



**Statement
of the Delegation of Ukraine during
the first session of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat for the year 2026
under Agenda Item 7 “Efforts to reconstruct human settlements in Ukraine
affected by the conflict – Report of the Executive Director”
(HSP/EB.2025/INF/17/Rev.2)
(21-22.04.2026, Nairobi)**

Mr. Chairperson, Madam Executive Director, Excellencies, Distinguished colleagues

The delegation of Ukraine expresses its sincere appreciation to the Executive Director for the revised report on efforts to reconstruct human settlements in Ukraine. We particularly welcome that it has been updated in accordance with the decision of the previous session of the Executive Board.

We also note with appreciation that the report is now aligned with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly regarding Ukraine.

The revised report rightly reflects the reality of the ongoing armed aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine. This is essential, as any credible discussion on recovery and reconstruction must be firmly grounded in the root causes of destruction.

The Russian Federation’s full-scale invasion has resulted in massive, widespread and systematic destruction across Ukraine. Millions of people have been affected, with over 13 per cent of the housing stock damaged or destroyed, impacting more than 2.5 million households. In some areas, entire cities and communities have been reduced to little more than rubble.

These are not abstract figures. They are homes that no longer exist.

Deliberate strikes against residential buildings, civilian infrastructure and critical energy systems continue. This is not incidental. It reflects a consistent pattern – and it continues as we speak.

According to official data, in just one recent week, over 3,000 strike drones, more than 1,450 guided aerial bombs and dozens of missiles were used against Ukraine.

This scale leaves no doubt about the deliberate nature of these actions.

These acts have been extensively documented by the United Nations, including the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as by independent international monitoring mechanisms. They raise serious concerns under international humanitarian law and may amount to war crimes, as increasingly recognized by the international community.

Dear colleagues,

Reconstruction in Ukraine cannot be viewed as a post-conflict process. It is taking place in conditions of ongoing destruction.

The scale of this destruction is not accidental. It is deliberate.

This is why reconstruction cannot be treated as a purely technical exercise. It is inseparable from the question of responsibility.

Sustainable recovery requires more than rebuilding infrastructure.

Otherwise, we risk rebuilding what continues to be destroyed – while the source of this destruction faces no consequences.

We appreciate the continued engagement of UN-Habitat and the broader United Nations system in supporting Ukraine.

The question before us is simple: will we rebuild what was destroyed – or allow destruction to become the new normal?

Thank you.