



UNITED  
NATIONS

**HSP**

**HSP/OECPR.2025/L.3**

**UN HABITAT**

**Committee of Permanent  
Representatives  
to the United Nations  
Human Settlements  
Programme**

Distr.: General

28 May 2025

Original: English

---

**Committee of Permanent Representatives to the  
United Nations Human Settlements Programme  
Third Open-ended meeting/High-level midterm review  
Nairobi, 26-28 May 2025**

**Proceedings of the third 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 (CPR) to UN-Habitat held its third open-ended meeting from 26-28 May 2025. The purpose of the meeting was two-fold – to hold a high-level mid-term review and to prepare for the resumed session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, to be held on 29 and 30 May 2025. Over xx participants took part in the meeting, which was held in person at the UN-Habitat headquarters in Gigiri, Nairobi, including the President of the United Nations Habitat Assembly. Xx countries were represented, including through xx Ambassadors. xx civil society participants also attended the meeting, in person and online.
2. This summary of the Chair captures the discussions held during the third Open-Ended CPR (OECPR) meeting. It complements the formal report of meeting which is contained in document HSP/OECPR.2025/x and the outcomes of the meeting as contained in document HSP/OECPR.2025/y.

**II. Agenda item 1 - Opening of the meeting**

3. At its first plenary meeting on Monday 26 May 2025, the Chair of the CPR, Mr. Ibrar Hussain Khan, High Commissioner of Pakistan and Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat, called the third OECPR meeting to order and welcomed participants and delegates. He then gave the floor to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat for her opening statement.
4. The Executive Director began by thanking Member States for their continued support and reaffirming UN-Habitat's commitment to inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities and human settlements for all. She highlighted the progress achieved under the current Strategic Plan and introduced the proposed Strategic Plan 2026–2029, which places a central focus on addressing the global housing crisis. She emphasized the urgent need to accelerate progress on SDG 11 and also underscored the critical role UN-Habitat plays in supporting recovery in cities affected by conflict, particularly where displaced populations are concentrated.

5. The ED also stressed the importance of early and predictable core contributions to ensure operational sustainability of the organisation, thanking Member States for their financial support and welcoming new and returning donors. She outlined the agency's approach to align with the broader UN80 initiative, aimed at increasing efficiency and responsiveness of the UN system as a whole. Additionally, she referred to UN-Habitat's ongoing work in over 100 countries, including on climate action, housing, and local governance initiatives. She concluded by inviting all Member States to actively support the new Strategic Plan and the preparations for the upcoming World Urban Forum 13 in Baku, calling for collective action to realize a better urban future.
6. The Chair of the CPR briefed participants on the work conducted by the Bureau of the CPR in preparation for the meeting and shared with participants the organization of work for the three-day meeting. A request was made to allow one minute of tolerance for those going beyond the stipulated 3 minutes. There being no objection from Member States, the agenda ([HSP/OECPR.2025/1](#)) and the workplan for the third open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives were adopted.
7. Following the adoption of the report, statements were made by the chairs of the regional and political groups, thanking the Executive Director for the work carried out by UN-Habitat and conveying their appreciation to Pakistan for effectively leading the CPR for four years. Delegations reaffirmed their willingness and commitment to engage constructively to finalize outstanding issues on the draft strategic plan 2026-2029 and facilitate its adoption during resumed second session of the Habitat Assembly (UNHA2.2).
8. Several delegations expressed concern over the uneven levels of implementation of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly and the identified funding gap of 54%, and encouraged UN-Habitat to prioritize resource mobilization to ensure full and balanced implementation of all resolutions.
9. Delegations also highlighted the importance of climate actions and sustainability, and reiterated their support on issues/matters related to diversity, gender equality, and empowering women and girls. At the same time, delegations encouraged the use of agreed language in the documents under discussion at the third session of the OECPR.

### **III. Agenda item 2 – Adoption of the report of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on the work of its second open-ended meeting**

10. The Chair presented the report of the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives ref (HSP/OECPR.2023/2), held from 29 to 31 May and on 2 June 2023, as cleared by the Rapporteur.
11. Five delegations requested an adjustment of paragraph 9 of the report to include them in the list of participants of the second open-ended meeting of the CPR.
12. One delegation requested that the report indicate that they had introduced, on behalf of the Africa Group, the draft resolution on urban planning and sustainable infrastructure.
13. The Committee of Permanent Representatives then adopted the report of the second open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (HSP/OECPR.2023/2), as orally amended.

