



United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Meeting of the Joint Bureaux of the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat

Wednesday, 21 May 2025, 16:30 – 18:00 East African Time (EAT)

Hybrid Meeting – UN-Habitat OED Boardroom

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting

1. Hon. Enrique Ochoa, Vice Minister of Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico, on behalf of Honourable Edna Elena Vega Rangel, Secretary of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development of United Mexican States and President of the UN-Habitat Assembly, opened the meeting at 16:30 EAT.

The following United Nations Habitat Assembly Bureau members were present:

- Hon. Enrique Ochoa, Vice Minister of Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico
- H.E. Mr. Peter Maddens, Ambassador of Belgium and Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat
- H.E. Mr. Pedro Leon Cortes Ruiz, Ambassador of the Republic of Colombia and Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat
- H.E. Mr. Damphey Bediako Asare, High Commissioner of Ghana and Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat
- H.E. Mr. Ibrar Hussain Khan, High Commissioner of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat
- Ms. Machteld Cattrysse, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Belgium
- Ms. Angelica Gutierrez Galvis, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Colombia to UN-Habitat
- Mr. Martin Row, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to UN-Habitat
- Ms. Astrid Padilla, Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico to UN-Habitat
- Mr. Adnan J. Khan, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to UN-Habitat
- Ms. Eliet Magogo, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to UN-Habitat (Online)
- Mr. Oleksandr Demianiuk, Deputy Permanent Representative of Ukraine (Online)
- Ms. Zhao Wenhua, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to UN-Habitat
- Mr. Mateusz Szymański, Third Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Poland to UN-Habitat
- Mr. António Miguel, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Portugal to UN-Habitat, Chair of the ad hoc working group on the development of a stakeholder engagement policy (observer)

The following members of the Executive Board were present:

- Mr. Clément Payeur, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of France to UN-Habitat
- H.E. Mr. Silvio Albuquerque, Ambassador of Brazil and Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat
- Mr. Ronney Almeida e Silva Filho, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil to UN-Habitat
- Ms. Zhao Wenhua, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to UN-Habitat

- Mr. Amadi-Ikpe Chibudhom Roosevelt, Acting Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to UN-Habitat

The following UN-Habitat secretariat members were present:

- Ms. Anaclaudia Rosbach, Executive Director of UN-Habitat
 - Mr. Michal Mlynar, Deputy Executive Director of UN-Habitat
 - Mr. Rafael Tuts, Director, Global Solutions Division
 - Mr. Erfan Ali, Chief of Staff and Director (a.i.), Regional Programme Division
 - Mr. Ulf Bjornholm, Secretary to Governing Bodies
 - Ms. Edlam Yememu, Director (a.i.), External Relations, Strategy, Knowledge and Innovation Division
 - Ms. Shipra Narang Suri, Senior Policy Advisor to the Executive Director
 - Ms. Ombretta Tempa, Chief of Section, Programme Management (online)
 - Mr. Justin Bonongwe, Director (a.i.), Management Advisory and Compliance Service and Chief, Budget and Finance Unit
 - Ms. Bridget Oballa, External Relations Officer
2. The President welcomed all participants to the meeting. The Agenda was adopted without any changes and can be accessed [here](#).
 3. The Executive Director delivered her opening remarks. The presentation by the secretariat can be accessed [here](#).

Agenda item 2: Status of the draft outcomes to be considered by the OECPR and the UN-Habitat Assembly

4. H.E. Mr. Pedro Leon Cortes Ruiz, Ambassador of the Republic of Colombia and Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat reported on the status of the draft outcomes to be considered by the OECPR and the UN-Habitat Assembly. He highlighted that while some progress has been made, but that significant efforts will be needed to achieve consensus on several fronts.
5. The President of the Assembly highlighted the importance of the adoption of the strategic plan 2026-2029 and encouraged the members to continue to make every effort to bring consensus.
6. Mr. António Miguel, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Portugal to UN-Habitat, in his capacity as Chair of the ad hoc working group on the development of a stakeholder engagement policy, provided a progress update on status of the document, whereby he informed the Bureaux that four members of the Executive Board had broken the silence procedure. Mr. Miguel put forward two possible options for the next steps: 1) to simply take note of the status of lack of consensus at the Assembly, and 2) to prepare a significantly different draft proposal regarding the outstanding issue and launch a new silent procedure before it is presented to the Assembly.
7. The Members of the Joint Bureaux exchanged views on the matter and recalled that this matter rests within the Executive Board. Acknowledging the breaking of the silence procedure, the members of the Executive Board bureau decided to report to the Assembly of the absence of consensus on the stakeholder engagement policy.
8. The Joint Bureaux took note of the status of the draft outcomes to be considered by the OECPR and the UN-Habitat Assembly.

Agenda item 3: Review of the latest programme of the third OECPR and the resumed second session of the Assembly including special events

9. The secretariat presented the latest programme of the third OECPR and the resumed second session of the Assembly including special events. The programme can be accessed [here](#).
10. One member of the Bureau of Assembly suggested that the planned briefing on elections on 26 May lunch time should also cover voting on substantive matters. The secretariat confirmed that the briefing will cover voting both in elections and on substantive matters.
11. The Chair of the Executive Board delivered a statement on the preparations for the 2025 second session of the Executive Board and requested the secretariat to prepare a draft decision on the outcome of the session. The statement can be accessed [here](#).
12. The Bureau took note of the latest programme of the third OECPR and the resumed second session of the Assembly including special events, as presented by the secretariat, and of the plans for the second meeting of the Executive Board 2025, as presented by the Chair of the Executive Board.

Agenda item 4: Update on registration, high level participation, credentials and nominations towards elections

13. The secretariat provided an update on registration, high level participation, credentials and nominations towards elections.
14. The Joint Bureaux took note of the update.

Agenda item 5: Division of work among the Bureau Members during the session

15. The President noted the possible need to establish a Committee of the Whole during the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly on 29 and 30 May to seek agreement on any outstanding issue that remains from the OECPR deliberations. He proposed that H.E. Mr. Damphey Bediako Asare, High Commissioner of Ghana and Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat, Vice-President of UN-Habitat Assembly well assume the role of chair of the Committee of the Whole, who may immediately convene a plenary meeting of the Committee on Day 1 of the Assembly, to agree on an agenda and work programme, and to establish a drafting group for negotiations.
16. The President also noted that, if established, the second and final plenary meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be held at the end of the morning session of the third Assembly plenary on 30 May, to finalize the work of the Committee, and that the Chair of the Committee will report back on its work at the closing plenary of the Assembly, as a basis for the Assembly to take action on the draft decisions.
17. The Bureau agreed with proposal of the President of the Assembly for the division of labour among the Bureau Members during the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, including with regard to the nomination of Ghana as Chair of the Committee of the Whole.

Agenda item 6: Any other matters

18. No matters were raised.
19. The meeting was adjourned at 18:30 EAT.