



Second Session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (OEWG-H2) - 22–23 October 2025

Frequently Asked Questions

This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document complements the Information Note for Participants shared. It includes information related to the participation in the second session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (OEWG-H2), taking place on 22–23 October 2025 at UN-Habitat Headquarters in Nairobi.

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to delegates, observers, and stakeholders on registration, speaking arrangements, interpretation, access, and submission of statements.

1. When and where will the OEWG-H2 take place?

The second session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (OEWG-H2) will take place on 22–23 October 2025, at the UN-Habitat Headquarters located on UN Avenue in Gigiri, Nairobi, Kenya. The plenary meetings will be held in Conference Room 2 from 09:30 to 12:00 and 14:00 to 17:00 each day and will be live streamed via UN Web TV.

A series of pre-session events will be held on Tuesday, 21 October 2025, including Regional Technical Side Events organized by the UN-Habitat Regional Programme Division and Regional Group Meetings.

In the margins of the session, two thematic special events will complement the plenary discussions: “Local Governments and Housing” on 22 October, and “Unlocking Housing Solutions through National Urban Policies” on 23 October, both from 12:30 to 13:30. A reception is also tentatively planned for the evening of 22 October 2025.

2. Who can attend the meeting?

Participation is open to:

- Member States of the United Nations, represented by Permanent Missions to UN-Habitat and by nominated national experts;

- Accredited intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;
- UN entities and programmes;
- Invited experts and stakeholders.

Participants must be duly registered and accredited via the official [registration portal](#) . Invited individuals from non-accredited organizations must be individually approved by the UN-Habitat Secretariat.

3. What are the expected outcomes?

The expected outcomes of the OEWG-H2 include:

- A decision to allow for possible general endorsement of the draft recommendations deriving from the informal preparatory intersessional online meetings held in June 2025, which are focused on the four priority areas listed below aimed at accelerating access to adequate housing for all (see section IV of the Report of the Executive Director on the Outcomes of the Expert Group Meetings, Intersessional Meetings and Activities, working document [HSP/OEWG-H.2025/2](#)).
- Adoption of a roadmap for the activities of the Working Group until 2029, with milestones aligned with the UN-Habitat Assembly and other relevant intergovernmental processes (see working document [HSP/OEWG-H.2025/4](#)), with the understanding that it may be further adjusted under the leadership of the incoming co-chairs of the Expert Group;
- Election of new Co-Chairs of the Working Group, in line with terms of reference outlined in the Annex to decision OEWG-H/1 specifying the rotational basis from different regional groups (see [the report of the first session of the OEWG-H](#)).
- Advancement of knowledge sharing, fostering of local and national action, and collection of good practices to support evidence-based policymaking and implementation.

Further details are available on the annotated agenda, accessible on the official [OEWG-H webpage](#).

4. What are the themes addressed during this session?

The second session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (OEWG-H2) focuses on four priority themes, as agreed by the current Co-Chairs — France and Kenya. These are: Social Housing, Informal Settlements, Tenure Security, and Housing Finance. In addition, the session will review progress made towards the establishment of a Housing Knowledge Platform, in line with Resolution 2/7 and the mandate of the Working Group.

The first-year roadmap of the Working Group, set by the Co-Chairs, also includes other thematic areas developed during this initial phase, namely Sustainability, the definition of homelessness, the definition of informal settlements, and the Monitoring Framework. These themes have been addressed through Expert Group Meetings and Intersessional Meetings held in August and September 2025. Owing to the tight calendar and the extensive agenda covered during this first year, these topics could not be presented during the second session. They remain under development and will be further discussed in upcoming sessions of the Working Group.

5. How will the process of reviewing and endorsing the draft recommendations work?

The proposed draft recommendations will be considered under agenda item 3 of the [provisional agenda](#) of OEWG-H2, which have been clustered under the following four priority themes: 1) Social Housing, 2) Informal Settlements, 3) Tenure Security, and 4) Housing Finance.

To facilitate progress, we propose that the recommendations be considered as a package under each theme, with the aim of achieving general endorsement, on the understanding that they may be further developed by the Expert Group at future meetings. This approach is intended to enable the Working Group to move forward efficiently and constructively, avoiding line-by-line discussions while promoting an iterative process of review and consolidation over successive sessions, and to identify areas that may require further adjustments, refinements or additions.

Recommendations that receive initial endorsement at this session, together with others which are still under development, will thus continue to evolve through subsequent deliberations of the Working Group. A complete set of recommendations will be presented at the last meeting of the Working Group and subsequently submitted for consideration and possible adoption at the third session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly in June 2029, in accordance with Resolution 2/7.

6. Are background documents available before the meeting?

Yes. The provisional agenda, the proposed draft recommendations, and the draft roadmap have been made available on the [OEWG-H2 webpage](#), in the In-session Documents section.