#### **IV. Agenda item 3 - Progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, including a briefing on the preparation of the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda**

##### **a. Presentation by UN-Habitat**

14. Following a brief introduction by the Executive Director, the Secretariat made a presentation on this Agenda item. The presentation outlined the New Urban Agenda (NUA) reporting process, referencing the Secretary-General's quadrennial reports submitted in 2018 and 2022, and noting that the next report is due in 2026. This year marks a key milestone as both the tenth anniversary and midpoint of the NUA's implementation, making the 2026 report a crucial mid-term review. The Secretariat emphasized that the quadrennial report depends on national progress reports and noted the low submission rate in 2022. To improve this, several measures have been introduced by UN-Habitat, including more flexible reporting guidelines, webinars, e-learning tools, an updated NUA platform, and the use of national and regional urban forums to support reporting. Member States are expected to submit their reports by 1 August 2025, with a draft of the quadrennial report to be submitted to the Secretary-General by December 2025.
15. The Secretariat also noted that WUF13 will serve as a key preparatory milestone ahead of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the New Urban Agenda in July 2026.

##### **b. Discussions**

16. Several Member States reaffirmed their strong commitment to the New Urban Agenda and its reporting mechanisms, noting their previous submissions of national progress reports and pledging to submit updated reports in 2026. Delegations underscored the significance of 2026 as a pivotal year for renewed accountability and accelerated action towards NUA implementation. While acknowledging progress made in advancing safe, resilient, and sustainable cities, Member States recognized the importance of substantial efforts towards reporting and noted with concern the persistently low submission rates of national progress reports across regions. To address this, some delegations proposed the introduction of incentive mechanisms, including greater visibility, formal recognition, and enhanced technical and capacity-building support. Appreciation was however expressed for the revised reporting guidelines, which have facilitated the reporting process and should enable increased submission of national progress reports.
17. Member States highlighted the critical need for strengthened capacity-building initiatives delivered by UN-Habitat to support more comprehensive and timely reporting on the NUA. They called for improved urban data systems and reinforced multilevel governance frameworks, emphasizing the critical role of local authorities in advancing the NUA. The importance of inclusivity, particularly of young people, was also stressed, as well as the need to create platforms and mechanisms that enable meaningful participation and ensure that the voices of marginalized communities are heard and valued. Delegations also called for expanding the range of languages available for training sessions to better support localized implementation of the NUA. Recognizing the critical role of timely and disaggregated data, Member States expressed appreciation for UN-Habitat's ongoing efforts to enhance monitoring capacity through targeted training tools and peer-to-peer exchanges.
18. Furthermore, Member States commended the alignment of the Strategic Plan 2026-2029, particularly its means of implementation, with the NUA for its coherence and operational effectiveness. Member states welcomed the ongoing enhancements to the NUA platform, recognizing it as a crucial instrument for fostering participation, knowledge exchange, and awareness-raising. UN-Habitat's continued support for regional platforms was acknowledged, such as Malaysia's establishment of the Asia Pacific Urban Agenda platform. The Executive Director acknowledged capacity and resource challenges in implementing and reporting on the NUA, linking them to key means of implementation in the Strategic Plan. The ED also emphasized the potential of the reporting process to drive country-level engagement and mobilize support and called for partners to expand language accessibility in training.

##### **c. Conclusion**

19. Guided by the Chair, the Committee of Permanent Representatives adopted the reports of the Executive Director on progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, including a briefing on the preparation of the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. (HSP/OECPR.2025/2).

## **VI. Agenda item 4 - Report of the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum and preparations for the thirteenth session of the Forum**

### **a. Presentation by UN-Habitat**

20. At its second plenary meeting, on the afternoon of Monday, 26 May 2025, the Committee of Permanent Representatives considered agenda item 4 with the report HSP/OECPR.2025/3 serving as a background document.
21. Following an introduction by the Executive Director, noting that the WUF has become a powerful global urban coalition, the Secretariat shared the details of participation and impact of the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12). This session of the World Urban Forum was the largest forum ever in number of participants, achieved gender parity, had highest level of representation from Africa, and included a record number of media participants. Three outcome documents have been prepared, viz. the WUF12 report, WUF12 Perspectives and Cairo Call to Action, and shall be disseminated and mainstreamed through the global roadmap towards the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF13).
22. The Secretariat informed the Committee that the theme of WUF13 is “*Housing the World: safe and resilient cities and communities.*” This theme has been co-developed with the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and is well-aligned with the strategic focus of the Strategic Plan 2026-2029. A roadmap to Baku has been developed, and the National Coordinator appointed. The thirteenth session will not only mark the mid-point of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, but also 10 years since Habitat III (Quito, 2016), 30 years since Habitat II (Istanbul 1996), and 50 years since Habitat I (Vancouver, 1976). In maximizing WUF impact for stakeholders, WUF13 shall be practice-led, integrating digital innovation and strengthening the global advocacy ecosystem for sustainable urbanisation.

