

**Africa Diplomatic Corps Retreat**  
**Towards the Resumed session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly**  
**Theme:** Harnessing Urbanization for Africa's Sustainable Development  
**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> to 10 May 2025  
**Venue:** Mombasa, Kenya

**Synopsis Paper for the Retreat**

**Introduction**

Both developed and developing nations are experiencing an increase in urbanization, today approximately 56% of the world's population live in urban areas (Africa Urban Forum, 2024), with projections that by 2050, over 68% of the world population will be living in urban Areas (UN-Habitat, 2023). While Africa is the least urbanized region in the world, its cities are the fastest growing cities in the world; they are the youngest and they are changing fast. Their impact on its economic, social and political landscape in the coming decades is likely to be profound. It is projected that the continent's urban population will reach up to 65% of the total population by 2050, compared to 54% in 2020 (OECD,2025). Further, there is a large variation in the patterns of urbanization across the region, North Africa has a higher proportion of urban population (Approximately 60%) relative to sub-Saharan Africa (approximately 43%).

Contrary to global correlation of urbanization and socio-economic growth, Africa's urban transition does not reflect its socio-economic growth; this is despite and the entrepreneurial sector benefitting heavily from the urbanization process. Across Africa, urbanization is largely translated into rising informal settlements, with widening gaps in access to decent affordable housing, land and basic infrastructure such as clean water, adequate sanitation facility, municipal waste collection services, and transportation services. In addition to the gaps in accessing urban basic services and facilities, Africa's informal settlements are often hotspots for climatic disasters and recipient of urban migrants due to its provision of low-cost urban services and housing despite them not being decent. Informal settlement further accounts for 93% of all new jobs and 61% of urban employment in Africa (AfDB, 2013). Despite the limited capacities and urban vulnerabilities, Africa's cities outperform their rural counterparts and more importantly, the gains from urbanizations on economic performance and quality of life extend beyond cities boundaries benefiting the peri-urban areas.

**Contextual Background**

For Africa to continue to harness its urban dividends, it needs to close the gaps in its technical and institutional capacity to manage urban areas, increase and manage municipal finances, increase its investment in urban infrastructure and municipal services, reduce poverty, inequality and unemployment gaps among others. While Africa's urban management works towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and the 2063, Agenda 2063 (*The Africa We Want*) among other national, regional and international frameworks, it is critical to leverage the critical role of multilateral partnership and cooperation towards the attainment of these goals. UN-Habitat as an agency responsible for the tracking the implementation of SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda (NUA), collaborates and coordinate its activities with all partners including local authorities, private and non-governmental organization among others to fulfil its overall mandate of *making cities and human settlement inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*. To achieve its mandate, Permanent Representatives of member states to UN-Habitat, and United Nations as a whole, play a critical role of linking the agency with the National Government, collaborate and negotiate a common global understanding and mutually advocate for sustainable urban development at National and International stage.

To identify key issues, review trends and adopt decisions aimed at guiding UN-Habitat's work on sustainable urbanization, the agency convened the United Nations Human Settlement Assembly (UNHA)-the Highest decision-making body within the United Nations system on sustainable urbanization and Human settlement. The Assembly's purpose is to provide strategic guidance to UN-Habitat, adopt resolutions and declarations aimed at shaping global urbanization agenda and examine and approve UN-Habitat Strategic plan. The second session of the assembly, held in 2023 emphasized the urgent need for inclusive and effective multilateralism to achieve a sustainable urban future and concluded with the adoption of 10 Resolutions on different themes contributing to sustainable urban development and management, 5 of the resolutions were championed by the Africa Diplomatic Group. The Assembly further adopted the Ministerial Declaration that reinforced the need for increased urban Agenda. As the Second session concluded, discussions on UN-Habitat strategic plan was still ongoing, necessitating the need for a resumed session at a later date, and creating a room for more consultation and consensus building on the next phase of UN-Habitat strategic direction.

As the resumed second session of the Assembly draws close, it is critical for the Africa Diplomatic Group to convene and align their priorities towards the important session that will see the discussions on critical issues affecting how the organization can deliver its mandate at the national and city level. Main Discussion points will emanate from the resumed session discussion on adoption of UN-Habitat Strategic plan 2026-2029, discussion on the International Guidelines on smart cities among others. In this context, the Regional Office for Africa (ROAf) at UN-Habitat is supporting in convening a retreat for the African Diplomatic group to engage in strategic discussions, ensure alignment with global, regional and national urban priorities, and promote a cohesive regional position on urbanization challenges and opportunities.

