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**Executive Board of the United Nations**

**Human Settlements Programme**

**Third session of 2025**

Nairobi, 25 and 26 November 2025

## **Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its third session of 2025**

### **Decision 2025/6: Financial, budgetary and administrative matters of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme; implementation of the strategic plan; work programme and budget for 2026; report on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Ethics Office to the Executive Board**

*The Executive Board*

**(a) Financial, budgetary and administrative matters of UN-Habitat**

1. *Takes note* of the reports and updates of the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on:

- (a) The financial status of UN-Habitat as at 30 June 2025;<sup>1</sup>
- (b) The interim financial status of UN-Habitat as at 30 September 2025;<sup>2</sup>

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue efforts to strengthen non-earmarked funding, and invites Member States to contribute to the core financial resources of UN-Habitat, which are indispensable for the successful fulfilment of its mandate;

**(b) Implementation of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2020–2025**

3. *Takes note* of the annual report for 2024 on the implementation of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2020–2025 and the report of the Executive Director containing a summary thereof;<sup>3</sup>

4. *Decides* that the final report on the full cycle of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2025 will be considered at the second session of 2026 of the Executive Board;

5. *Also decides* that the final report on the full cycle of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2025 should include an evaluation report on the implementation of the plan, including lessons learned, to be used for the implementation of the new strategic plan for the period 2026–2029;

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<sup>1</sup> HSP/EB.2025/17.

<sup>2</sup> HSP/EB.2025/CRP.5.

<sup>3</sup> HSP/EB.2025/18.

**(c) Strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2026–2029**

6. *Recalls* paragraphs 8 and 9 of its decision 2025/1, and takes note of the update and report of the Executive Director on the structure and division of responsibilities for the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029;<sup>4</sup>

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to keep Member States updated regarding the structure of, and the division of responsibilities within, UN-Habitat for the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029, recalling that ensuring an equitable balance between the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat is essential for carrying out its mandate, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 77/173;

8. *Also requests* the Executive Director to inform Member States in a timely manner of the implications of the UN80 initiative for the structure, staffing, budgetary planning and work of UN-Habitat;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the update of the scalability model and requests the Executive Director to present to the Executive Board at its second session of 2026 an updated version of the recommended model for the non-earmarked budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation that is aligned with the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029;

10. *Recalls* paragraph 2 of UN-Habitat Assembly decision 2/6, and approves the draft monitoring framework for the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029 as reflected in the report of the Executive Director,<sup>5</sup> while emphasizing the importance of prioritizing sufficient resources and expertise for the effective implementation of the monitoring framework and for reporting thereon, in line with the findings of the Joint Inspection Unit and the Multilateral Performance Network;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director to present, at the first session of 2026 of the Executive Board, the baseline values and the proposed corresponding targets for all indicators included in the monitoring framework to be achieved by the end of the implementation period of the strategic plan for 2026–2029;

**(d) Work programme of UN-Habitat and draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2026**

12. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of its decision 2025/1, approves the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the non-earmarked budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2026 in the amount of 5 million United States dollars, as reflected in the report of the Executive Director on the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the Foundation for 2026,<sup>6</sup> and expresses concern about the possible need to use part of the unrestricted fund balance transitioning from previous years of the non-earmarked fund of the Foundation;

**(e) Preparation of the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2027**

13. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide the Executive Board, at its first session of 2026, with an update on the status of the draft work programme and the draft budget for 2027, taking into account the recommendations of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters and the revenue of the non-earmarked fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, including case scenario-based options reflecting potential structural, financial and staffing implications of the UN80 initiative;

**(f) Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Ethics Office**

14. *Takes note* of the report by the secretariat on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Ethics Office and related UN-Habitat activities.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>4</sup> HSP/EB.2025/19.

<sup>5</sup> HSP/EB.2025/20.

<sup>6</sup> HSP/EB.2025/21.

<sup>7</sup> HSP/EB.2025/24.

