



THE FIRST GLOBAL STAKEHOLDERS FORUM

Harnessing Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships to Foster Innovative Urban Solutions

Summary Report



SUMMARY

The decision by UN-Habitat to hold a *Global Stakeholder Forum* at the first session of the United Nations UN-Habitat Assembly, 27 – 31 May 2019, represents a significant milestone towards the agency's inclusive approach on partnerships.

The forum was convened to bring together all partners: United Nations entities, governments and stakeholders to share views and experiences on the challenges and opportunities of global trends within the scope of urbanization and human settlements.

UN-Habitat shared its progress on the ongoing reform process especially the new governance structure, the strategic planning process, and the internal restructuring process. In 2018 UN-Habitat worked with partners to develop the Stakeholder Collaborative Implementation Framework. The framework is a general guide on stakeholder contribution to the success of the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs through: advocacy; monitoring and reporting; policy and leadership; and engagement with the UN system.

The UN-Habitat Executive Director established a Stakeholder Advisory Group which is expected to increase strategic engagement with stakeholders. The advisory group is a global level consultative body for regular dialogue between stakeholders and the UN-Habitat Secretariat on policy, programmes and operational activities. The rationale is to enhance and support the agency's engagement with its stakeholders.

The second day of the stakeholder forum was led by the Stakeholder Advisory Group. The group facilitate a full day stakeholder caucus which resulted to the drafting and adoption of a stakeholder declaration.

Future sessions of the forum will be organized by stakeholders and held every two years, to coincide with sessions of the World Urban Forum and the UN-Habitat Assembly. The objective is to always consider the position of stakeholders ahead of UN-Habitat's deliberations with Member States, United Nations entities or with stakeholders.

The Global Stakeholder Forum, addressing new engagement mechanisms was a very strategic development, building on previous consultations with partners and Member States, and bringing together all stakeholders to voice their position and share experiences.

The objectives of the forum were to:

- a. Provide an opportunity for stakeholders to familiarize themselves with the UN-Habitat Assembly and its subsidiary organs, available platforms of stakeholder engagement and with the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023.
- b. Formulate a stakeholder declaration to be presented to Member States during the Assembly and at the Executive Board.
- c. Develop a stakeholder engagement mechanism with a clear roadmap on key milestones in advancing the 2030 Agenda.

The forum was attended by over 200 participants who represented all partners working with UN-Habitat.

SESSIONS OF THE FORUM

The 2-day forum was structured into four main sessions:

- three panel discussions;
- a group break-out session;
- a dialogue with the Executive Director; and
- a stakeholder caucus

DAY 1, SATURDAY 25 MAY 2019

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

THE UN-HABITAT DISCUSSION PANEL

Welcome Remarks by Mr. Victor Kisob, Deputy Executive Director, UN-Habitat

UN-Habitat conveyed sincere appreciation and pleasure to be part of the first Global Stakeholder Forum. Partnerships are key to transformation of cities and human settlements. Achievement of SDGs and the New Urban Agenda requires individual and collective action at all levels, with national and local governments, UN agencies, civil society, academia, private sector, women, youth, grassroots and informal sector organisations, as well as other stakeholders working together. It is through the strategic engagement with stakeholders, SDG11 and the New Urban Agenda were adopted.

Partnerships remain critical to the deepening of the impact of the work of UN-Habitat, up-scaling of our programmes, mobilisation of resources, expertise and knowledge, to ensure that no one is left behind. UN-Habitat recognizes the efforts made by countless organisations to move the urban agenda forward and ensure that cities and human settlements are well planned, managed, governed and can work for all. Stakeholders remain fundamental to the achievement of better quality of

life and effective implementation of UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan for 2020 - 2023.

UN-Habitat is going through a change process intended to improve on our organisation and how we deliver on our mandate at local and national levels. The New Governance Structure of UN-Habitat, the UN-Habitat Assembly with a universal membership (193 countries) and its subsidiary organs including the Executive Board (of 36 members) responds better to UN-Habitat's unique position of promoting urbanisation as a driver for sustainable development. The rules of procedure, the stakeholder engagement policy and accreditation procedure under preparation provide for stakeholder consultation, and enhanced stakeholder engagement in normative and operational programmes and intergovernmental processes.