The Retreat will contextualize the regions' urbanization Agenda, through discussions that emanated from previous engagements, presentations from key organizations and actors in the region, presentation on UN-Habitat strategic plan and its activities in the region and critically have a discussion on how to elevate UN-Habitat Agenda at the global, regional and National level.

### **Objectives of the Retreat**

The retreat aim to facilitate active Africa engagement in the resumed second session of UNHA and the Strategic Planning process.

Specifically, the objectives will include:

1. **Evaluating Emerging Urban Trends in Africa:** Analyze key urbanization challenges and opportunities in the region, including climate resilience, housing, and infrastructure development.
2. **Defining Regional Priorities:** Formulating a unified African position to advocate and propose actionable strategies to address urban challenges and align with global frameworks.
3. **Preparing for Regional and Global Engagements:** Ensuring Africa's urban agenda is integrated into implementation of the new strategic plan, resource mobilization initiatives, and the development of partnerships that support the region's urban development initiatives.

### **Expected Outcomes**

1. **Regional Consensus:**
  - A consolidated African position that articulates and reflects the region's priorities during regional and global discourse at the resumed session of the second UN-Habitat Assembly.
  - Clear recommendations for integrating regional priorities into global urban discussions.
2. **Enhanced Policy Alignment:**
  - Strategies for aligning Africa's urban agenda with UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan (2026-2029).

3. **Actionable Roadmap for NUA Reporting:**
  - Defined objectives and strategies to guide and mobilize African Member States toward increased national progress reporting.
4. **Strengthened Partnerships:**
  - Identified opportunities for collaboration with multilateral agencies, private sector actors, and civil society.
  - Increased support for capacity building and technical assistance

## **Structure of the Retreat**

To achieve the Africa Diplomatic Corps Retreat Objectives, the following topics is proposed for Substantive discussion.

### **1. High Level Discussion on positioning urban Agenda in Africa**

The session emanates from the background that by 2050 Africa's urban population is set to double, adding over half a billion more people to its cities. Roughly 75% of the investments needed for urban infrastructure have yet to be made. Decisions and long-term investments made now could result in urban form and consumption patterns for decades, if not centuries. The prospects of over one billion urban dwellers will depend on urban development choices made in the coming years.

The Harmonized Regional Framework for Implementing the New Urban Agenda in Africa echoed this growth of Africa's urban areas and it was used to curate the inaugural Africa Urban Forum (AUF) that was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 4-6 September 2024. The Forum was instrumental in setting the stage for a transformative approach to Africa's urbanization, paving the way for ensuring that future African cities are inclusive, resilient, and sustainable.

Key outcomes of the forum included the adoption of an African Union Declaration on Sustainable Urbanization, famously dubbed as the Addis Ababa declaration on sustainable cities, laying the foundation for future urban policies and replication at the National and city level. The declaration reinforced the urgency of tackling key urban issues such as urban poverty, climate change and inclusive governance. After the adoption of the Addis Ababa declaration, the African Union Specialized Technical Committee-8 (AU STC-8) convened in Tunisia on 18-20 December 2024 and discussed the outcomes of the Forum among other items on the agenda. The AU STC-8 adopted the outcomes of the Forum into its workplan and proposed to consider proposing an Urban focused theme for the Africa Union Commission in future. It further established a specialized Africa urban week in the Month of October to advocate for sustainable cities in the continent.

More information about the Africa Urban Forum declaration can be found [here](#).

### **Key areas of discussion**

Placing the urban agenda among the key priorities of the Continent will be the main discussion point with the following key issues framing the discussion further.

- Urbanization in a broad context in the region: What needs to be prioritized going forward?
- Implementation of the outcomes of the inaugural Africa Urban Forum
- Roadmap towards the Next Africa Urban Forum
- **Perspective;** How the African Diplomatic group can leverage its position to push the Urban Agenda in the Continent.

