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The Second Arab Ministerial Forum for Housing and Urban Development

Implementing the New Urban Agenda in the Arab Region

Ministerial meeting for Arab States to be held in Morocco

Rabat, 13 December 2017 - Under the high patronage of his majesty King Mohammed VI, The Ministry of National Planning, Urban Planning, Housing and Urban Policy in the Kingdom of Morocco will host the Second Arab Ministerial Forum for Housing and Development (AMFHUD2) in Sofitel Jardin des Roses Hotel, in Rabat from the 21st to 22nd December 2017 in partnership with the League of Arab States and UN-Habitat Regional Office for Arab States.

Under the theme of "**Implementing the New Urban Agenda in the Arab Region"**, AMFHUD2 will reflect on the persistent and emerging challenges facing Arab countries to operationalise the *Arab Strategy for Housing and Sustainable Urban Development 2030,* the vehicle for guiding the implementation of the *New Urban Agenda* and the urban components of the *2030 Sustainable Development Agenda*, in particular *Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)* 11 "making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable". One year after the adoption of the New Urban Agenda, AMFHUD2 represents an opportunity for the Arab region to deliberate on the way forward towards promoting urbanization as key driver for sustainable development.

The Forum will bring together nearly 300 participants including ministerial delegations from 20 Arab countries, as well as representatives from International Organisations, Civil Society, local authorities, private sector and Academia. H.E. Dr. Joan Clos, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, will give remarks on the role of UN-Habitat in achieving sustainable urbanisation in the Arab region.

The sessions and side events will showcase national and local policies and mechanisms to provide affordable housing and better living standards for all in the Arab region, taking into account economic, social and environmental dimensions and the impact of prolonged crisis and conflict in the region.

Back-to-back with AMFHUD2, the League of Arab States Ministerial Council of Housing and Construction will convene it 34th meeting on December 23rd to discuss their pending activities and endorse the Rabat Declaration outlining the key recommendations and conclusions of the Forum towards implementing the new urban agenda in the Arab region.

For more Information please contact: AMFHUD@un.org