7. What are the speaking arrangements during the session?

Speaking arrangements will follow the Rules of Procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly, which include:

- Priority given to Member States and their designated representatives;
- Speaking time limited to 3–5 minutes per intervention;
- Interventions by observers, stakeholders, and experts subject to availability of time and at the discretion of the Chair;
- All interventions must be delivered in one of the six official UN languages.

8. Will interpretation be available?

Yes. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the six official UN languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

9. Can I attend the session in person? What are the access requirements for the UN-Habitat premises in Nairobi?

Yes. The second session of the OEWG-H will take place in person at the UN-Habitat Headquarters, United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), Gigiri Campus.

To access the venue:

- All participants must be duly registered through the [UN-Habitat Global Event Management System \(GEMS\)](#) no later than Friday, 17th October 2025 at 12:00PM (UTC + 03:00)
- All attendees must carry a valid passport (for all nationalities) or national ID (for Kenyan nationals only) in order to collect their badge at the registration desk at the UNON premises;
- Registered participants must present their registration confirmation together with their passport or ID at the entrance of the UNON complex; Registered participants will receive instructions on how to collect their conference badges at UNON . Badges must be worn at all times and will be required by UN Security to enter the UNON complex and conference rooms;
- Local transport and accommodation arrangements are the responsibility of each participant.

A detailed logistics note with practical information will be made available upon registration.

10. What logistical support is available for in-person participants?

UN-Habitat does not provide sponsorship; nominated experts should consult their ministries or organizations. Participants are responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements. For eTA, registration or hotel recommendations please consult the Logistics Note provided upon registration and on [OEWG-H webpage](#).

11. Can I participate online?

The session will be broadcast live via UN Web TV. A viewing link will only be shared with the registered participants that were approved, ahead of the session. Please note that online participants will not be able to make statements, as the session will be view-only mode. Interpretation in the six UN languages will be available through the UN Web TV platform.

12. How can Member States nominate representatives to the OEWG-H session?

All Member States of the United Nations are invited to participate in the second session of the OEWG-H/2 and are encouraged to include technical experts in their delegations.

Delegations should:

- Provide an official letter to the nominated experts,

- Register their representatives and attach the nomination letters online on the [UN-Habitat Global Event Management System \(GEMS\)](#) by 15 October 2025 at 14:00 EAT;
- Officially communicate the names of their representatives via email to the UN-Habitat Secretariat of Governing Bodies at unhabitat-sgb@un.org, with copy to Ms. Ombretta Temptra (Chief, Land, Housing and Shelter Section) at ombretta.temptra@un.org, preferably as early as possible to facilitate planning.

Further information, including the provisional agenda and pre-session documents, is available on the [official OEWG-H2 webpage](#).

13. Are nominations for the next Co-Chairs open? How can Member States submit a candidacy?

Yes. As per Decision OEWG-H/1 and the official communication dated 26 September 2025, the election of the next two Co-Chairs of the Open-Ended Working Group on Adequate Housing for All will take place during the closing plenary of the second session, on 23 October 2025.

The current Co-Chairs are Kenya (representing the African Group) and France (representing the Western European and Other States Group). In line with the rotational principle among regional groups, nominations for the next Co-Chairs are expected from:

- the Asia-Pacific Group,
- the Eastern European Group, and
- the Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC).

Member States from these regional groups may submit their expression of interest through their Regional Group Chair, with copy to the Secretariat of the Governing Bodies (unhabitat-sgb@un.org), preferably no later than 16 October 2025.

14. What are the “Pre-Session Events” on UN-Habitat Regional Technical Discussion on Adequate Housing?

Habitat Regional Technical Site Events will be held in the afternoon of the 21 October 2025. These are organized by the UN-Habitat Regional Offices, in coordination with the Regional Programme Division (RPD) and the Land, Housing and Shelter Section (LHSS). The objective is to provide space for regionally-led technical discussions on housing challenges and priorities, building on the regional presentations delivered during the first session of the OEWG-H and aligned with the Regional Roadmaps developed in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2026–2029. The event is open to all registered participants and will serve as a thematic and geographic entry point to the formal OEWG-H2 session. The time and location of regional events will be accessible in the [programme section of the OEWG-H2 web page](#).

15. What are the Regional Group Meetings?

Regional Group Meetings may also take place on the afternoon of the 21 October 2025. These meetings are organized at the discretion and upon initiative of Member States, by and for regional groups. They are independent from the OEWG-H Secretariat and typically serve as informal coordination spaces for Member States ahead of formal sessions.

16. Who can I contact for more information?

UN-Habitat Secretariat for Governing Bodies: unhabitat-sgb@un.org

For registration: unhabitat-registration@un.org

For substantive questions: h4all@un.org