## **2. Outcomes of the first Executive Board Meeting of 2025**

The first Executive Board Meeting of 2025 took place in Nairobi, Kenya on 25- 27 March 2025, setting the tone for the Resumed second session of the United Nations Human settlement Assembly by setting a provisional Agenda for the assembly. The Executive Board meeting further discussed UN-Habitat financial situation, draft work programme of the agency, the agency's draft Strategic plan 2026-2029, status on the implementation of the Assembly's past resolutions and UN-Habitat activities among other item on the agenda.

More information about the Meeting can be found [here](#)

### **Key areas of Discussion**

- This session will highlight key items that emanated from discussions on the Stakeholder consultation policy of the Agency, the status of implementation of UN-Habitat Assembly resolutions including the Smart cities Guidelines.
- This session will aim to translate the decisions and discussions to the African Context.

## **3. The Third Open-ended Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly**

The Third open ended meeting of the committee of permanent representatives, convened every two years will take place from 26-28 May 2025, at the UN-Habitat Headquarters in Nairobi. The resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly will follow from 29-30 May 2025 in the same venue. The Assembly will discuss the draft strategic plan 2026-2029, the international guidelines on smart cities, elect of officials of the governing bodies, among others important topics. The resumed assembly will set the pace for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

More information about the two meetings can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

### **Key areas of Discussion**

- Updates on the preparations for the Open-ended meeting of the committee of permanent representatives and the resumed second session of UN-Habitat Assembly. This will include discussion on what to expect in terms of logistics, protocols and guideline for Member State participation.
- Identification of opportunities for positioning Africa's urban agenda within the proceedings of the meetings.
- Overview of the leadership of the Committee of permanent representatives and the UN-Habitat Assembly, and how the Africa group can leverage on its position.

#### **4. The New Urban Agenda Reporting**

The New Urban Agenda (NUA) represents a shared vision for a better and more sustainable future. It works as an accelerator of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 11– aiming to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable – to provide a comprehensive framework to guide and track urbanization around the globe.

As part of the follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda, the United Nations General Assembly requests the Secretary-General to report on the progress of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda every four years, with voluntary input from Member states and relevant regional and international organizations. The quadrennial report 2026 covering the period of 2022-2026 is a unique moment to take stock of the progress made, challenges faced, and identify next steps to fully implement the NUA, as 2026 is the midpoint milestone for the New Urban Agenda marking 10 years since its adoption, and another 10 years to 2036.

To support member state in developing their National progress reports (NPR), UN-Habitat has developed a NUA Reporting guideline that stipulates three modalities of developing the 2022-2026 National Progress reports for NUA implementation, i.e; Developing a Comprehensive Report, updating the 2022 reports or using the National Urban Forum or the National Urban Policy reports to develop the NPR.

More information about the status of New Urban Agenda Reporting can be found [here](#).

##### **Key areas of Discussion**

- Taking stock of the experiences, lesson learnt, and challenges encountered in the submission of the National Progress Report.
- Key aspects to consider when developing the National Progress Reports.
- Identify key support areas that the Africa diplomatic group can leverage to advance the NUA reporting in the region.

#### **5. Sustaining UN-Habitat Presence in the Region**

UN-Habitat supports Member states and other urban stakeholders in implementing programmes and initiatives that aim to contribute to its mandate and the priorities of the region and host country. The agency supports its activities in the continent through the Regional Office for Africa (ROAf) and the Regional Office for Arab States (ROAS). ROAf is based in Nairobi, Kenya and covers the sub-Saharan African countries while ROAS is based in Cairo, Egypt and covers the North African countries. Further to this, to manage it's continent activities, the regional offices is implementing it's "regional architecture plan" that aim to decentralize it's operation to specific sub regional hubs, this will improve efficiency in programme implementation and support to the member states request.

##### **Key areas of Discussion**

- Current Urban trends in the region.
- An overview of UN-Habitat programmatic activities in the region, under the themes of Housing and Basic services, Climate change and urban crisis and recovery
- Discussion on how UN-Habitat delivers its mandate in the region; its structure and collaborative frameworks

- Discussion on how Member States can support UN-Habitat activities at the regional and National level.

## 6. Opportunities for urbanization as an instrument for sustainable development

Urbanization is an instrument for achieving sustainable development, only if it is well planned and managed. Investment in housing, basic services and other urban infrastructure coupled with good governance and strengthened institutional and technical capacity can spur economic growth, lead to the reduction of urban informal settlements in the region, increased livelihood opportunities, reduced severity in climate disasters, and reduced inequalities. The sessions will benefit from the experience of the African Development Bank (AfDB) in supporting urban and infrastructures investments in Africa.