As part of the UN reforms, emphasis is being placed on strengthening regional hubs and action at the country level. The Regional Economic Commissions and UN Resident Coordination System are being strengthened to ensure that the UN provides the technical assistance and policy advice that is appropriate. UN-Habitat as the focal point for sustainable urbanisation within the UN system is working towards strengthening UN system coordination at all levels.

The process by which national urban policies are developed brings several actors together within and outside governments. Equally so, the world urban forum and related regional and national urban fora provide a marketplace for innovative solutions to be explored, shared and disseminated. We need regular urban innovation centres attached to focal point ministries of housing and urban development or academic institutions to allow stakeholders, including young women and men to explore ideas and solutions on how to make cities and human settlements better places for all.

THE UN-HABITAT PANEL

Members of the UN-Habitat Panel

1. Mr. Pacome Kossy, Strategic Planning Advisor
2. Mr. Raf Tuts, Director, Programme Division
3. Ms. Christine Musisi, Director, External Relation Division
4. Hon. Lori Dando, Permanent Representative to UNEP and UN-Habitat, USA

Highlighted Issues

The UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023

- UN-Habitat needs a new narrative as the current strategic plan is centered around the agency's functional competencies. This has not been very clear nor convincing to member states and stakeholders.
- The new strategy adopts a result-based approach and is aligned to the global agendas and commitments.
- The strategy is aligned to the 2030 Agenda priorities: People; Prosperity; Planet and Peace, which will be implemented through: reduced poverty and spatial inequality in urban and rural communities; enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions; strengthened climate action and improved urban environment; and effective urban crisis prevention and response respectively.
- The strategic plan formulation process started in April 2018 with a situation analysis and consultations with UN-Habitat offices in Nairobi and regional offices. The strategic planning team conducted surveys within UN-Habitat and with stakeholders and held workshops and retreats that informed the zero draft.

- Over 50 UN-Habitat staff members, 11 United Nations entities, and 11 networks of stakeholders supported the strategic plan formulation process.

Stakeholder engagement in normative and operational programmes

- Seven hundred and eighty-nine projects valued at 1,225 million USD are implemented by UN-Habitat in the world since 2014. These projects cover 97 countries.
- Over sixty percent of the projects integrated both the normative and operational work of UN-Habitat.
- UN-Habitat signed 407 agreements with stakeholders in the period 2013 to 2018 with governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and local authorities engaged in over 60% of the signed agreements.
- Stakeholders are engaged in project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Examples of programmes and platforms that have engaged stakeholders include the City prosperity Index, Global Land Tool Network, Global Future Cities programme, formulation of National Urban Policy, and the world urban youth councils.

The stakeholder collaborative framework,

- UN-Habitat's efforts on stakeholder engagement aims to: amplify stakeholder voices and participation; foster inclusion, collaboration and capacity building, enhance UN interagency coordination and cooperation; and unlock new resources and financing for sustainable urbanization.
- The agency-wide stakeholder engagement framework is supported through parallel processes and strategies: Partnership

strategy; stakeholder engagement policy; business engagement strategy; UN-system wide strategy, collaborative implementation framework, and the establishment of a stakeholder advisory group.

- The stakeholder collaborative framework outlines four key components: joint advocacy and campaigns; data monitoring and reporting; policy and leadership; and engagement with the United Nations system and intergovernmental bodies.

Development of UN-Habitat Stakeholder Engagement Policy and accreditation procedure: Progress to date,

- The proposed stakeholder engagement policy aims to promote consistency in the way UN-Habitat engages stakeholders at all levels.
- The policy supports: the implementation of UN-Habitat’s strategic plan and its partnership strategy; a framework for engagement of and consultations with stakeholders who are impacted by UN-Habitat policies and programmes; and the agency’s unique stakeholder engagement including approaches and platforms such as the World Urban Forum, the World Urban Campaigns, and advisory boards.
- The draft policy has been developed through close consultations between the secretariat and Member States at the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The language in most components of the policy has been agreed. Issues that require further discussion are on the accreditation procedure.
- The Chief Executive Board will guide on the process.

THE UN-HABITAT STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP

UN-Habitat has a long history of working with a wide range of partners through its engagement with the United Nations system, governments, and stakeholders including civil society organizations, academia and the private sector. UN-Habitat also works with several multi-stakeholder issue-based networks and advisory boards.

