



**UNITED  
NATIONS**

**HSP/OEWG-H.2025/4**



**UN-HABITAT**

**United Nations  
Human Settlements  
Programme**

Distr.: General  
9 September 2025  
English Only

---

**Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group  
on Adequate Housing for All  
Second session  
Nairobi, 22–23 October 2025  
Item 5 of the provisional agenda\*  
Road map for the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental  
Expert Working Group for the period 2025–2029**

## **Proposed Roadmap for the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group for the period 2025 – 2029 \*\***

### **I. Introduction**

#### **A. The Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Adequate Housing for All**

1. Established by Resolution 2/7 of the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UN-Habitat Assembly) on Adequate Housing for all, the purpose of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (OEWG-H) is to “consider and make recommendations to the Assembly on the development and content of policies for accelerating progress towards the universal achievement of safe, sustainable, adequate and affordable housing, and, specifically, requests the expert working group, subject to the availability of resources, to: (a) Assess the state of efforts to progressively realize adequate housing for all; (b) Identify policy best practices for the progressive realization of adequate housing and, as appropriate, examples of such best practices and the contexts in which they were developed; (c) Propose a framework for measuring and reporting on the adequacy of housing across diverse national and local contexts; (d) Consider the progress made in implementing the UN-Habitat programme of work related to adequate housing; (e) Map and evaluate existing multilateral and bilateral support for the development and implementation of effective housing policies, programmes and projects; and (f) Report on its recommendations to the Assembly at its third session.”<sup>1</sup>

2. This Roadmap provides an indicative plan and timetable for the OEWG-H’s work until the conclusion of its mandate in 2029, identifying milestones, deliverables, and modalities for implementation.

---

\* HSP/OEWG-H.2025/1.

\*\* This report has not been formally edited.

<sup>1</sup> HSP/HA.2/Res.7

3. The work of the OEWG-H will be pursued in close complementarity with the objectives of Resolution on ‘Accelerating the Transformation of Informal Settlements and Slums by 2030’ HSP/HA.2/Res.2, aimed at accelerating the transformation of informal settlements and slums by 2030.

4. The Roadmap also serves as a tool for mobilising and operationalising the technical, human, and financial means required for the OEWG-H to fulfil its mandate. It reflects the governance arrangements of the Working Group, which are shared between its Co-Chairs and the Executive Board of UN-Habitat, ensuring alignment with the organisation’s strategic priorities and decision-making processes. The OEWG-H agenda is also closely aligned with the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2026–2029.

## **B. Objective of the Roadmap**

5. Identify the key milestones and timelines for the implementation of OEWG-H activities.

6. Support and facilitate the work of the current and future Co-Chairs and of the UN-Habitat secretariat in planning and implementing OEWG-H activities.

7. Support the mobilisation of financial, technical, and human resources to sustain the OEWGH process as a whole.

## **C. Connection with global and regional forums and global housing workstreams**

8. The OEWG-H will interact with global and regional initiatives on housing, to align agendas, strengthen policy development and implementation, and leverage support from member states and partners. By leveraging these platforms and forums, the OEWG-H can ensure that its recommendations are contextualized regionally, benefit from peer exchange, and gain political momentum. The key ones:

(a) Global processes: World Urban Forum 13 and 14 which should include ministerial meetings on housing), the Second World Summit for Social Development, COP30, etc.

(b) Global reports: World Cities Report 2026 focusing on housing, SDG 11 review and mid-term review of the New Urban Agenda in 2026, etc.

(c) Regional organisations and processes: ECA, ESCAP, ECLAC, ESCWA, and UNECE (Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management), regional ministerial bodies such as AMCHUD, APMCHUD and MINURVI, and other subregional platforms (e.g., Gulf Cooperation Council forums on housing, SADC urban development meetings). These sessions can provide an avenue for accommodating voices from diverse national contexts, as well as perspectives from informal settlement dwellers, and marginalized groups.

(d) UN-Habitat work: UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2026-2029, Housing Knowledge Platform<sup>2</sup>, etc.

(e) Global Urban Data Coalition, set to map and monitor informal settlements, urban expansion and vacant spaces for housing and sustainable urban expansion and planning.

(f) Global Social Housing Hub, as an agile technical assistance and capacity development facility being incrementally set up in Paris, France and Nairobi, Kenya.

(g) UN system entities – Including the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and others.

## **D. Link to Resolution 2/2 of the United Nations Habitat Assembly on “Accelerating the Transformation of Informal Settlements and Slums by 2030”.**

9. The OEWG-H’s work is also relevant for the implementation of Resolution 2/2 of the UN-Habitat Assembly aimed at accelerating the transformation of informal settlements and slums by 2030, through a shared focus on housing adequacy, the complementarity of the work on housing with the ten key action areas outlined in Resolution 2/2, and the common aim of providing support to Member States in implementing transformative policies, strategies and programmes on adequate housing and transformation of informal settlements.

<sup>2</sup> Which could integrate youth-led innovation, digital tools, and participatory design.