**Decision 2025/7: Implementation of normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme; reporting on programmatic activities in 2025, implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities**

*The Executive Board*

**(a) Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat**

1. *Takes note* of the update and report by the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including the updates on the Nigeria country programme, the Philippines country programme, trends and innovations in cooperation with local and regional governments, initiatives related to urban crisis prevention and response, and highlights of activities for the period January–June 2025, and requests the Executive Director to continue to provide regular status reports and briefings on the efforts of UN-Habitat to assist in the reconstruction of human settlements affected by conflict and disaster;

2. *Also takes note* of the draft report entitled “Efforts to reconstruct human settlements affected by conflict in Ukraine” and requests the Executive Director to apply terminology that conforms with the relevant mandates of UN-Habitat, including the use of “Ukraine affected by the conflict”, and to submit a revised version to the Executive Board at its first session of 2026;

3. *Further takes note* of the report on the status of the development of the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements in the Gaza Strip<sup>8</sup> and requests the Executive Director to finalize the comprehensive report, based on field-based assessments if conditions allow it, and to present the report at the first session of 2026 of the Executive Board;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue providing timely updates on the implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat;

**(b) High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda**

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director containing an update on the preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the New Urban Agenda,<sup>9</sup> to be held in 2026, including the briefing on the preparation of the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda;

**(c) Thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum, World Habitat Day 2025, World Cities Day 2025 and regional urban forums**

6. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the status of preparations for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum,<sup>10</sup> to be held in Baku in May 2026;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the global observances of World Habitat Day 2025 in Nairobi and World Cities Day 2025 in Bogotá.

<sup>8</sup> HSP/EB.2025/INF/18.

<sup>9</sup> HSP/EB.2025/INF/14.

<sup>10</sup> HSP/EB.2025/23.

## **Decision 2025/8: Working methods of the Executive Board; workplan of the Executive Board for 2026**

### *The Executive Board*

#### **(a) Reports of the Executive Board and its working groups**

1. *Adopts* the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on the work of its first session of 2025;<sup>11</sup>
2. *Also adopts* the report of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat on the work of its second session of 2025;<sup>12</sup>
3. *Takes note* of the briefing by the Chair of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters on the group's work;
4. *Recalls* paragraphs 3 and 4 of its decision 2021/8, and elects Kenya as chair of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters;
5. *Acknowledges* that the ad hoc working group on the development of a stakeholder engagement policy has completed its work in accordance with paragraph 5 of its decision 2019/3, paragraph 3 of its decision 2025/4 and UN-Habitat Assembly decision 2/4, and decides, accordingly, that the mandate of the ad hoc working group on the development of a stakeholder engagement policy has come to an end;

#### **(b) Work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All**

6. *Recalls* UN-Habitat Assembly resolution 2/7, specifically paragraph 2 thereof, and welcomes the briefing by the new Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All on the Group's work;
7. *Commends* the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All, takes note of the report of its first session,<sup>13</sup> and looks forward to receiving the report of its second session;
8. *Takes note* of the provisional agenda and indicative dates for the third meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All, considered at the second session of the Group, and invites the Co-Chairs of the Group to provide an update to the Executive Board, at its first session of 2026, on the status of preparations for the meeting;

#### **(c) Working methods of the Executive Board to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of meetings of the Board**

9. *Takes note* of the results of the survey conducted by the secretariat following the first session of 2025 of the Executive Board to evaluate the effectiveness of that session so as to further improve the process and outcome of future sessions;

#### **(d) Dates and agenda of the next session of the Executive Board; workplan of the Board for 2026**

10. *Decides* that, subject to review by the Bureau, the sessions of the Executive Board in 2026 will be held as follows:
  - (a) The first session of 2026 will be held for a duration of two days, on 21 and 22 April;
  - (b) The second session of 2026 will be held for a duration of two days during the month of November;

<sup>11</sup> HSP/EB.2025/14.

<sup>12</sup> HSP/EB.2025/15.

<sup>13</sup> HSP/OEWG-H.2024/8.

11. *Also decides that the provisional agenda for the first session of 2026, to be further reviewed by the Bureau, will be as follows:*

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organizational matters:
  - (a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the first session of 2026;
  - (b) Adoption of the report of the Executive Board on the work of its third session of 2025.
3. Report by the Chair of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters.
4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters, including an update on the Sustainable Cities and Communities Foundation.
5. Implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029:
  - (a) Update on the structure and the division of responsibilities;
  - (b) Resource mobilization strategy for the strategic plan.
6. Status of and discussion on the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2027.
7. Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on programmatic activities in 2025 and the implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities.
8. Update on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.
9. Preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.
10. Preparations for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum.
11. Implementation by UN-Habitat of the reform of the development system and management of the United Nations.
12. Action by UN-Habitat to strengthen protection against sexual or any other type of exploitation and abuse and against sexual harassment in the workplace.
13. Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and of the Ethics Office to the Executive Board.
14. Annual report on action by the Executive Director to update and improve the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat.
15. Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the session, including the provisional agenda for the second session of 2026.
16. Other matters.
17. Closure of the session.