### Key areas of Discussion

- Africa's Urbanization dynamics; evolving landscape and the implications for sustainable urban development and finance.
- AfDB Business Model: The role of Africa Development Bank in urban development and the provision of urban infrastructure in Africa.
- Examples of AfDB work in Africa: Own Source revenue and Municipal finance reforms in Côte d'Ivoire.
- **Perspective:** Areas of prioritization and partnership to advance the Urban Agenda in Africa.

## 7. UN-Habitat strategic Plan 2026-2029

UN-Habitat's draft strategic plan 2026-2029 will provide a pathway for accelerating progress towards the attainment of sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 11, that responds to development of cities and human settlements. The draft strategy has been developed on the backdrop of lessons learned from the implementation of previous strategies articulated by MOPAN and OIOS evaluation report, UN-Habitat expertise, and continuous consultation with Member States, and other key stakeholders in the Urban and Human settlement sector. The process established the fundamental global housing crisis, affecting over 2.8 Billion people worldwide, exacerbating the prevalence of poverty and widening inequality, especially in the continent, with climate change and humanitarian crisis adding to the main challenges to be addressed.

The draft strategic plan thus envisioned that for cities and human settlements to evolve into sustainable, equitable, and resilient spaces and communities that leave no one behind, addressing global challenges related to poverty and inequalities, climate change and humanitarian crisis is essential. It further recommends the agency to focus its interventions towards increasing **access to adequate housing, land and basic services for all, including the transformation of informal settlements and slums**. The focus on Housing, land and basic services will position UN-Habitat at a strategic position to address Member state challenges, offer guidance and expertise towards making cities sustainable and finally harness its expertise with a clear focus. To do this, the draft strategic plan proposed 5 key implementation areas with their accompanying outcomes, as detailed in the table below.

<b><i>Implementation area</i></b>	<b><i>Outcome</i></b>
<i>Integrated Urban Planning, Management and Finance.</i>	Spatial development plans, policies and legislation, planning systems and finance frameworks foster the social and ecological functions of land and catalyse public and private investments for access to adequate housing, land and basic services for all

<i>Participatory Multi-level Governance and Localization of the SDGs</i>	Participatory multilevel governance mechanisms support access to adequate housing, land and basic services for all and the mainstreaming and achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and accelerate the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals
<i>Knowledge, data, digitalization, and capacity development</i>	Improved knowledge and capacities inform evidence-based, innovative policies on access to adequate housing, land and basic services for all
<i>Partnerships, coalitions, advocacy and communication</i>	Increased awareness and transparency and strengthened collaboration among relevant stakeholders promote access to adequate housing, land and basic services for all
<i>Effective Resource Mobilization</i>	Increased and predictable resources for UN-Habitat and its partners advance access to adequate housing, land and basic services for all

More information about the draft strategic plan 2026-2029 can be found [here](#), and presentation on the strategic plan can be found [here](#)

At the regional level, the agency intends to implement the strategic plan 2026-2029, through the regional implementation plans that align to Regional and National priorities and leverage on UN-Habitat expertise and experience in the region. The regional implementation plan will articulate areas of prioritization of the agency in Africa.

More information about the draft regional implementation plan can be found [here](#)

## Key Areas of Discussion

- Discuss the component of UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2026-2029
- Discuss the component of the regional implementation plan
- Feedback from member state and their national and regional priorities
- Building a common understanding and position around the Strategic Plan 2026-2029 and Member state support towards its implementation.

## 8. World Urban Forum

The World Urban Forum (WUF) is an international platform that offers Urban actors an opportunity to exchange knowledge, forge meaningful partnerships and shape both National and Regional policies on sustainable urbanization. The forum was first convened in 2002, in Nairobi Kenya and has since operated as a non-legislative, open, inclusive and a high-level stakeholder engagement platform for the global audience. After more than 20 years it was reconvened again in Africa in 2024, in it's twelfth session and hosted by the Government of Egypt in Cairo. It attracted over 25,000 in-person participants and more than 700 sessions were held under the theme of *It all starts at home: Local Action for Sustainable Cities and communities*. At the 12<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum, Africa was represented by 29 high level participants and further hosted more than 100 events to showcase African experiences as it undergoes the urban transition. The 12<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum laid the ground for the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the event to be hosted in Azerbaijan, in May 2026.

