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United Nations Human Settlements Programme

UN-HABITAT

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Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme
First session of 2026
Ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters
25 March 2026

Draft as of 16 March 2026

Technical inputs toward the draft decisions to be considered by the Executive Board at its first session 2026

Draft decision 2026/[A]: Financial, budgetary and administrative matters of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the Sustainable Cities and Communities Foundation, draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2027, and implementation of the strategic plan 2026-2029 of UN-Habitat.

The Executive Board

(a) Financial, budgetary and administrative matters of UN-Habitat, including financial status of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the Sustainable Cities and Communities Foundation

1. *Takes note* of the reports and updates of the Executive Director on:
   - the interim financial status of UN-Habitat as at 31 December 2025[1];
   - the staffing of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme as at 31 December 2025[2];
   - recruitment, equitable geographical distribution and gender parity[3];
   - the update on the Sustainable Cities and Communities Foundation[4].

(b) The status of the draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2027

2. *Requests* the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters to continue its consideration of the non-earmarked budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the year 2027, and *requests* the Executive Director to finalize the draft annual work programme and budget for 2027 based on feedback from the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and to present it to the Executive Board at its second session of 2026 for further consideration and possible approval;

(c) Implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029

3. *Takes note* of the report by the Executive Director on the implementation of the strategic plan for UN-Habitat for the period 2026–2029 on:
   - Update on the structure and division of responsibilities[5];
   - Baseline values and targets for indicators to be achieved by 2029 of the Monitoring Framework[6];

4. Takes note of the Resource Mobilization Strategy for the Strategic

[1] HSP/EB.2026/2
[2] HSP/EB.2026/INF/2
[3] HSP/EB.2026/2/Add.1
[4] HSP/EB.2026/3
[5] HSP/EB.2026/4
[6] HSP/EB.2026/5

Plan for the period 2026-2029[7] and *requests* the Executive Director to present an updated Resource Mobilization Strategy at the second session of the Executive Board in 2026 for possible approval taking into account inputs by the Executive Board.

Draft decision 2026/[B]: Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat

The Executive Board

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

1. *Takes note* of the briefing and the report by the Executive Director on normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat[8], including the updates on the Brazil country programme, the Tunisia country programme, the work of the United Nations Innovation Technology Accelerator for Cities (UNITAC) and highlights of activities for the period July-December 2025;

2. *Takes note of* the revised and updated report[9] by the Executive Director on the status of the development of the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements in Ukraine;

3. *Takes note of* the report by the Executive Director on the status of the development of the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements in the Gaza Strip[10], and requests the Executive Director to complete a comprehensive report once conditions permit;

(b) Preparations for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum

4. *Welcomes* the briefing and the report of the Executive Director on

[7] HSP/EB.2026/6
[8] HSP/EB.2026/7
[9] HSP/EB.2025/INF/17/Rev.1
[10] HSP/EB.2026/INF/6

the status of preparations for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum, to be held in Baku, Azerbaijan in May 2026, recalling the role of the World Urban Forum as a meeting of experts (GA resolution) and the identification of the World Urban Forum as a relevant platform to inform the Quadrennial Reporting of the UN General Assembly on the New Urban Agenda (A/RES/71/256)[11];

5. Acknowledges efforts undertaken to engage stakeholders in the preparations for the World Urban Forum.

(c) Preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda

6. *Welcomes* efforts by UN-Habitat to support the development of the Quadrennial Report of the Secretary-General on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda through an inclusive multi-stakeholder process and the information provided related to the preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing intergovernmental preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, including the appointment of co-facilitators by the President of the General Assembly, the development of a concise and action-oriented political declaration through an inclusive and Member State-led process, and the continued technical and facilitative support provided by UN-Habitat,.

(d) Implementation by UN-Habitat of reforms of the development system and management of the United Nations

8. *Takes note* of the updates by the Secretariat and the related checklist on the implementation of the UN Development System reform in UN-Habitat and *welcomes* efforts by UN-Habitat to continue contributing to the implementation of the reform of the United Nations Development

[11] HSP/EB.2026/11

System.

Draft Decision 2026/[C]: Update on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly[12].

Draft decision 2026/[D]: Methods of work of the Executive Board and the workplan of the Executive Board for 2026

The Executive Board

(a) Reports of the Executive Board and its working group

1. *Adopts* the report of the Executive Board of the UN-Habitat on the work of its third session of 2025[13];

2. *Takes note of* the briefing by the chair of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters on the work of the group;

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

3. *Recalls* resolution 2/7 of the UN-Habitat Assembly, and welcomes the briefing by the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All on the Group's work including the report of the outcome of the second session, held on 22 and 23 October 2025;

[12] HSP/EB.2026/7
[13] HSP/EB.2025/25

4. *Decides* that the third session of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All, in line with the guidance by the Bureau of the Executive Board. will be held for a duration of two days on 26 and 27 November 2026, and *invites* Member States to consider providing financial resources.

5. *Recommends* that the provisional agenda for the third session be prepared by the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All and shared with all Member States at least six weeks in advance of the meeting.

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

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

7. *Welcomes* the efforts to streamline the agenda of the Executive Board session, to enhance efficiency of its work;

8. *Recalls* paragraphs 4-6 of decision 2019/4 and *decides* that the provisional agenda for the first and second sessions of the Executive Board will include the standing items as listed in the annex to this decision, with the understanding that the provisional agenda for future meetings of the board may be further amended by the Executive Board on a case by case basis, taking into account guidance from the Bureau of the Executive Board.

(d) Date and agenda for the next session of the Executive Board and its workplan for 2026

9. *Decides* that the second session of 2026 will be held for a duration of 2 days on 24 and 25 November 2026.

10. *Also decides* that the provisional agenda for the second 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 second session of 2026;

   (b) Adoption of the report of the Executive Board on the work of its first session of 2026;
3. Reports of the chairs of ad hoc working groups
4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters.
5. Approval of the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2027.
6. Update on normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat.
7. Outcomes from the key events in 2026 including the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum, high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.
8. Reports from relevant UN oversight bodies
9. Adoption of draft decisions.
10. Other matters.
11. Closure of the session.

Draft Decision 2026/[E]: Election of officers of the Bureau of the Executive Board for the term 2026–2027

The Executive Board

Decides to elect from among its members, with terms of office from the end of the first session of 2026 to the end of the first session of 2027, taking into consideration the need to ensure equitable geographical representation, the new Bureau of the Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, as follows:

Chair: [XXX] (Asia-Pacific States)
Vice-Chairs: [XXX] (Latin American and Caribbean States)
[XXX] (African States)
[XXX] (Western European and other States)
Rapporteur: [XXX] (Eastern European States)

Annex

To be complemented following guidance from the Chair of the Executive Board

The following standing agenda items will be included on the provisional agenda of Executive Board sessions for consideration at its first session of each year:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.

The following standing items will be included on the provisional agenda of Executive Board sessions for consideration at its second or final session of each year:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.