

Call to Action on Adequate and Affordable Housing Adopted at the Inaugural High-Level Roundtable of Global Champions on Adequate and Affordable Housing

80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, September 24, 2025

Preamble

1. At the invitation of H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya, Heads of State and Government from Botswana and Ghana together with Ministers and senior representatives from Azerbaijan, Kingdom of Bahrain, Barbados, Brazil, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Namibia, France, United Arab Emirates (UAE) , Rwanda Zimbabwe, Malaysia and Pakistan convened the inaugural High-Level Roundtable of Global Champions on Adequate and Affordable Housing, with the support of the Executive Director of UN-Habitat.
2. We gathered in recognition that housing is more than shelter: it is a foundation for economic opportunity, social stability, human dignity, and environmental sustainability.
3. We are united by the conviction that adequate and affordable housing is a fundamental human right, central to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and particularly SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities.
4. We acknowledge the urgent need that over 2.8 billion people are estimated to be affected by different forms of housing inadequacy, of which close to 1 .1 billion reside in slums and informal settlements.
5. We reaffirm the importance of UN-Habitat Resolution 2/7 on Adequate Housing for All, which calls for bold, coordinated, and inclusive action at global, regional, and national levels.
6. As Global Champions for Adequate Housing for All, Now hereby, commit to act with urgency, unity, and purpose, and to:
 - I. Strengthen a Global Coalition: Build and expand a coalition of like-minded Heads of State and Government to champion adequate and affordable housing as a global priority.
 - II. Mobilize Resources and Partnerships: Unlock development and climate finance, leverage private capital, and promote innovative mechanisms to accelerate investment in affordable, resilient, and sustainable housing.
 - III. Advance Resolution 2/7: Champion the full implementation of UN-Habitat Resolution 2/7 on Adequate Housing for All, ensuring measurable progress and accountability.

- IV. Promote Innovation and Inclusion: Foster inclusive housing policies, adopt sustainable building technologies, and scale up locally driven solutions that respond to the needs of the urban and rural poor.
 - V. Elevate Housing on the Global Agenda: Secure housing as a standing priority in international development, climate, and urbanization fora, including the World Urban Forum in Baku, Azerbaijan, May 2026, and other milestone events.
 - VI. Inspire Collective Action: Call upon governments, international organizations, financial institutions, civil society, communities, and the private sector to align efforts and join this transformative agenda.
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- 7. We therefore: Call on all countries to develop and implement inclusive national and local housing strategies, integrating policies for climate change mitigation adaptation and resilience, social protection, and urban regeneration.
 - 8. Call on international and regional financial institutions to expand affordable housing finance, support innovative financial instruments, and strengthen enabling regulatory systems.
 - 9. Call on the United Nations system, development partners, philanthropic institutions, and private sector actors to join forces in financing scalable housing solutions and to support the implementation of the forthcoming UN-Habitat Strategic Plan (2026—2029).
 - 10. Call on all countries to promote inclusive governance through collaboration between national, regional, and local governments, civil society, and communities to ensure people-centred housing solutions.
 - 11. Call on all countries to review, reform, and strengthen housing policy frameworks, including all forms of tenure systems and inclusive slum transformation strategies, recognizing slums as part of the urban fabric and unlocking opportunities for affordable, adequate, and sustainable housing.
 - 12. Call on all countries to support the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All, contribute to a global repository of best practices, tools, and technologies, and promote peer learning.
 - 13. Call on all countries to establish transparent mechanisms for tracking implementation milestones, reporting on progress, and sharing lessons learned to foster accountability and continuous improvement.

Conclusion

- 14. In our capacity as Global Champions for Adequate Housing for All, we commit to maintain strong political momentum and mobilize consolidated actions in collaboration with UN-Habitat as the mandated UN entity on housing and human settlements.

15. We express our deep appreciation to President William Samoei Ruto for initiating the Presidential Championship on Adequate Housing and for convening this inaugural High-Level Roundtable.
16. Together, we reaffirm that housing is not just infrastructure—it is a foundation for dignity, prosperity, peace, and hope.

We build not just homes, but futures.

The Members of the Global Championship for Adequate Housing and Participants
80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, UN Headquarters
New York, September 24, 2025

Signatures:

H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya

H.E. Duma Gideon Boko, President of the Republic of Botswana

H.E. John Mahama Dramini, President of the Republic of Ghana

H.E. Jeyhun Bayramov, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Azerbaijan

H.E. Hon. Kerrie Drurard Symmonds, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of the Republic of Barbados

H.E. Hon. Jader Filho, Minister of Cities of the Federative Republic of Brazil

H.E. Hon. Dr Emma, Kantema. Minister of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, Republic of Namibia

H.E. Thani Mohamed Soilihi, Minister Delegate for Francophonie and International Partnerships

H.E. Hon. Prof. Dr. Amon Murwira, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of the Republic of Zimbabwe