To strengthen its engagement with stakeholders especially in achieving the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda, UN-Habitat established a reference group that supported the development of a stakeholder collaborative implementation framework. The implementation of this collaborative framework will be complemented by the partnerships strategy and the stakeholder engagement policy.

As a complimentary strategy for effective stakeholder engagement mechanism, the UN-Habitat Executive Director in consultation with all UN-Habitat Branches and Regional Offices in the nomination and selection of 16 members of the stakeholder advisory group. The advisory group is expected to help streamline agency’s partnerships by advising the Executive Director and her team issues related to stakeholder engagement.

MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY GROUP

1.	Co-Chair: Ms. Dyan Currie	President, Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP)
2.	Co-Chair: Dr. Siraj Sait	University of East London
3.	Co-Secretary: Mr. George Wasonga	Chief Executive Officer, Civil Society urban Development Platform
4.	Co-Secretary: Ms. Shamoy Hajare	Founder/CEO, the Jamaica School for Social Entrepreneurship
5.	Mr. Alersand Bazhenov	Founding partner and Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Russia based “InfraKAP” company
6.	Ms. Alice Charles	Lead, Cities and Urban Development Work, World Economic Forum
7.	Mr. Aromar Revi	Director of the Indian Institute for Human Settlements, India
8.	Dr. Eugenie L. Birch	Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research and Education, and Chair of the Graduate Group in City and Regional Planning
9.	Ms. Emilia Saiz	Secretary General, UCLG
10.	Ms. Lorena Zarate	President, Habitat International Coalition
11.	Ms. Magdalena García Hernández	Huirou Commission Governing Council and Co-Chair the Women’s Constituent Partner’s Group, General Assembly of Partners, GAP
12.	Mr. Philippe Camille Akoa	Managing Director, The Africa Network of Municipal Finance Institutions

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| 13. | Ms. Rose Molokoane | Coordinator, the South African Federation of the Urban Poor |
| 14. | Prof. Sahar Attia | Professor of Architecture & Urban Design, Cairo University |
| 15. | Mr. Shi Nan | Vice President and Secretary General, Urban Planning Society of China |
| 16. | Dr Victor Pineda | Founder/ President, Pineda Foundation/ World Enabled |

The stakeholder discussions were structured into two panels:

- a. Innovative mechanisms for achievement of SDGs and the New Urban Agenda and transform lives, and
- b. Multi stakeholder collaboration and innovation for better quality of life.

Members of the stakeholder discussion panels:

1. Mr. Davinda Lamba, Mazingira Institute and Former President, Habitat International Coalition
2. Ms. Soon Young Yoon, Chair, Women Environmental Development Organisation
3. Ms. Ludivine, Cornille, Director Programmes, Consortium for Sustainable Urbanisation
4. Mr. Alexander Juras, Chief, Civil Society Unit, The United Nations Environment Programme
5. Professor Eugenie Birch, University of Pennsylvania, and President, General Assembly of Partners
6. Ms. Teresa Boccia, Honorary President, AFEM (Association femmes Europe Méridionale)
7. Dr. Cheng Zhiqiang, The Global Energy Interconnection of Development Cooperation Organization
8. Ms. Rose Molokoane, Slum Dwellers International
9. Mr. Stephen Bogere, Government representative, Uganda
10. Ms. Shamoy Hajare, Social entrepreneur and Youth Advisory Board

Highlighted Issues

1. **Engagement in policies and programmes on sustainable urban development**
 - Stakeholder engagement in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes is a process that requires a clear vision and collective objectives agreed through open communication and representation of multiple stakeholders.
 - The United Nations entities have incorporated stakeholder consultations in official proceedings as guided by the United Nations Charter in 1947, article 71. This was clarified in 2013 (A/67/290). The New Urban Agenda also underlines the need for stakeholder contributions.
 - Examples of successful opportunities for stakeholder consultations on policy and programme include: the Policy Units and the General Assembly of Partners during the Habitat III; the global land tool network; the urban thinkers campuses; and the committee on world food security.
 - The first global stakeholder forum is a first step towards an inclusive process in view of the projected milestones, engagement at the UN-Habitat Assembly, the Executive Board, the secretariat, and in the implementation of the strategic plan.
2. **Gender Equality and Women**
 - As much as gender equality is mentioned in several documents, it is yet to be a reality. In order to translate into facts and to have gender equality, we need more structural actions for change.
 - Women form more than 50% of the population in many areas but they still struggle when it comes to access to land, safety, transportation, housing, and also face harassment.