## II. Key components of the Roadmap

### A. Meetings

#### 1. Formal sessions of the OEWG-H

10. Tentative dates for the OEWGH process 2025-2026:

- (a) OEWG-H3: May or October / November 2026
- (b) OEWG-H4: October / November 2027
- (c) OEWG-H5: October / November 2028
- (d) Preparation of the final report and outcomes of the OEWG-H to the 3rd UN-Habitat Assembly 2029: 1st quarter of 2029

11. The OEWG-H is progressively developing, refining and consolidating policy recommendations on the advancement of adequate housing. Each year, a set of recommendations is expected to be developed through a multistakeholder approach that includes collection of good practices, existing data, documented knowledge, expert group meetings and intersessional discussions. The recommendations are identified by experts during the EGMs, validated by Members States during Intersessional Meetings and proposed for consideration and possible endorsement at the formal sessions of the OEWG-H. Further refinement and development of the recommendations can take place in subsequent sessions.

12. Consideration of recommendations at the OEWG-H sessions will take place on a thematic basis, setting aside those that do not gather consensual approval. It is foreseen that the recommendations endorsed by each session of the OEWG-H will progressively constitute a body of recommendations that will be presented in 2029 at the third session of the UN-Habitat Assembly, for final consideration and possible adoption.

13. In the interim, outputs from this process are already informing and guiding policy reforms at the national level, contributing to the advancement of adequate housing as a global priority.

14. With regard to the timing of future OEWG-H meetings, final decisions will be made by the co-chairs, in consultation with the Executive Board and the Secretariat. In doing so, options for creating synergies with other relevant processes relating to adequate housing, such as the World Urban Forum and the high-level review of the New Urban Agenda, will be explored.

#### 2. Intersessional meetings of the OEWG-H

15. Based on the availability of resources and on the thematic areas of work prioritized for discussion each year, preparatory online intersessional meetings will be held in advance of the OEWG-H meetings. The outcomes of such discussions will form a basis of the documentation for the formal sessions.

#### 3. Additional consultations

16. Additional expert group meetings, regional consultations, and other events may also be organised ad-hoc, based on offers and requests by member states and partners, subject to the availability of resources. These consultations provide an informal space to generate insights, share practices and identify complementarities that can provide an informal contribution to the broader policy dialogue of the OEWG-H. A clearer avenue for local governments' engagement, connected to SDG localization, will be considered.

#### 4. United Nations Habitat Assembly

17. The recommendations and report emerging from the Open-Ended Working Group process will be submitted to the UN-Habitat Assembly at its third session in 2029 for final consideration and possible adoption.

### B. Thematic areas of focus

18. In preparation for the first session of the OEWG-H, a series of preparatory [documents](#) for the work of the Group were developed; based on the contributions by member states, the co-chairs of the Group prepared a [roadmap for 2025](#). On this basis, the following thematic streams of work are being developed for consideration at the OEWG-H sessions in 2025 and 2026:

- (a) Housing finance
- (b) Tenure security

- (c) Informal settlements
- (d) Social housing
- (e) Housing sustainability
- (f) Definition of homelessness
- (g) Definition of informal settlements
- (h) Housing monitoring framework<sup>3</sup>

19. To ensure that the work of the Group remains focused on key thematic housing priorities, a limited number of additional thematic areas of work may be considered before 2029. Possible thematic areas for consideration are as follows:

- (i) Integrated national housing policies (including connection with national urban policies, incremental housing solutions, linkages with SDG localisation, etc.)
- (j) Rental housing
- (k) Housing and climate resilience (as part of housing sustainability)
- (l) Housing in crisis contexts
- (m) Housing and water management
- (n) Housing and waste management (with a focus on informal settlements)
- (o) Enabling land management tools for housing provision (e.g. land readjustment for slum transformation, Community Land Trust, etc.)
- (p) Women's access to housing – housing and gender
- (q) Housing for old person and youth

### **C. Political and financial support by co-chairs and member states**

20. The success of the OEWG-H is determined by the involvement and support of co-chairs and participating member states. With the support and facilitation of UN-Habitat, co-chairs and member states are invited to:

- (a) Nominate experts to participate in the OEWG-H process, as described [here](#);
- (b) Participate and contribute actively at OEWG-H sessions;
- (c) Mobilise dedicated financial resources for the OEWGH process, to enable the implementation of activities of the Working Group, support the organisation of the meetings and future sessions of the OEWG-H, finance the participation of participants from Least Developed Countries, and support the establishment and maintenance of the housing knowledge platform,<sup>4</sup> as described [here](#);
- (d) Provide strategic guidance, advocate for the advancement of adequate housing at global, regional and national levels, and support the preparation, endorsement, dissemination and implementation of recommendations emerging from the work of the OEWG-H.

---

<sup>3</sup> Crucial to provide data and analysis disaggregated by gender, age, disability, displacement status, etc. and to complement and align with the monitoring framework of the UN-Habitat Strategic plan 2-26-2029

<sup>4</sup> To be established from 2026, upon availability of resources.