## Key Areas of Discussion

- Reflections on the outcomes of the 12<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum and the next steps
- An overview on what to expect at the 13<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum
- Opportunities that the Africa Member state can leverage at the 13<sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum.

**Conclusion**

The Africa Diplomatic Corps Retreat will provide an opportunity to shape Africa's urban future through strategic dialogue, collaboration, and resource mobilization. By aligning regional priorities with global urban frameworks, the retreat will ensure African cities are positioned as engines of sustainable growth and resilience, contributing to the achievement of the SDGs, Agenda 2063, and the NUA.

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## Annex: Provisional Programme

**Africa Diplomatic Corps Retreat**  
**Towards the Resumed session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly**  
**Theme:** Harnessing Urbanization for Africa's Sustainable Development  
**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> to 10 May 2025  
**Venue:** Mombasa, Kenya

### Objectives of the Retreat:

The retreat aims to facilitate active African engagement in the resumed second session of UNHA and the Strategic Planning process. Specifically, the objectives will include:

1. **Evaluating Emerging Urban Trends in Africa:** Analyze key urbanization challenges and opportunities in the region, including climate resilience, housing, and infrastructure development.
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### **Provisional Programme**

Time	Activities	Moderators/Speaker/Presenters
Travel Day: 07-05-2025		
	Travel To Mombasa	Secretariat
19:00 Hrs	Informal Dinner	
DAY 1: 08-05-2025		
Contextualizing Urbanization in Africa		
09:00- 09:10 Hrs	Introduction and overview of the Retreat	<b>Speaker:</b> Mr. Oumar Sylla, Director Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat
09:10-09:40 Hrs	Official Opening of the Retreat	<b>Speakers:</b> Ms. Anacláudia Rossbach, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UN-Habitat (Virtually)  H.E Amb Beyene Russom, Permanent Representative of the state of Eritrea to UN-Habitat and Dean of African Diplomatic Corps.  H.E Judith Nabakooba, Minister of Land, housing and urban development, Uganda and Chair AU STC-8  H.E. Jeronimo Chivavi, Permanent Representative of the republic of

		Mozambique to UN-Habitat and Chair of the Africa Diplomatic Group
09:40-10:40 Hrs	High Level Discussion on positioning urban Agenda in Africa	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Presenters:</b> H.E Judith Nabakooba, Minister of Land, housing and urban development, Uganda and Chair AU STC-8  Ms. Martha Mugarura, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, Uganda.
	Q &A	
10:40- 11:00 Hrs	Photo Session and Break	
11:00-12:00 Hrs	Discussions on the outcomes of UN-Habitat First Executive Board Meetings of 2025	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Presenters:</b> H.E. Jeronimo Chivavi, Permanent Representative of the republic of Mozambique to UN-Habitat and Chair of the Africa Diplomatic Group
12:00-13:00 Hrs	Preparations towards 3rd CPR and the Resumed UNHA 2.2 in May 2025	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Presenters:</b> Mr. Ulf Bjornholm, Secretary to the Governing Council, UN-Habitat
	Q &A	
13:00-14:00 Hrs	Lunch Break	
14:00-15:00 Hrs	Mobilizing African Member State towards the New Urban Agenda Reporting at the National Level.	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Presenters:</b> Dr Edlam Yemeru, Director (a.i) External Relations, Strategy, knowledge and Innovation, UN-Habitat  <b>Intervention: H.E. Ms. Siham Mourabit, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to UN-Habitat. (tbc)</b>
	Q &A	
15:00-15:15 Hrs	Tea break	

