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**Executive Board of the United Nations  
Human Settlements Programme  
First session of 2026  
Nairobi, 21 and 22 April 2026  
Item 15 of the provisional agenda\***

**Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the session,  
including the provisional agenda for the second session of  
2026**

## **Proposal for a consolidated and streamlined agenda for future Executive Board sessions**

### **Proposal by the Chair of the Executive Board**

#### **I. Introduction**

1. Recent sessions of the Executive Board have demonstrated signs of redundancy and/or overlap in its agendas, resulting in time constraints for the sessions and a high workload for both Member States and the Secretariat in the preparatory process as well as during the sessions.
2. There is an incentive to explore how to achieve a more manageable workload, while ensuring that the Executive Board fulfils its mandate and maintains its important role and function to strengthen oversight, accountability, transparency, and effectiveness in UN-Habitat's work.
3. In particular, there is scope to further consolidate, prioritize and streamline the agendas of the Board, to enhance overall efficiency and effectiveness, to match the number of meetings days available (in accordance with the most recent decisions of the Board, the standard practice is now to devote two days for each session) and to save valuable time both for Member States and the secretariat.
4. Furthermore, the agenda of each Executive Board session determines the length and number of background documents prepared by the secretariat in support of the deliberations of the Board, with direct cost implications for UN-Habitat as well as for the UN Office in Nairobi.
5. Fewer and more consolidated agenda items would therefore save costs for UN-Habitat and help the organization to manage recent cuts in the UN regular budget allocations. It would also mitigate a longstanding financial challenge for UN-Habitat relating to the 2019 reform of UN-Habitat's governance system, as decided through General Assembly resolution 73/239<sup>1</sup>. The General Assembly decided to replace the biennial meetings of the UN-Habitat Governing Council (with a limited membership) by a universal UN-Habitat Assembly meeting every fourth year, a universal Committee of Permanent Representatives meeting every 2 years, and a 36 Member Executive Board meeting two to three times a year, without allocating additional financial resources to support this expanded governance system.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2019/05/a\\_res\\_73\\_239-e.pdf](https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2019/05/a_res_73_239-e.pdf)

6. A more consolidated agenda would hence contribute to achieving one of the key objectives of the UN80 Initiative, which is to make the UN more efficient and cost effective.
7. Against this background, the Chair of the Executive Board made a proposal at the Bureau meeting held on 13 February 2026, to consult with the secretariat to explore options to prepare a consolidated, prioritized and streamlined standardized agenda for future Executive Board sessions, for consideration by the Executive Board at its regular meeting on 21-22 April 2026. This proposal was supported by the Bureau of the Executive Board.<sup>2</sup>

## II. Proposal

8. Several of the current agenda items for the Executive Board derive from previous decisions of the Executive Board, in particular decision 2019/4<sup>3</sup> (paragraph 4-6). Therefore, a proposal to consolidate, prioritize and streamline a standardized agenda will require a new decision by the Board that supersedes this decision.
9. The proposal must also consider that the Executive Board meets two to three times a year in line with its rules of procedure, and that each session has a slightly different focus. In particular, the last session is tasked to consider for approval a draft work programme and budget for the upcoming year. The focus is also determined by the availability of relevant external reports, such as the annual report or reports from the UN oversight bodies.
10. On this basis, two draft standing provisional agendas – one for the first session and one for the last session each year – are proposed in Annex I.
11. The proposal takes into account decision 2019/4, as well as past practice in terms of how the Executive Board agendas have evolved since 2019.
12. The proposal is also based on an analysis undertaken by the secretariat with the objective of identifying agenda items that may be consolidated without losing content or minimising the role of the Executive Board, as well as those that could potentially be addressed once per year rather than at each session.
13. In addition, the titles of some agenda items have been shortened, with the understanding that further details about the content of each agenda item will be further specified in the annotated agenda for each session, as necessary.
14. The proposed standing provisional agendas would serve as an important starting point for developing the draft provisional agenda for each session, with the understanding that agenda items may be adjusted or added to serve each session, as necessary and in line with the rules of procedure and established practice. To this end, Annex I also lists relevant and non-exhaustive examples of possible additional agenda items that may be added to the standing agenda on a case-by-case basis.
15. In summary, and in accordance with rules of procedure and established practice, each session of the Executive Board will continue to decide on the provisional agenda for the upcoming session as part of the outcome document, for further review by the Bureau, in view of submission and final approval by the Board at the outset of each session. The purpose of this proposal is to ensure that this decision is guided by the draft standing agendas as outline in Annex I.
16. For the proposal to enter into force, the Executive Board will need to take a formal decision to apply the guidance. To this end, draft decision language has been included in document HSP/EB.2026/CRP.1 - *Technical inputs toward the draft decisions to be considered by the Executive Board at its first session 2026* (Section 2026/[D]: Methods of work of the Executive Board and the workplan of the Executive Board for 2026; paragraphs 6-8)<sup>4</sup>.
17. The proposal is fully aligned with Section IV (“Agenda and documentation”), Rule 6, of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board.<sup>5</sup>

