



Embajada de Colombia en Kenia

Second Session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All

Statement on Agenda Item 3 – Consideration of the outcome of the preparatory intersessional meetings including draft recommendations (General Remarks)

Thank you, madame Chair.

Allow me at the outset to convey our appreciation for the work of the cochairs, France and Kenya, and the collective work of the 83 experts who participated in technical and intersessional meetings, as well as the valuable support from the Secretariat.

Colombia welcomes the report and the summary of preliminary recommendations on housing finance; tenure security; informal settlements and social housing. We further agree with your proposal for the way forward.

We understand adequate housing not only as a response to the housing and shelter requirements of the population, but as a means at the service of an end: improving the quality of life and overcoming poverty.

Adequacy in this context is the promotion of housing solutions that are culturally appropriate, environmentally sustainable, sufficient to meet basic needs, cognizant of the availability of resources, sensitive to the expectations of people and governments, respectful of cultural traditions, suited to the present challenges and forward-looking in their commitment and responsibility to future generations.

And this is carried out through a biodiverse, rights-based and self-management approach that, understanding well-being in a differentiated and appropriate way, for each culture and each territory, seeks to promote decent and productive housing, the comprehensive improvement of habitat, the social empowerment of communities and the construction of a sustainable and lasting peace.

Housing must be a space, not only friendly and adequate, but secure, understanding security, in its many aspects: from legal and rights-based



Embajada de Colombia en Kenia

reduction of vulnerability, to environmental and financial, while also ensuring aspects such as identity, community and self-sufficiency.

Thank you.