15:15-16:15	Sustaining UN-Habitat Presence in Africa. Discussions on UN-Habitat Activities in the region and emerging issues.	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Presenters:</b> Mr. Oumar Sylla, Director, Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat  Ms Rania Hedaya, Director, Regional Office for Arab State, UN-Habitat
	Q &A	
16:15-16:45 Hrs	Opportunities for leveraging Urbanization as an instrument for Sustainable development in Africa	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Presenters:</b> Mr. Babati Mokgethi, Senior Urban Development Officer (East Africa), African Development Bank (AfDB)  Mr. Cheikhou Balde, Principal Urban Development Officer (West Africa), African Development Bank (AfDB)
	Q &A	
17:00-17:30 Hrs	Break	
17:30-19:30 Hrs	Africa Diplomatic Group Close Door Meeting	
End of Day 1		
DAY 2: 09-05-2024		
Aligning Priorities and Strategies		
09:00-09:30 Hrs	Africa Diplomatic Group Close Door Meeting	
09:30-10:00 Hrs	UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2026-2029	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Presenters:</b> Dr Edlam Yemeru, Director (a.i) External Relations, Strategy, knowledge and Innovation, UN-Habitat  Ms. Anacláudia Rossbach, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UN-Habitat (Virtually)
10:00-10:40 Hrs	Regional Implementation of the Strategic Plan-ROAF (20 Min Each)	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Presenters:</b> Mr Oumar Sylla, Director, Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat  Ms Rania Hedaya, Director, Regional Office for Arab State, UN-Habitat

10:40-11:10 Hrs	Discussion, and Q & A on the strategic plan presentations	<b>Speaker</b> All  <b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat
11:10- 11:30 Hrs	Coffee Break	
11:30- 12:30 Hrs	Working Group session: - Feedback session from Member State on the Strategic Plan and Regional Implementation plans.	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Speakers:</b> Permanent Representative Present
12:30-13:30	Presentation of the Working Group session sub–Regional Groups.	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Speakers:</b> Permanent Representative Present
13:30-14:30 Hrs	Lunch	
14:30-15:30	Discussion on International Guidelines on Smart cities and its relevance to Africa.	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Presenters:</b> Dr Edlam Yemeru, Director (a.i) External Relations, Strategy, knowledge and Innovation, UN-Habitat
15:30-16:00 Hrs	The Road to the 13 <sup>th</sup> World Urban Forum	<b>Moderator:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat  <b>Framing: Edlam, UNH</b>  <b>Speaker:</b> H.E Amb Wael Nasreldin Attiya, Ambassador of Egypt to Kenya and Permanent Representative of Egypt to UN-Habitat. (tbc)  Hon. Sultan Hajiyeve, Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UN-Habitat
	Q &A	
16:00-16:10	Break	
16:10-17:00Hrs	Africa Diplomatic Group Close Door Meeting	
17:00- 17:10 Hrs	Summary of the Outcome of the ADC Retreat	<b>Speaker:</b> Martin Barugahare, Chief, Evaluation unit at UN-Habitat
17:00-17:30 Hrs	Closing Remarks	<b>Moderator:</b> Mr. Oumar Sylla, Director Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat

		<b>Speakers:</b> H.E Amb Beyene Russom, Permanent Representative of the state of Eritrea to UN-Habitat and Dean of African Diplomatic Corps  Ms. Anacláudia Rossbach, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UN-Habitat (Virtually)
19:00 Hrs	Cocktail offered by the Embassy of Azerbaijan to Kenya.	
End of Day 2		
Travel Day: 10 - 05 - 2025		
	Travel Back to Nairobi	

## **Annex 2: Guiding Terms of Reference for the feedback session on the draft strategic plan 2026-2029**

### **Working Group session:**

#### **Feedback session from Member State on the Strategic Plan and Regional Implementation plans**

### **Guiding Terms of Reference**

#### **Scope of the Work**

At the Africa Diplomatic Corps retreat, held on 07-10 May 2025, the draft Strategic plan of UN-Habitat will be discussed along with its regional implementation plan. This will give members present a general background of UN-Habitat focus and workplan for the year 2026-2029, more importantly in Africa.

After the two important discussions on the strategic plan, the members of the diplomatic group will engage in a working group discussion, grouped based on the regional architecture i.e Northern Africa Sub regional group, Western Africa sub regional group, Central Africa sub regional group, East and Horn of Africa sub regional group and Southern Africa sub regional group.

The group discussion will aim to come up with the following outputs.

1. Priority areas for each sub region within the draft Strategic Plan 2026-2029 focus areas.
2. Key opportunity for each sub region on how to finance the draft Strategic Plan 2026-2029 in their respective regions.

The represented Member state will be required to choose a chair and a note taker from the group who will tabulate the sub regional agreed priorities and opportunities for the implementation of the strategic plan 2026-2029. Thereafter, the outputs will be presented to the entire group for further discussion.

**Below annexed is the template for submission of the agreed outputs.**

### Template for submission of the agreed outputs

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