

Information Note for Participants

Third session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All

1. Introduction

On 9 June 2023, the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UN-Habitat Assembly), in [resolution 2/7](#), established the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All. In the same resolution, the UN-Habitat Assembly decided that the Working Group's activities and programme of work would be determined in consultation with the Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). The UN-Habitat Assembly also decided that the Executive Board would decide on the timing and duration of the sessions of the Working Group.

The Expert Working Group held its first session from 9 to 11 December 2024 in Nairobi. The report of that session is set out in document HSP/OEWG-H.2024/8 and can be accessed [here](#) and the summary of the Chair set out in document HSP/OEWG-H.2024/9 can be accessed [here](#). The second session of the Working Group was held from 22 to 23 October 2025, and the report of that session is set out in documents HSP/OEWG-H.2025/5 and can be accessed [here](#).

At its first session in 2026, the Executive Board decided that third session of the Expert Working Group will be held for a duration of two days on 26 and 27 November. The Executive Board also invited Member States to consider providing financial resources to support the overall inclusive work and effective functioning of the Working Group, including by facilitating the participation of representatives from developing countries.

Accordingly, the [third session](#) of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All will take place on Thursday, 26 November and Friday, 27 November 2026.

2. Location and modalities of Participation

The third session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All will be held in-person at the UN-Habitat Headquarters in Nairobi, which is located at the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON). The main entrance is located on United Nations Avenue in Gigiri. Pedestrians may enter the complex through the pavilion, north of the main vehicular entrance. Private vehicles without official access decals may not enter the complex but can drop off or pick up passengers in front of the pavilion entrance.

All meetings will take place in Conference Room 2 at UNON. A weblink will be shared with duly registered delegates to allow for passive external online attendance (listen only; English only).

Section 4 below provides more details on how to register to the meeting.



3. Travel and Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA)

A valid passport with at least six months before expiry from date of arrival, is required for entry and all delegates attending the meeting in person must obtain an Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA) to enter Kenya.

Information on the categories of eTA and how to apply is available on the website of the [Kenya Electronic Travel Authorisation \(eTA\) application system](#). To obtain an eTA for Kenya, participants should follow the instruction provided on the website, including with regard to timeframes, supporting documents and requirements to upload a copy of the passport etc. It is highly recommended that travellers apply as soon as they have booked their accommodation and transport tickets.

Please note that eTA for entering Kenya and registration for attending the Working Group session are two separate procedures. Successful registration to the Working Group does not guarantee issuance of an eTA.

Please also note that obtaining an eTA is the sole responsibility of meeting participants and not of the Secretariat.

Accommodation in Nairobi

Participants are requested to make own hotel reservations for their stay in Nairobi. A list of hotels recommended by the UN Office in Nairobi with suggested rates in Nairobi can be found [here](#).

Participants who choose to use other forms of accommodation are advised to be vigilant about selecting safe and appropriate accommodation.

4. Registration for the Third session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All

On-line registration for the session **opened on 2 September 2026 and will close on Friday, 20 November 2026 at 18:00 (UTC+03:00, Nairobi time)** through UN-Habitat's Global Events Management System (UN-Habitat GEMS) registration portal, at this [link](#).

Online Registration is open to national experts nominated by Member States, Member State representatives, including from Permanent and Observer Missions, intergovernmental organizations (IGO), and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) or accredited to the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UN-Habitat Assembly).

i. Member States and IGO delegates

Member States and IGO delegates are required to upload a formal notification/ note verbale reflecting the names of the representative (s) as part of the official delegation when registering. For any questions relating to online registration for this category, please contact the Secretariat of the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat via email to unhabitat-sgb@un.org.

ii. Non-governmental organizations

The session is open to Non-governmental organizations that are either in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), accredited to the previous two sessions of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development or accredited to the United Nations Habitat Assembly (UN-Habitat Assembly) may, in accordance with Rules 68 and 69 of the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations Habitat Assembly. Please note:

- Each accredited NGO may nominate one representative. For organizations also attending the Executive Board session, we would appreciate it if, where possible, the individual nominated to attend the OEWG-H3 could be the same representative nominated to attend the Executive Board session.
- Each nominated representative must, when registering through the online registration portal, upload a signed letter on the official letterhead of the organization they represent, nominating them to attend the session. The letter should be addressed to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat.



- Questions and expressions of interest to make oral statements during the session should be directed to unhabitat-partners@un.org and Ms. Paula Pennanen-Rebeiro-Hargrave, Head of the Advocacy and Stakeholders Unit at paula.pennanen-rebeiro@un.org before Friday, 20 November 2026 at 12:00 noon (UTC+03:00).

iii. Media Accreditation

Participants who wish to be accredited as Media representatives need to register online via this [link](#) and upload the following documents.

- A recognized national or international press association card or press pass with validity beyond the date of the Working Group session.
- A corresponding national identification card or passport.

You will be informed via email of your final accreditation status before Friday, 20 November 2026 or contacted earlier if more information is required.

It is essential for UN-Habitat to receive any requested documentation via the online registration portal at this [link](#) before the **20 November 2026** and with the details indicated above, to be able to proceed with registration for Media accreditation.

iv. Additional information regarding online registration

All delegates are encouraged to register online using the [UN-Habitat's Global Events Management System](#) (UN-Habitat GEMS).

Prior to registering for the Working Group, all delegates will need to first sign up or login to their existing user account on UN-Habitat's GEMS platform.

After registration, all delegates will receive first an automated e-mail confirming receipt of their registration for the third session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All. If approved, a second e-mail notification will then be sent, with a unique confirmation number and QR code which will be used to finalize the registration process when arriving at the United Nations Office at Nairobi, for collection of the photo badge and access to the meeting rooms.

Please note that the review and verification process of online registrations may take several days, depending on the number of registrations received.

The online registration must be complete, including relevant contact details, exact title and designation etc, to enable the Secretariat to review and approve registrants.

Online registration is **mandatory** for the session and will close on **20 November 2026**.

All Member State delegates, including delegates posted in Nairobi that may already have a UN ground pass, must register online to the meeting and be issued with meetings-specific badges, to allow easy access to all areas and ensure the issuance of correct list of participants.

v. On-site registration

After receiving the second e-mail notification with a unique confirmation number and QR code, delegates and entities participating as observers, as well as non-governmental organization and media representatives, are welcome to collect their badges at UNON, Pass & ID office (entrance via Visitors Pavilion) on the following dates and opening hours:

- Monday, 23 November 2026 from 08:00 to 16:00 (UTC+03:00).
- Tuesday, 24 November 2026 from 08:00 to 16:00 (UTC+03:00).
- Wednesday, 25 November 2026 from 08:00 to 16:00 (UTC + 03:00).

vi. Change in registration details

In case of any changes to the registration details by any participant, the UN-Habitat GEMS enables participants to make changes to their user account and event registration details until the deadline on 20 November 2026.

vii. Additional support

For technical support regarding online registration please write to unhabitat-events@un.org for assistance.

For general questions concerning the third session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All, please contact the Secretariat of the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat via email to unhabitat-sgb@un.org copying unhabitat-owg-housing@un.org.

Additional information is available on the UN-Habitat [website](#) for the third session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All.

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UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME
P.O. Box 30030, Nairobi 00100, Kenya
www.unhabitat.org