate and energy resilience in public housing

5. In his era of rising temperatures, the threat of higher sea levels, and more extreme weather events, all cities must aim for a more climate-resilient living environment.

- As a tropical island state, one key effort Singapore is undertaking is to **cool our neighbourhoods** – we do so from the onset when planning our towns and precincts, such as by capitalising on wind flows, promoting natural ventilation, and adopting new green building materials and energy-efficient cooling systems.
- Although Singapore is alternative-energy disadvantaged, we strive to pursue **energy resilience**. Our Green Towns Programme aims to reduce

energy consumption by 15% by 2030, while the SolarNova Programme accelerates the deployment of solar energy at scale in our housing estates through demand aggregation and best sourcing.

- Singapore is also transforming into a **City in Nature**: By 2030, we will plant one million more trees and for all households to be within a 10-minute walk from a park. Singapore is striving toward **sustainable transport for all**, by making it easier to walk-cycle-ride whilst limiting private vehicle usage. By the 2030s, 8 in 10 households will be within a 10-minute walk to a train station.

Conclusion

6. These are some examples of Singapore's commitment to SDG implementation and the work enshrined in the New Urban Agenda. I wish the President of the Assembly, Executive Director of UN Habitat and all esteemed delegates a successful outcome for this Assembly.

7. Thank you.