### **b. Discussion**

23. Member States congratulated the Republic of Egypt and UN-Habitat for a successful twelfth session of the World Urban Forum and emphasized the importance of WUF as a key platform for the promotion and advancement of sustainable urbanization. WUF12 offered a unique opportunity to reaffirm commitment towards adequate, safe and affordable housing and to promote inclusive, just, sustainable and resilient cities. Member States commended the WUF12 theme and emphasized the importance of local action, reiterating that urban transformation begins from the local level. WUF12 was a milestone to further strengthen the connection between multilateral commitments and local action. Member states noted that the Cairo Call to Action is a powerful declaration to drive action on housing, inclusion, sustainability, and to empower local actors in global decision-making.
24. Regarding WUF13 preparations, several Member States commended the link between WUF13 theme, stakeholder perspectives, and the strategic focus of the Strategic Plan 2026-2029. However, the importance of a transparent and consultative process to define the theme and focus of WUF, engaging all member states, was also emphasized. Member States welcomed the introduction of a practice track to elevate knowledge sharing and enable effective incubation for transformative action.
25. In response to the comments and questions from Member States, the Secretariat further updated the Committee on the status of preparations towards WUF13, including the drafting of WUF13 background paper. The Secretariat also highlighted the Global Stakeholder Forum, held the week before the Second Resumed Session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, as a key milestone in the process of preparation of WUF13. It also emphasized that intergovernmental engagement will remain central to both the consultation process and the Forum itself.

26. Delegations welcomed the Republic of Azerbaijan as the next host of WUF. Azerbaijan, in turn, committed to enhance the visibility and impact of WUF, particularly as WUF13 marks the tenth anniversary of the New Urban Agenda, a milestone that will serve as an essential moment of reflection and renewed commitment.

**c. Conclusion**

27. Guided by the Chair, the Committee of Permanent Representatives took note of the Executive Director's report on the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum, held in Cairo, Egypt, in November 2024, and the update on preparations for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum, to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan, in May 2026.

**V. Agenda item 5 - Progress in the implementation of the decisions and resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly at its adjourned second session**

**a. Presentation by UN-Habitat**

28. Under Agenda Item 5, the report HSP/OECP.2025.4, accompanied by a presentation from UN-Habitat, provided updates on the implementation of UNHA resolutions. It also outlined the alignment of the 2026-2029 Strategic Plan with UNHA resolutions to support an efficient delivery of UN-Habitat's mandate. The presentation showcased examples of progress across multiple resolutions, despite varying levels of implementation depending on available funding. To address funding and implementation disparities, and pursuant to resolution 2/10, UN-Habitat created the Urban Action Funding Window - enabling unspent project balances to be transferred to underfunded resolutions. The UN-Habitat online resolution tracker was also introduced for improved access to programmatic and financial updates. However, it was noted that the Urban Action Funding Window remains unused and empty to date.

**b. Discussion**

29. Following the presentation, Member States commended the Executive Director and UN-Habitat for their efforts in driving resolution implementation forward through the 2026-2029 Strategic Plan. They welcomed UN-Habitat's efforts in enhancing resolution reporting and noted positive implementation progress across multiple resolutions, including 2/6 on the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, 2/4 on biodiverse and resilient cities, 2/8 on urban and territorial planning and 2/1 on the creation of the international guidelines for smart cities.
30. While expressing gratitude to key donors and contributors for their support to advancing UN-Habitat's resolutions, Member States emphasized the need for strengthened resource mobilization to address the current funding gap and ensure balanced and equitable resolution implementation. Recognizing the challenges pertaining to the current global funding environment, Member States called for increased efforts and partnerships, seeking long-term, diversified and innovative solutions. Further, they advocated for the 2026-2029 Strategic Plan to adopt a more equitable and targeted approach to resolution funding and implementation, addressing regional priorities.
31. In response to the comments and questions, the Secretariat provided important clarifications related to innovative approaches and mechanisms that exist within UN-Habitat in relation to resource mobilization. Questions related to the funding window were also addressed.