- Addressing issues affecting women will play a key role in the future of cities as women are more than 50% of the population of cities. Innovation and smart issues should prioritize the agenda of women in cities.
 - Women should not be seen as vulnerable persons but should be empowered to become agents of change and take positions of responsibility, this is what is happening in many European countries.
 - UN-Habitat should take advantage of its reform process and the strategic planning process to identify gender and women as a key foundation for all activities and programmes.
 - Entry points for better integration of women and gender into the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan:
 - ✓ Dedicated funding for women programmes.
 - ✓ Provision of support to grassroots women associations and groups.
 - ✓ Inclusion of strong gender and women impact statement in all documents, projects and programmes.
 - ✓ Social accountability processes to ensure the social impact on women and vulnerable groups.
 - ✓ Develop systems to provide incentives to the private sector for empowering and supporting women.
 - ✓ Establish administrative structures that guide on the design and implementation of the five strategies.
- 3. *Climate resilient cities and human settlements.***
- Energy is important for urban economic and social development. Sustainable urban development is faced by major challenges such as climate change, environmental pollution, health and poverty. The root cause of these challenges is the overreliance on cities which mainly affects energy production and consumption. Conversations that aim to addressing these challenges should therefore focus on and give priority to energy.
 - In 2015, China proposed the global energy interconnection, at the United Nations Development Summit, as a solution to energy, climate change and sustainable development. The proposed initiative replaces fossil fuels with clean alternatives such as hydro, solar and wind energy. For households, this means replacing coal, oil, and firewood with clean electricity in efforts to achieve green and sustainable development.
 - The organization has changed the pattern of energy development solving problems related to climate change, health and environmental pollution. The initiative has accelerated the development of low carbon cities and communities and promotes the construction of smart cities by applying advanced technology such as artificial intelligence to also facilitate smart distribution, utilization and energy storage. Generated energy is affordable and adequate for all urban dwellers.
 - With partners from over 93 countries, the organization aims at contributing to sustainable urban development across the world.

4. *Localizing global commitments*

- Post Habitat III, the Slum Dwellers international in South Africa engaged the national department of human settlements and municipalities to raise awareness on the ongoing efforts to promote partnerships in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda at the local level.
- Partnerships have been established with several municipalities:
 - ✓ In Cape town land that could accommodate 3,000 households was identified. The land availability agreement is currently being drafted in partnership the FEDUP organization which will manage the development of the project.
 - ✓ A signed MOU with the Etekiri municipality in South Africa on data collection and slum upgrading. The municipality committed to fund 70% of the programme on data collection and slum upgrading.
 - ✓ Joint review of the national housing policy. This ongoing process will ensure that clauses from the New Urban Agenda and SDG 11 are included in the policy.
 - ✓ FEDUP also partnered with the department of environmental affairs.
- Data collected by SDI on housing needs of the urban poor formed the basis of the successful negotiations with the municipalities in South Africa.

5. *Government perspective. The case experience of Uganda*

- The ministry of housing and urban development, Uganda believes that sustainable urbanization is a collective responsibility through dialogue and

participation. The ministry has been keen to learn from international organizations and relevant associations such as the Slum Dwellers International, the Cities Alliance and United Nations entities.

- The government of Uganda has adopted a policy and institutional framework that aims to guide and operationalize stakeholder collaboration and innovation across all sectors at both national and local levels. Overall coordination of the process is jointly managed by the office of the Prime Minister and the Office of the President.
- The government prides in the successful implementation of a 3-year programme with transformed settlements for the urban poor across five municipalities. Key elements of the programme were, formulation of policies on slum settlements, improving access to slum areas, promoting community empowerment, raise awareness on urban development and management information. Through this programme, the government established the municipal development forums (currently operational in 25 municipalities) which are platforms for ownership and inclusivity in the planning and decision-making processes. The academia has also been involved through applied research, internship programmes, and public debates.
- Slum dwellers have been empowered to collect community data which informs decision making processes especially in the identification of service delivery gaps.