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**Annex I:** Proposed standing provisional agendas for future Executive Board sessions

**Annex II:** Agendas for the Executive Board sessions in 2024 and 2025

**Annex III:** Relevant rules and decisions determining the previous agendas of the Executive Board

<sup>2</sup> [https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2026/02/draft\\_summary\\_-\\_eb\\_bureau\\_meeting\\_13\\_february\\_2026.pdf](https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2026/02/draft_summary_-_eb_bureau_meeting_13_february_2026.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Microsoft Word - K1904844 - HSP-EB-1-11 - FINAL.docx

<sup>4</sup> [draft\\_technical\\_inputs\\_toward\\_draft\\_decisions\\_of\\_the\\_2026\\_first\\_session\\_of\\_eb.pdf](#)

<sup>5</sup> HSP/HA/1/HLS.3 Rules of procedure of the Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme | UN-Habitat

## Annex I

### Proposed standing provisional agendas for future Executive Board sessions

#### A. Proposed Standing agenda items for the first session of the Executive Board in any given year

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organizational matters.
3. Reports of the chairs of working groups. *[Note: including from the PBA Working Group and the Open-Ended Working Group on Adequate Housing for All]*
4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters. *[Note: including resource mobilization, staffing report and geographical and gender balance report]*
5. Update on the development of draft work programme and budget for the upcoming year.
6. Update on UN-Habitat internal management and policies, including on UN reform. *[Note: including specific reports as requested, for example on the UN80 initiative, repositioning of the UN development system and protection against sexual exploitation and abuse].*"
7. Annual report on the implementation of the UN-Habitat strategic plan. *[Note: including on the subprogrammes]*
8. Update on normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat. *[Note: including selected programmatic activities, country programs and activities in areas affected by conflict and disasters]*
9. Update on the implementation of UN-Habitat Assembly resolutions. *[Note: based on updates on the online portal]*
10. Election of Officers of the Bureau of the Executive Board
11. Adoption of draft decisions.
12. Other matters.
13. Closure of the session.

#### B. Proposed standing provisional agendas for the last<sup>6</sup> session of the Executive Board in any given year

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organizational matters.
3. Reports of the chairs of working groups. *[Note: including from the PBA Working Group and the Open-Ended Working Group on Adequate Housing for All]*
4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters. *[Note: including recommendations from the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and resource mobilization]*
5. Approval of the draft work programme and budget for the upcoming year.
6. Update on normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat. *[Note: including selected programmatic activities, country programs and activities in areas affected by conflict and disasters]*
7. Reports from relevant UN oversight bodies. *[Note: relevant reports from the Office of Internal Services, the Joint Inspection Unit, the Ethics Office and other relevant oversight reports]*
8. Adoption of draft decisions.
9. Other matters.
10. Closure of the session.