**c. Conclusion**

32. Guided by the Chair, the Committee of Permanent Representatives, took note of the report and update of the Executive Director on progress in the implementation of the decisions and resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly at its resumed second session (HSP/OECPR.2025/xx).

## **VI. Agenda item 6 - Strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme**

### **a. Presentation on the Implementation of the Strategic Plan 2020-2025, including its mid-term review**

33. UN-Habitat presented an overview of the results achieved during the implementation of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2020–2025. The Strategic Plan has proven to be a robust and resilient roadmap supporting the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. The secretariat noted the implementation period has seen deepening urban challenges, including an intensifying global housing crisis and growing inequalities. During this period, UN-Habitat has navigated fiscal austerity while remaining steadfast in its support for Member States, cities and communities facing interconnected crises, and has worked alongside national and local governments improving the planning, design and management of cities to tackle persistent challenges, through sustainable urban development, highlighting innovative policies and planning frameworks. Among the most significant progress, witnessed during the period included UN Habitat contributed to improving the living condition of 17.6 million urban dwellers, over 3.9 million people in informal settlements gained access to urban basic services and almost half million (466,000) households had their secured tenure rights to land. The secretariat noted that evaluations such as the OIOS mid-term review and the MOPAN assessment have validated our impact and offered valuable lessons which will be applied in the new planning cycle.

### **b. Presentation on the status of preparation of the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029 by the Executive Board**

34. The Secretariat outlined the development of the new Strategic Plan within the context of a global housing crisis characterized by inadequate access to housing, widespread informal settlements, affordability challenges, and homelessness. It highlighted the urgency of the situation as many people lose their homes due to crises and structural issues. Adequate housing, including secure shelter and access to basic services, was emphasized as fundamental to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and central to the built environment and future urban development.
35. The Secretariat noted that the Strategic Plan's development has been incremental and consultative, building on the current Strategic plan and aligned with the New Urban Agenda, the SDGs, and UN-Habitat Assembly resolutions. UN-Habitat aims to place housing, land, and basic services, and the transformation of informal settlements and slums at the core of its work to maximize its added value within the UN system. The presentation outlined the three impact areas and the five means of implementation that are part of the draft strategic plan, and three key goals to ensure horizontal and vertical coherence and strengthen collaboration with other UN entities. To support effective implementation, UN-Habitat will establish key performance indicators and cascade efforts. The Secretariat underscored the critical need to adopt the Strategic Plan to continue activities and be able to develop a workplan and budget, in addition to communication and resource mobilization strategies.

### **c. Discussions**

36. Member states welcomed the presented report and recognized the progress made in the implementation of the strategic Plan 2020-2025.
37. Member States expressed broad support for the draft Strategic Plan (2026-2029), recognizing the consultative process underpinning its development and its alignment with key global frameworks including the New Urban Agenda (NUA), Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as UN-Habitat Assembly resolutions. There was strong consensus on the strategic focus on adequate housing, land, basic services, and the transformation of informal settlements and slums. Member States welcomed the plan as a framework adaptable to different national contexts and encouraged the development of regional and national implementation plans. While some delegations expressed reservations on specific elements, the overall support for its adoption was strong, with multiple calls to overcome differences to ensure its timely endorsement. Member States affirmed their readiness to adopt the strategic plan and to continue working collaboratively with UN-Habitat to ensure its successful implementation.

38. Many delegations emphasized the importance of maintaining consistency with agreed language in multilateral frameworks, highlighting that a human rights-based approach, gender equality, and the need to address marginalized groups are essential to this Plan.
39. Several delegations stressed the importance of predictable and sustainable funding, cautioning against over-reliance on earmarked contributions to preserve programmatic autonomy. Delegations reiterated their support for the three interconnected impact areas of the Strategic Plan, underscoring the need to maintain prioritization of climate change and the importance of recovery support in conflict-affected areas. Housing was repeatedly highlighted as a human right and a catalyst for economic development, innovation, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability. Delegations also commended the five means of implementation, especially the emphasis on multilevel, inclusive, and transparent governance, SDG localization, financing mechanisms, and partnerships. The critical needs for capacity development and reliable disaggregated urban data were also underlined as essential for effective monitoring and implementation.
40. A representative of the Global Stakeholder Forum, on behalf of over 500 stakeholders, expressed strong support for the Strategic Plan 2026–2029, emphasizing that housing is a human right, land must serve people, and basic services must reach all. They called for action on the housing crises, for transformative, inclusive approaches grounded in local realities and responsive to gender, age, and diversity. Stressing the urgency of addressing climate change, protecting the commons, and preventing forced evictions, they advocated for a diversity of housing solutions. The statement underscored the importance of meaningful ongoing stakeholder participation that actively shape policies, drive implementation, and hold systems accountable. The representative also called for ambitious stakeholder engagement policy and robust monitoring mechanisms at all levels of government.