6. *Innovative financing to reduce inequality in cities.*

- Combining the principles of blended finance, and rewards-based crowdfunding to develop alternative finance ecosystem for projects and programmes targeting the success of SDGs, the New Urban Agenda and other global commitments.
- Blended finance models. This model bridges the gap between philanthropies and public funds and getting the private capital to contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The proposed approach is to make SDGs and the New Urban Agenda very attractive to major corporations and private donors for their buy-in. UN-Habitat in partnership with its stakeholders can influence the formulation of policies that create an enabling environment for private sector to want to support SDGs and the New Urban Agenda.
- Rewards-based crowd funding. This model utilizes people and community interest groups to raise funds for projects and programmes. It is a common model in startups and has shown good results. Since 2015 there has been a 100% success rate with USD 315,000 raised to fund 18 companies.

- Enhanced engagement between governments, at all levels, with the community groups to empower innovation. The groups indicated that there are many innovative ideas that people have for solutions to the problems they face but they feel neglected. Partnerships with decision makers would provide the required resources to nurture the innovation
- Adoption of a more equitable distribution of income tax to help accelerate growth the promote economic development.
- Implementation of ‘generational model’ housing programmes that are inclusive to accommodate the elderly and children who are, in most cases, left in rural areas when the rural dwellers migrate to urban areas

The group identified the following solutions through partnerships:

- Regional and global level development processes should be linked to the realities at the local level. This is only practical through partnerships with the civil society, business community, local governments, and the United Nations system
- Provision of resources towards proven measures that contribute towards reducing urban inequality and poverty eradication including community mapping and eradication of unplanned areas.
- Address under participation in policies by developing guidelines and written commitment to implement social inclusion.

Group 2: City Prosperity for all

City prosperity for all should be defined with an emphasis on *prosperity for all- thriving*

CONCURRENT GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Participants joined eight groups, eager to share their input on experienced challenges, and propose innovative solutions and partnership opportunities for sustainable solutions.

Group 1: Reduction of spatial inequality, poverty and the urban rural continuum

Proposed strategies towards the theme of the group included:

conditions, confidence in the future and opportunities for all urban dwellers.

Challenges facing city prosperity for all include:

- Lack of collaboration among different actors of urban development.
- Poor implementation of policies at the local level.
- Overpopulation as a result of rural to urban migration thus resulting to a rapid increase of slums. City governments react to this rapid population growth as they struggle to provide security, healthcare, mobility and social protection.
- Address the gap between the rich and the poor urban population with regards to affordable quality housing.
- Wealth creation and distribution and role of private sector in partnership with governments in responding to this challenge.
- All city dwellers should be seen as actors of wealth creation and providing support to the informal sector.

Innovative ideas that contribute to city prosperity for all include:

- Full engagement of all the stakeholders for innovation of education and technology, transport system, economic development and gender equality.
- Provision for safer environments and affordable housing with inclusion of all including people with disabilities and the urban poor.
- Ease traffic congestion including through enforcement of policies such as paying for parking fees in the city center.
- Inclusive public spaces for enjoyment and livelihood.

The group identified three areas through which partnerships can ensure city prosperity for all:

- Engagement of all stakeholders at every stage from policy and programme design to implementation and evaluation phases.
- Provision of required funding for enhanced partnerships.
- The for all actors to access information and research.

Group 3: Cities and climate change

Challenges associated with cities and climate change:

- Poor communication flow between decision makers, governments and communities who are often not aware of existing policies, resources or plans of the governments.
- Over population in cities because of climate change patterns. Rural dwellers are forced to move to urban areas whenever they cannot rely on agriculture. This unplanned migration is the main cause of slums in cities.
- Gaps in urban planning as a result of planners not consulting with communities to understand their needs and priorities of development.

The group highlighted the following innovative solutions on cities and climate change:

- Community based data collection and mapping to feed into government led data collection process. The group mentioned that local communities are empowered to collect data, and that governments should not only rely on scientific that that is collected by experts as the outcome of

such sources might be influenced for specific outcomes.

- Adoption of energy solutions, specifically renewable energy which is environmentally friendly.
- Use of urban gardening systems to address food security and mitigate shortages caused by climate change and lack of advanced food preservation techniques.

Partnerships:

Partnership opportunities for sustainable solutions on cities and climate change include:

- Strengthening existing platforms within UN-Habitat to support multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- Integrated and inclusive partnerships especially at the local level. An opportunity for architects, planners and communities to work together.
- Enhanced engagement with the private sector and the media who often work in silos.

