

Informal Side Event

Co-Facilitator's Dialogue with Members and Observers of the Executive Board and Member States based in Nairobi on the process to develop a draft Political Declaration on the Midterm Review of the New Urban Agenda

Conference Room 2, United Nations compound in Gigiri, Nairobi,

Wednesday, 22 April 2026, 12.00 p.m. – 1.00 p.m.

Background

The Midterm Review of the New Urban Agenda, mandated by United Nations General Assembly Resolution [79/214](#) presents a critical opportunity to Member States to reaffirm commitments and accelerate implementation of the Agenda toward 2036.

The Co-facilitators of the intergovernmental process in New York appointed by the President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mrs. Agnes Mary Chimbiri Molande, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malawi to the United Nations and H.E. Mr. Krzysztof Maria Szczerski, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations, have convened a series of consultations with Member States and stakeholders during the first half of 2026, to prepare a concise, action-oriented draft political declaration focused on practical guidance, measurable commitments and strengthened means of implementation. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 79/214, the draft declaration is expected to be considered for adoption at a high-level meeting under the UN General Assembly, scheduled for 16-17 July 2026.

With a view to ensure a broad and inclusive consultation process, the co-facilitators have been invited by the Executive Director to attend the [first session of UN-Habitat Executive Board](#) for 2026, scheduled for 21-22 April 2026, to provide a formal briefing under agenda item 9 – “Preparations for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda”. In addition, an informal side event will be organized, to be held during the lunch break of day two of the session, to offer an opportunity for Members and Observers of the Executive Board and delegations based in Nairobi to engage in an informal interactive dialogue on the process to develop the draft declaration. The Dialogue will aim to deepen the engagement with Member States represented at UN-Habitat Headquarters and help shape the substantive elements to inform the political declaration ahead of the upcoming negotiations and the high-level meeting of the General Assembly taking place in New York in June and July 2026.

Objectives

The main objectives of the informal side event in the margins of the first session of the Executive Board 2006 are:

- Offer the opportunity to Members and Observers of the Board and to Member States based in Nairobi to share their views and comments on the process and content of draft the political declaration.
- Strengthen coherence between New York and Nairobi processes to ensure that Nairobi-based perspectives inform the negotiation process.
- Identify gaps, opportunities, and scalable solutions to accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.
- Advance convergence on key messages and outcomes to be taken forward in the high-level meeting, including the level of ambition, scope of commitments, modalities for implementation, follow-up and review.
- Promote the adoption of the political declaration at the high-level meeting in New York as a forward-looking blueprint aligned with the 2030 Agenda, the Pact for the Future, and broader multilateral processes on sustainable development and urbanization.

Guiding Questions

1. What key political messages should the declaration convey to accelerate implementation of the NUA to 2036?
2. Which areas should be prioritized to address the most critical urban challenges, and how should the declaration reflect differing national and regional realities, particularly in rapidly urbanizing contexts?
3. How can the declaration reinforce effective multilevel governance and coordination, and what are the opportunities to strengthen partnerships in the delivery of the New Urban Agenda?

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item
12:00 – 12:10	Opening and Welcome Remarks (10 min) H.E. Mr. Krzysztof Maria Szczerski, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations, co-facilitator of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the New Urban Agenda
12:10 – 12:55	Interactive dialogue with Permanent Representatives (45 min) Guided by key questions and moderated by the co-facilitators
12:55 – 13:00	Summary and next steps (5 min) Closing by Co-facilitator