#### C. Examples of possible additional non-recurrent agenda items that may be added to the agenda, as relevant (non-exhaustive)

- Preparations for the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
- Preparations for / outcomes from the World Urban Forum.
- Preparations for / outcomes from the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.
- Preparations for /outcomes from major UN Conferences and events relevant to UN-Habitat.

<sup>6</sup> In the years when UN Habitat Assembly takes place, it will be the third session; in the years there is no UN-Habitat Assembly, it will be the second session.

## Annex II: Agendas for the Executive Board sessions in 2024 and 2025

<b>2024 First session of Executive Board</b>	<b>2024 Second session of Executive Board</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Opening of the session.</li> <li>2. Organizational matters:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the first session of 2024;</li> <li>(b) Adoption of the report of the Executive Board on the work of its third session of 2023.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Reports by the chairs of the ad hoc working groups established by the Executive Board.</li> <li>4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters, including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan for the period 2020–2025 and action by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to address geographical and gender imbalances in the composition of its staff.</li> <li>5. Update on the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2025.</li> <li>6. Update on the preparation of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2026–2029.</li> <li>7. Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on its programmatic activities in 2023 and the implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities.</li> <li>8. Preparations for the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum.</li> <li>9. Update on the implementation of all the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.</li> <li>10. Update on the implementation of the United Nations development system reform in UN-Habitat.</li> <li>11. Action by UN-Habitat to strengthen protection against sexual and any other type of exploitation and abuse and against sexual harassment in the workplace.</li> <li>12. Report by the Executive Director on actions to update and improve the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat.</li> <li>13. Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the session, including the provisional agenda for the second session of 2024.</li> <li>14. Other matters.</li> <li>15. Closure of the session.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Opening of the session.</li> <li>2. Organizational matters:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the second session of 2024;</li> <li>(b) Adoption of the report of the Executive Board on the work of its first session of 2024.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Reports of the ad hoc working groups established by the Executive Board.</li> <li>4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters.</li> <li>5. Consideration and possible approval of the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2025.</li> <li>6. Strategic plan:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Annual report for 2023 on the strategic plan for the period 2020–2025;</li> <li>(b) Update on the development of the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029.</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN-Habitat in 2024 and the implementation of its subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities, and UN-Habitat engagement in countries, territories and areas affected by conflicts and disasters.</li> <li>8. Outcomes of the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum and of the Africa Urban Forum.</li> <li>9. Briefing by the Executive Director on the implementation of all resolutions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly.</li> <li>10. Update by the Executive Director on the preparations for the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.</li> <li>11. Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the Executive Board and results of the assessment of the organizational effectiveness of UN-Habitat by the Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network.</li> <li>12. Report of the Ethics Office to the Executive Board.</li> <li>13. Follow-up on implementation of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the review of management and administration in UN-Habitat.</li> <li>14. Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the session, including the provisional agenda for the first session of 2025.</li> <li>15. Other matters.</li> <li>16. Closure of the session.</li> </ol>