Communities should be given opportunities to identify local solutions to their peculiar climatic challenges. Agendas and commitments adopted at global level provide overall guidance but do not address specific challenges at the local level.

Group 4: Group 4: Co-creation of resilient and inclusive cities and communities.

Three challenges related for co-creation of resilient and inclusive cities include:

- Fragmentation of expert sectors at different levels.
- Inclusion, especially of vulnerable groups who are often treated as victims instead of actors. They have energy that has been

developed as a result of the nature of their lives and if empowered they can be productive members of the society.

- Development resources to be channeled to local communities.

Group 5: Advocacy

Key issues that affect effective advocacy include:

- Lack of information including on available data.
- Advocacy should promote the voices and concerns of the population.
- Integration of global level frameworks and agendas such as the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs.
- Structured means of disseminating information.

Innovative ways that compliment upscale advocacy comprise information sharing through multiple channels such as social media, and webinars to reach a wider audience; conduct stakeholder mapping in order to understand the audience; and to collate inputs from different stakeholders for contributions to be diverse.

Civil society organizations should be actively included at high level with the United Nations system and Member States as partners and not observers.

Group 6: Innovative approaches to localization of SDGs and the New Urban Agenda

Challenges associated with localization of SDGs and the New Urban Agenda comprise:

- Encroachment of reserved areas as urban planning fails to keep up with the rapid population growth in cities.

- Lack of awareness and capacity building at the local levels decelerates localization of global agendas in municipalities and community level.
- Funding needs.

Innovative solutions should consider technology and use of local materials in addressing housing needs; establish peer learning initiatives at all levels; and conduct seminars and training workshops to empower local communities for effective engagement.

Group 7: Monitoring and reporting on SDGs and the New Urban Agenda.

The main challenge facing data collection and reporting on implementation of SDGs and the New Urban Agenda is the disconnect between governments and actors at the grassroots level. Local actors should be guided on how to tell their stories.

Platforms should be established for local communities to upload their respective data sets. This should be done with the support of government agents. A common collaboration matrix should be adopted to guide of effective collaboration opportunities especially at the local level, this should also provide adequate information on agreed indicators.

Group 8: Proposals for the outcome statement

The proposed structure and content of the stakeholder declaration was improved and adopted on the second day of the forum. Final draft is annexed in this report.

DIALOGUE WITH MS. MAIMUNAH MOHD SHARIF,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UN-HABITAT

The Global Stakeholder Forum provides an opportunity for UN-Habitat to engage with all stakeholders just before the Assembly for a coordinated engagement with the Member States at different sessions. Stakeholders deepen the impact of UN-Habitat’s work and simultaneously add value and increase the agency’s footprint. The outcome of this forum will inform the formulation of a new Partnership Strategy which will be aligned to the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan.

This is the first global stakeholder forum initiated by UN-Habitat in response to stakeholder demands to enhance their partnerships with UN-Habitat especially in the intergovernmental processes. It is apt to state that stakeholders claim and own future organization of the forum. The forum prior to the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly should thus be organized by stakeholders.

The UN-Habitat Executive Director’s meeting with partners during the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in New York, July 2018 was the launch of key outcomes related to stakeholder engagement with UN-Habitat including the establishment of a Global Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The Stakeholder Advisory Group is intended to build synergy amongst existing Advisory groups and networks and support engagement with new partners. It aims to promote coherence, innovation and realization of the actions and targets of the Stakeholder Collaborative Implementation Framework. Membership of the Advisory Board will be rotational on a four-year basis to allow new ideas, and continuity. UN-Habitat hopes to increase the number of women and youth representation in the group.

Partnerships need to be result oriented, transparent, accountable on an equal basis, and above all to be owned by all stakeholders. Stakeholders are thus encouraged to take advantage of the UN-Habitat Assembly and make their presence felt especially through interactions with national delegates and statements presented by constituent groups.

All stakeholders are encouraged to make use of forthcoming milestones especially the urban October, World Habitat Day, World Cities Day, and the World Urban Forum. These events are strategic opportunities for urban actors to think, act, and speak with one voice at all levels and influence development policies and programmes. Stakeholder engagement at such events especially the forum, and main sessions of the Assembly will soon be streamlined after the completion of the Stakeholder Engagement Policy. The policy will guide, among other processes, the accreditation procedure.

