



UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME
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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

Call for nominations of National Focal Points to the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All

The Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (OEWG-H) was established through [UN-Habitat Assembly Resolution 2/7](#) and is the first and only universal multilateral forum of its kind to address the global challenge of inadequate housing. The initiative reflects the growing awareness that housing is both a fundamental human right and a complex issue that requires coordinated, multilateral efforts to resolve. It provides a dedicated platform for Member States to discuss challenges, assess progress, and share solutions.

The first session of the OEWG-H (OEWG-H1) was held between 9-11 December 2024 at the UN-Habitat Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. All relevant information relating to the first meeting can be [found here](#).

The **second session (OEWG-H2)** was successfully convened in 22-23 October 2025, advancing the technical and policy discussions initiated during OEWG-H1. The session resulted in substantive progress, including the welcoming of policy recommendations covering housing finance, tenure security, informal settlements and social housing. These outcomes now inform preparations toward the next phase of work of the OEWG-H, including continued intersessional engagement and future sessions of the Working Group. All relevant information relating to the first meeting can be [found here](#).

Azerbaijan and Somalia were elected as Co-Chairs of the Working Group for a period of one year and prepared a roadmap to guide the work of the Group. It identified the following proposed areas of focus to be addressed through two inter-sessional meetings and at the third session of the Working Group (OEWG-H3), to be held in person in the last quarter of 2026: (1) Housing sustainability and climate resilience; (2) Integrated housing policies. Furthermore, the roadmap also includes an additional theme, Enabling land management tools for housing provision, for consideration at OEWG-H4 in 2027.

Member States are invited to nominate one or two national expert(s) who will act as National Focal Point(s) to the OEWG-H process. The National Focal Point(s) act(s) as the official channel of communication between government and the Secretariat of the OEWG-H. National Focal Points should have political and/or technical expertise in adequate housing and are expected to serve as a contact point between the secretariat and their national governments. They are expected to attend the OEWG-H meetings and preparatory intersessional meetings, engage in informal consultations in alignment with national and regional priorities and conditions, and to provide technical expertise. Further, they are expected to be the interface between the Secretariat and the national delegations attending the OEWG-H meetings and act as coordinators of such delegations.

Member States who have not already done so yet are invited to communicate the appointment of their National Focal Point(s) to the OEWG-H secretariat through a Note Verbale or an official letter signed by a minister or senior government representative at their earliest convenience and no later than 30 April 2026. Nominations received prior to this communication will be retained.

Nominations should be sent to the UN-Habitat Secretariat of Governing Bodies (unhabitatsgb@un.org) and Cc Ombretta Tempra, Chief of the Land, Housing and Shelter Section (ombretta.tempra@un.org). Further information on the OEWG-H can be provided by Ms. Tempra.



In parallel to the nomination process, Member States are also invited to consider supporting the implementation of the OEWG-H mandate through voluntary contributions, including sponsorship of Working Group sessions and intersessional activities. Further information is available in the Call for Expressing Interest to Sponsor the OEWG-H [available here](#).