<b>2025 First session of Executive Board</b>	<b>2025 Third session of Executive Board</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Opening of the session.</li> <li>2. Organizational matters:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the first session of 2025;</li> <li>(b) Adoption of the report of the Executive Board on the work of its second session of 2024.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Reports of the chairs of the ad hoc working groups.</li> <li>4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters.</li> <li>5. Update on the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2026.</li> <li>6. Update on the preparation of, and possible recommendation of, the draft strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2026–2029.</li> <li>7. Briefing on the Sustainable Cities and Communities Foundation.</li> <li>8. Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN-Habitat in 2024 and the implementation of UN-Habitat subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities.</li> <li>9. Update on the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly.</li> <li>10. Implementation by UN-Habitat of the reform of the development system and management of the United Nations.</li> <li>11. Action by UN-Habitat to strengthen protection against sexual and any other type of exploitation and abuse and against sexual harassment in the workplace.</li> <li>12. Annual report on action by the Executive Director to update and improve the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat.</li> <li>13. Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the session, including the provisional agenda for the second session of 2025.</li> <li>14. Other matters.</li> <li>15. Closure of the session.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Opening of the session.</li> <li>2. Organizational matters:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the third session of 2025;</li> <li>(b) Adoption of the report of the Executive Board on the work of its first session of 2025.;</li> <li>(c) Adoption of the report of the Executive Board on the work of its second session of 2025.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Report by the chair of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters of the Executive Board.</li> <li>4. Report by the co-chairs of the open-ended expert working group on adequate housing for all.</li> <li>5. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters, including updates on the structure and human resources of UN-Habitat and an updated draft version of the scalability model for the non-earmarked budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation.</li> <li>6. Implementation of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Annual report for 2024 on the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2025;</li> <li>(b) Update on the structure and division of responsibilities within the organization for the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029;</li> <li>(c) Draft monitoring framework for the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029.</li> </ol> </li> <li>7. Consideration and possible approval of the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2026.</li> <li>8. Normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN-Habitat and the implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities and the engagement of UN-Habitat in countries, territories and areas affected by conflict and disaster.</li> <li>9. Preparations for the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum.</li> <li>10. Preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the New Urban Agenda.</li> <li>11. Reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and of the Ethics Office to the Executive Board.</li> <li>12. Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the session, including the provisional agenda for the first session of 2026.</li> <li>14. Other matters.</li> <li>14. Closure of the session.</li> </ol>

## **Annex 3: Relevant rules and decisions determining the previous agendas of the Executive Board**

### **Rules of procedure of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat**

#### **IV. Agenda and documentation**

##### Rule 6

“1. The Executive Board shall adopt its annual workplan at its first regular session each year. Discussion of the workplan should start no later than the last session of the Board held the previous year.

2. The agenda of the session shall be adopted at the beginning of each session.

3. The Executive Board shall approve at the end of each session, on the basis of a proposal by the Board secretariat, a provisional agenda for the next session.

4. The provisional agenda shall include the following:

- (a) All items referred to the Executive Board by the UN-Habitat Assembly;
- (b) All items proposed by the General Assembly or the Economic and Social Council;
- (c) All items proposed by a State Member of the United Nations or a member of a United Nations specialized agency;
- (d) All items proposed by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat;
- (e) All items required by the rules of procedure or any other applicable rules and regulations.

5. All items referred to in paragraph 4 above shall have a direct link to the mandate, activities and area of competence of UN-Habitat.”

### **Decision 2019/4: Workplan of the Executive Board for 2020**

#### *“The Executive Board*

4. *Further decides* that, after 2020, the following items will be included on the provisional agenda of Executive Board sessions for consideration at its first session of each year:

- (a) The annual work programme and budget of UN-Habitat;
- (b) The report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed work programme of UN-Habitat and the budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlement Foundation;
- (c) The annual report on the implementation of the UN-Habitat strategic plan;
- (d) An annual report on the Executive Director’s actions to update and improve the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat;
- (e) An annual report on UN-Habitat actions to strengthen protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and against workplace sexual harassment, as well as any other type of exploitation or abuse;
- (f) An annual report on UN-Habitat actions to address geographical and gender imbalances in the composition of its staff;

5. *Decides* that, after 2020, the following items will be included on the provisional agenda of each Executive Board session for consideration:

(a) Financial situation of UN-Habitat, the use of resources, the resource mobilization strategy, the ongoing restructuring of UN-Habitat and the financing of UN-Habitat, including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan;

(b) Reports of any ad hoc working groups established by the Executive Board;

6. *Also decides* that the following items will be included on the provisional agenda of Executive Board sessions on a regular basis:

(a) Implementation of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly;

(b) Briefing by the Executive Director on the implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including a briefing by the Executive Director on country activities that may not be covered in the annual report;

(c) Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the Executive Board;

(d) Annual report of the Ethics Office to the Executive Board;

(e) Briefing by the Executive Director on progress made in the implementation of the United Nations development system reform until it is concluded;”