There is need to acknowledge the efforts being made by civil society organizations, grassroots and informal sector organizations, academia, professional groups and other stakeholders to implement, monitor and report on the New urban Agenda and urban related SDGs. It is imperative to share best practices and innovations, especially what works, discuss challenges and together explore solutions.

The Global Stakeholder Forum is one of many platforms that UN-Habitat is using to give all partner groups a voice. It is our hope that the stakeholder caucus will bring up proposals on better engagement mechanisms and frameworks to ensure all stakeholders get an opportunity to be involved or engaged at all levels especially at the community level.

Outcome documents

1. The stakeholder declaration
2. The stakeholder engagement mechanisms.

Issues emerging from the caucus

The following efforts by UN-Habitat are aimed at promoting multi-sector engagement among its partners and streamlining stakeholder coordination mechanisms across the agency.

- The Committee of Permanent Representatives is currently discussing formal procedures for stakeholder engagement with the secretariat and at sessions of the UN-Habitat Assembly. Key to this process is the stakeholder accreditation procedures.
- A stakeholder collaborative framework was developed in consultation with stakeholder representatives. The framework forms a basis of stakeholder engagement in advancing the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda, especially within the frameworks of monitoring, advocacy, joint programming and data/knowledge.
- UN-Habitat new strategic plan for the period 2020 to 2023 provides opportunities for partnerships with the agency and among partners. A partnership strategy will be developed and adopted by December 2019.
- The UN-Habitat Stakeholder Advisory Group is the Executive Director's platform for partners to speak with one voice, to the UN-Habitat secretariat, through the group's advice.
- The global stakeholder forum is a platform for coordinated contributions of stakeholder into the legislation and programmatic processes of UN-Habitat.

Discussions were mainly focused on the main outcome documents of the forum, the stakeholder

declaration and a stakeholder engagement mechanism.

- The stakeholder declaration was drafted and endorsed by the over 200 participants who attended the stakeholder forum. The declaration was presented to member states during the assembly as a consolidated voice representing UN-Habitat stakeholders including women, indigenous peoples, youth, older persons, people with disabilities, grassroots organizations, civil society, national and subnational governments, trade unions and workers, professionals, researchers, academia, foundations, business, media, slum dwellers and faith-based communities, from different regions working on sustainable development areas and capabilities
- Through the declaration, stakeholders applauded Member States and UN-Habitat for their recognition of the need for strong stakeholder engagement in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and in advancing the 2030 Agenda
- The stakeholders also committed to working towards inclusive, prosperous, vibrant and sustainable human settlements, by improving the quality of lives, safety, livelihoods, affordability, and accessibility of all by realizing rights to land, property and other economic assets, secure tenure, adequate housing, transport, mobility, education, health, essential infrastructure and basic services, especially in conflict- and disaster-affected regions

Contributions from participants;

- The implementation of the New Urban Agenda is dependent on successful partnerships at all levels defined by equality between small and big organizations. Focus

should be on how to effectively include smaller groups

- People, represented by stakeholders, are part of the Member States
- Lessons from the stakeholder engagement process at the Habitat III and at previous platforms including Habitat II in 1996 should be reproduced
- As an immediate next action, additional resources should be mobilized to fund partnerships in the agency, strengthened youth representation at the advisory group, and establish mechanisms for monitoring success stories
- Areas of priority should include the informal economy, capacity development, national urban forums, national urban policies, harnessing technology, effective use of data, engagement of local authorities, human rights, land and property, access to basic services, community-led data collection, accessibility and public space.

ANNEX 1 STAKEHOLDER DECLARATION

Declaration of the First Global Stakeholder Forum of the First UN Habitat Assembly 'Toward a New Stakeholder Contract for the New Urban Agenda'

Our Preamble

We, the participants at the first Global Stakeholders Forum held during 25 and 26 May 2019 on the eve of the first UN Habitat Assembly at Nairobi, recalling the historic and indispensable role of partners in sustainable human settlement development since 1976, hereby commit ourselves to innovative and more-effective cooperation in delivering on sustainable urbanization and development.

We draw on the diverse voices of over 200 diverse Forum participants, including women, indigenous peoples, youth, older persons, people with disabilities,

grassroots organizations, civil society, national and subnational governments, trade unions and workers, professionals, researchers, academia, foundations, business, media, slum dwellers and faith-based communities, from different regions working on sustainable development areas and capabilities.

