



Third Bureau Meeting of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat of 2026
Tuesday 1 September 2026
11:30 am – 13:00 pm EAT

Draft Summary

Agenda item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

1. Ms. Zhao Wenhua, Deputy Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to UN-Habitat, on behalf of H.E. Ms. Haiyan Guo, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to UN-Habitat and Chair of the Executive Board, opened the meeting at 12:30 p.m. EAT.

The following members of the Bureau of the Executive Board were present:

- H.E. Mr. Maros Mitrik, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to UN-Habitat
- H.E. Ms. Gisele Fernandez Ludlow, Permanent Representative of the United Mexican States to UN-Habitat (online)
- H.E. Ms. Susan Nakhumicha, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to UN-Habitat
- Ms. Zhao Wenhua, Deputy Permanent Representatives of the People's Republic of China to UN-Habitat
- Ms. Caterina Salb, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to UN-Habitat
- Mr. Eduardo Zaqueu, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mozambique to UN-Habitat
- Ms. Astrid Padilla, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United Mexican States to UN-Habitat (online)
- Ms. Beatrice Karago, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to UN-Habitat
- Ms. Ivy Mburu, Multilateral Affairs Officer of the Permanent Mission of Federal Republic of Germany
- Mr. Simao Jone, Second Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mozambique to UN-Habitat
- Mr. Simon Matu Ndiaga, Third Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to UN-Habitat.

2. The Chair welcomed all participants to the meeting and the [provisional Agenda](#) was adopted.

Agenda Item 2: Preparations for the 2026 second session of the Executive Board

- a. **Review of the provisional Agenda for the second session**
- b. **Proposed organization of work during the second session**

3. The Executive Director provided a briefing on the provisional agenda and the proposed organization of work during the second session of the Executive Board. The statement of the Executive Director for all agenda items is available [here](#) and the presentation is accessible [here](#).
4. Bureau members welcomed the briefing and provided the following guidance and observations:
 - Congratulated China on assuming the position as Chair of the Executive Board, and expressed appreciation to Germany for its leadership as former Chair.

- Noted that the current international context requires UN-Habitat to do more with less, and emphasized that a streamlined agenda would help the Executive Board better fulfill its mandate and improve the effectiveness of its meetings.
 - Agreed to reorder agenda items 7 and 8 so that they appear after agenda item 9 - “Report from relevant United Nations Oversight Bodies”.
 - Sought clarification on whether any agenda items would include guest presenters, external participants, and whether any side events are foreseen.
 - Proposed that the secretariat undertake a comprehensive review of international days and global awards, including their outcomes, lessons learned, coherence, coordination, and overall impact, with the findings presented at an upcoming Executive Board session, under Agenda Item 6, “Normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat”.
5. In response, the secretariat provided the following clarifications:
- Informed that the Executive Director’s report will cover several topics under agenda item 6, including UN-Habitat country programmes in Lao PDR and Kenya (possibly including possible short video testimonies or interventions, if time allows), the Global Water Operators’ Partnership Alliance and UN-Habitat’s work in areas affected by conflict and disasters
 - Underlined that the aim of the secretariat is to present a balanced overview of its normative and operational work.
 - Acknowledged the added value of undertaking a comprehensive review of international days and awards, while noting that preparing an additional report for the upcoming session may be challenging given the limited time and resources available.
6. **The Bureau recommended the approval of the proposed provisional agenda and organization of work for the second session of the Executive Board, as amended by the Bureau with regard to the proposed reordering the agenda items.**

Agenda item 3: Roadmap of Meetings towards the second session of the Executive Board

- a. Informal consultations on possible outcomes**
 - b. Briefing by the Executive Director to Member States**
7. The Executive Director provided a briefing to the Bureau on the roadmap of meetings towards the 2026 second session of the Executive Board, including informal consultations on possible outcomes and the briefing by the Executive Director to Member States. The latest version of the roadmap of meetings for the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat is available [here](#).
8. China, in its capacity as Chair of the Executive Board, invited members of the Bureau as well as the President of the Habitat Assembly, the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Chair of the working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters to hold its next meeting in Fuzhou, China, on the sidelines of the World Cities Day celebration on 31 October, in support of the preparations for the next Executive Board session and to strengthen coordination among UN-Habitat Governing Bodies. China indicated its readiness to provide logistical and financial support to Bureau members and secretariat representatives, encouraged in-person representation from all invited delegations, and committed to working closely with the secretariat on the necessary arrangements.
9. Bureau Members and the Chair of the ad hoc working group expressed support for the proposed roadmap and expressed appreciation to China for the proposal to host an extended Executive Board Bureau meeting in Fuzhou.

10. **The Bureau took note of the latest roadmap of meetings, including the proposed dates for the Bureau meetings, the Executive Director's briefing and the informal consultations on possible draft outcomes, as presented by the secretariat with the understanding that it may be adapted and adjusted, if necessary.**
11. **The Bureau recommended, as per established practice, that the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters will consider draft outcomes before they are tabled for adoption by the Board at its 2026 second session.**

Agenda item 4: Consideration of dates for the 2027 first session of the Executive Board

12. The Executive Director presented proposed dates for the first session of the Executive Board in 2027.
13. **The Bureau recommended the dates of 13 and 14 April 2027 for the first session of the Executive Board for the year 2027, subject to further review and decision by the Board at its second session 2026.**

Agenda item 5: Update on the preparations for the third session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (OEWG-H3)

14. The Co-chair of OEWG-H3 recalled that the next session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Adequate Housing for All will be held back-to-back to the second session of the Executive Board 2026, and emphasized the need for additional financial contributions to support the Working Group's activities.

Agenda item 6: Any other matters

15. The meeting was closed at 13:00 pm EAT.