

**First meeting of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent
Representatives**

Wednesday, 22 October 2026

16:00 – 17:30 EAT

Kenya speaking notes

Excellencies, it is a pleasure for me to present our ideas for the 50th Anniversary of the Establishment of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

In brief, and after extensive consultations with the Presidency of the UN-Habitat Assembly, the Chair of the CPR, and all Members of the joint Bureaux of the UN-Habitat governing bodies, we propose to commemorate Habitat@50 as follows:

With regard to the date and location, we suggest that it will be held on Friday 18 June 2027 – the last day of the OECPR-4 – here at the UN compound in Nairobi.

As for the level of participation, we expect that the commemoration will be held at the highest possible political level, and therefore attended by a significant number of Heads of State and Governments and Ministers, as well as Permanent Representatives, Member States delegates, and accredited stakeholders.

Regarding the format, we suggest that the commemoration will be integrated into the agenda and program of OECPR-4, organized under the leadership of this CPR bureau, Chaired by Sweden – but in close consultation with Members States. The segment should be organized as a self-standing informal one-day high-level segment fully dedicated to the commemoration. Further consideration will be needed to determine which country should be presiding the commemoration.

With regard to the agenda and programme of the commemorative high-level segment, we suggest that it consists of a high-level opening with speeches from Heads of States and Governments, followed by 2-3 panel discussions focusing on relevant sub-themes that are yet to be defined, taking stock of achievements made in the past 50 years and looking ahead toward the future of UN-Habitat and sustainable urbanization.

Finally, regarding the preferred outcome of the commemoration, we consider that it should be a Chair's Summary that captures the main messages from the Opening Ceremony and the Panel Dialogues. The summary could serve as a contribution to the third session of the UN-Habitat Assembly to be held in June 2029, support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda, and provide inputs to the global sustainable development agenda.

I look forward to your comments on this proposed approach - which is also well captured in the concept note prepared by the secretariat.

Thank you, Chair.