We enthusiastically applaud the Member States and UN-Habitat for their recognition of the need for strong stakeholder engagement in the implementation of the *New Urban Agenda* toward achieving the SDGs, *Paris Agreement*, the *Sendai Framework* and other international global policies for sustainable urban development and environmental protection, and regional agreements such as African Agenda 2063 and Asian Vision 2035.

We commit to reducing all forms of inequality and barriers to equitable governance and development in human settlements, experienced especially among women, female headed households, youth, children and other marginalized groups such as the poor, stigmatized ethnic groups, older persons and people with disabilities.

We will work toward inclusive, prosperous, vibrant and sustainable human settlements, by improving the quality of lives, safety, livelihoods, affordability and accessibility of all by enhancing rights to land, property and other economic assets, secure tenure, adequate housing, transport, mobility, education, health, essential infrastructure and basic services, especially in conflict- and disaster-affected regions.

Our Approach

We are an integral part of the State. We recognize the individual, collective, domestic and extra-territorial obligations of States to respect, protect and fulfill all human rights, in particular, the full and progressive realization of the human right to adequate housing and habitat-related human rights.

We will work constructively and collaboratively with Member States, UN-Habitat and other global, regional and specialised agencies to establish, operationalize and sustain stakeholder engagement to channel our diverse and many voices to the UN-Habitat Assembly, Committee of Permanent Representatives, Executive Board and other UN-Habitat bodies.

Our Agreements

We agree to engage in collaborative action among ourselves and partners including Member States, to pursue individual, collective, domestic and extra-territorial implementation of the *New Urban Agenda* toward achieving the SDGs and other global agreements related to habitat.

We are guided by our universally held values of equity, openness, equal partnerships, subsidiarity, gender equality, human rights, accountability and transparency, which should be reflected in the Stakeholder Engagement Policy being developed by UN Habitat and Member States.

We endorse the co-creation of policies, programmes, frameworks, monitoring-and-evaluation efforts related to the global agreement with the member states, relevant UN agencies, sub-national governments, local communities and our stakeholder constituencies.

Our Commitments

We will be pro-active in seeking and imparting information, using technology, innovative finance, collaboration and other opportunities to utilize existing and new channels of participation.

We will enhance capacities and synergies between and among the new and established stakeholder groups at all levels by sharing our deliberations equitably, transparently and effectively.

We will contribute evidence-informed and practical policy guidance for the implementation of the *New Urban Agenda* toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other global agreements.

Our Expectations

We seek relevant policies and adequate financial resources from Member States and partners for inclusive and open networking, planning, implementation, capacity building, monitoring and evaluation toward the fulfillment of New Urban Agenda commitments, Sustainable Development Goals and Targets, and realizing the corresponding human rights obligations of Member States.

Within these commitments and obligations, we promote a vision of cities for all, referring to the equal use of cities and human settlements seeking to

promote inclusivity and ensure that all inhabitants of present and future generations without discrimination of any kind, are able to inhabit and produce just safe, healthy accessible, affordable, resilient cities and human to foster prosperity and quality of life for all. We note the efforts of some national and local governments to enshrine this vision, referred to as “the right to the city” in their legislation, political declarations, and charters.

We advocate that UN-Habitat, UN-Habitat Assembly and governance bodies institutionalize stakeholder partnership within their governance and operational structures, and provide the level of support required to facilitate necessary stakeholder partnerships.

Our Steps Forward

We will self-organize to reformulate stakeholders’ roles and responsibilities underpinned by innovative approaches, inclusive practices and reciprocity in cooperation particularly, between constituents and governments, to resolve critical urban and rural human settlement development and governance challenges.

We will build on successful, inclusive and diverse platforms, networks and movements at global, regional, national, and especially at the local level to develop pro-poor, gender, age and disability responsive, integrated, sustainable and human rights approaches.

We support and will engage effectively in the programs, policies and outcomes of the UN Habitat Assembly and its bodies with particular attention to engaging in the implementation of the *UN Habitat Strategic Plan 2020–2025*.

We will work with Member States and the UN to contribute to sustainable human settlements development across various sectors and domains of UN-Habitat programming through a new stakeholder model based on initiative, inclusivity, reciprocity, innovation and impact.

We will strengthen the UN Habitat Stakeholder Forum to implement the principles and commitments of this declaration and develop a forward-looking plan for the World Urban Forum 2020.