#### **d. Conclusions**

41. Guided by the Chair, the Committee of Permanent Representatives took note of the briefing by the Executive Director on Strategic Plan for the period 2026–2029 and took note of the report of the Executive Director on the draft strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the period 2026–2029 (HSP/HA.2/13)

## **IX. Agenda item 7 - Review of the status of preparations for the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly**

### **a. Presentation by UN-Habitat**

42. The Deputy Executive Director gave a presentation/ briefing on the status of preparations for the resumed second session of the Assembly, focused on completing unfinished business from the second session. He confirmed that the Notification by the Executive Director on the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly (which included the provisional agenda), was made available to all member states on 17 April 2025, in all UN languages, six weeks prior to the session in accordance with the rules of procedure.
43. The Deputy Executive Director discussed the key agenda items that would be the focus of the resumed second session, namely, the consideration and approval of the UN-Habitat strategic plan for 2026-2029, the international guidelines for people centered smart cities (in line with resolution 2/1) and the dates and agenda of the third session of the UN-Habitat Assembly. He reiterated that the outcomes had been developed with the expectation that they would be adopted at the upcoming resumed second session.
44. The Deputy Executive Director also provided a brief update on the various elections taking place during the session for various UN-Habitat governing bodies (Executive Board members- 2025-2029, Bureau of the Executive Board-2025-2026 and Bureau of the Habitat Assembly-2025-2029).
45. Finally, the Deputy Executive Director provided a brief on the status of registration for the resumed session and closed by appreciating Member States for their continued support and guidance through the various bureaus of the governing bodies and looked forward to a successful resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

## **b. Discussions**

46. As the host nation, Kenya made a brief statement extending a warm welcome to all delegates attending the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in Nairobi. The host country encouraged participants to experience its renowned hospitality and explore its diverse tourist attractions sharing details of the Kenya tourism website.

## **c. Conclusion**

47. Guided by the Chair, the Committee of Permanent Representatives took note of the briefing by the Secretariat/ DED on the status of preparations for the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly (HSP/OECPR.2025/INF/2).

## **X. Agenda Item 8 – Preparation of draft outcomes of the resumed second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, including the dates and provisional agenda of the third session**

[To be inserted when the discussion concludes]

## **IX. Agenda item 9 – Election of officers of the Bureau**

[To be inserted when the discussion concludes]

## **X. Agenda item 10 - Consideration of the Chair’s draft summary of the third open ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives**

[To be inserted when the discussion concludes. Summarise remarks by the chair and briefly describe any discussion on the procedural report or the Chair’s Summary, or any concerns about its adoption]

## **XI. Agenda item 11 – Other matters**

### **a. Interventions by Member States**

\*\*\*\*

### **b. Statements by stakeholders**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **XII. Agenda item 12 – Closure of the session**

[To be inserted when the discussion concludes]





## **Summary of Special Events held in the margins of the third Open-Ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives**

### **1. UN-Habitat Briefing on the implementation of paragraph 55 (e) of the Pact for the Future**

#### **a. Introduction**

[One paragraph summarizing concept/ objectives of the session]

#### **b. Open Discussions**

[Summarise discussions in 2-3 paragraphs, without attribution]

#### **c. Conclusions:**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **2. Special Event on How to uphold the principles and actions of the People-Centred Smart Cities Guidelines**

#### **a. Introduction to the Special event**

[One paragraph summarizing concept/ objectives of the session]

#### **b. Panel Discussion**

List moderator and panelist names. Summarise main issues raised in panel discussion, rather than individual panelist interventions.

#### **c. Open Discussions**

[Summarise discussions in 2-3 paragraphs, without attribution]

### **3. Special Event and Reception: Multilevel Governance for SDG Localization**

#### **a. Introduction to the Special event**

[One paragraph summarizing concept/ objectives of the session]

#### **b. Presentation**

#### **c. Discussions**

[Summarise discussions in 2-3 paragraphs, without attribution]