


September 12, 2014

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED  
NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HOUSING AND  
SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HABITAT III)

**Information Brochure**



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# PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HOUSING AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HABITAT III)

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**First session: New York, 17 and 18 September 2014**

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# Note for Participants: Practical information

## I. Introduction

The first session of the Preparatory Committee of the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) will be held in New York, United

Nations Headquarter, Conference Room 2 and 3 (Conference Building - CB), from Wednesday, 17 September to Thursday, 18 September 2014.

Address: United Nations Plaza  
405 East 42nd Street  
New York, NY 10017  
United States

Information on the First Preparatory Committee and the conference itself is available on the Habitat III website at <http://www.unhabitat.org/habitat-iii>  
The Habitat III Secretariat can be contacted at [habitat3secretariat@un.org](mailto:habitat3secretariat@un.org)

## II. Participation and access

Passes provided by United Nations security will allow registered participants access to the United Nations Headquarters. On-site registration will take place at United Nations Headquarters (at the United Nations Visitor Centre, located at 47th street and 1st Avenue) on 17 and 18 September, from 7:30 am to 9:00 am.

### Members States

Member States are requested to inform the Conference secretariat of the composition of their delegation via note verbale from their Permanent Mission to the United Nations. A scanned copy of the note verbale is to be sent to the Conference secretariat by email to [habitat3secretariat@un.org](mailto:habitat3secretariat@un.org) copying [elliotts@un.org](mailto:elliotts@un.org).

Members of delegations requiring a pass are requested to liaise with their Permanent Mission to the United Nations.

### Intergovernmental organizations

(i) Intergovernmental organizations holding observer status with the General Assembly or hold consultative status with the Economic and Social Council are requested to register through the same procedure used by Member States. To obtain the pass

for attending the Preparatory Committee, a valid national passport or photo ID must be presented to the United Nations Visitor Centre at the stated date and time for the issuance of a pass together with the confirmation e-mail which was sent to each nominated representative after the registration form was received and status confirmed.

### United Nations system

The registration of representative of the specialized agencies (ILO, FAO, UNESCO, ICAO, WHO, World Bank, IMF, UPU, ITU, WMO, IMO, WIPO, IFAD, UNIDO, IAEA, WTO, UNWTO, CTBTO, and OPCW) followed the same procedures as for States.

United Nations funds, programmes and other entities (United Nations Secretariat entities, UNHCHR, UNOV, UNODC, UNON, ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, ESCWA, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNHCR, UNRWA, UNICEF, UNISDR, UNFPA, WFP, UN-WOMEN, UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, UNU, ITC, UNAIDS, UNITAR, UNRISD) are requested to communicate their composition of their delegation to the Conference secretariat email to [habitat3secretariat@un.org](mailto:habitat3secretariat@un.org).

### **Non-governmental organizations, major groups and representatives from sub-national government**

The General Assembly, in resolution 67/216, encouraged effective contributions from and the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, including local governments, major groups as identified in Agenda 21, the relevant United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and other Habitat Agenda partners, at all stages of the preparatory process for the Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and at the Conference itself.

#### **(i) Accredited non-governmental organizations and major groups**

Non-governmental organizations and major groups, including local authorities and other stakeholders, that are currently in consultative status with the ECOSOC were requested to pre-register by 31 August 2014.

To obtain the pass for attending the Preparatory Committee, a valid national passport or photo ID must be presented to the United Nations Visitor Centre at the stated date and time for the issuance of the pass together with the confirmation e-mail which was sent to each nominated representative after the registration form was received and accreditation status confirmed.

#### **(ii) Non-governmental organizations and major groups that have applied for special accreditation**

Registration and application for special accreditation closed on 31 August 2014.

Non-governmental organizations and major groups that have applied for special accreditation within the deadline and have been informed about the decision of the Bureau-elect to recommend their participation needs to be approved by the Preparatory Committee. The Preparatory Committee will discuss this matter under item 5 of the provisional agenda and decide on the approval of those recommended organization. Once the special accreditation by the Preparatory Committee has been approved and communicated via email, the nominated representative of the newly accredited organization is requested to follow the same procedure as above for obtaining the pass in order to participate at the meeting.

#### **(iii) Representatives from sub-national government**

The registration of municipal and other local or regional authorities should be arranged under the auspices of an accredited non-governmental organization or as members of a national delegation through its permanent mission to the United Nations.

## **III. Arrangements for meetings**

### **Seating arrangements**

Two seats (1+1) will be made available for each official government delegation at the plenary session. Member states will be seated following the all-state formula. A limited number of seats will also be available for representatives of intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations system and major groups at the plenary session.

### **Languages and interpretation**

In the plenary room, statements made in any of the six official languages will

be interpreted into the other official languages. Any representative may make a statement in a language other than the official languages. In such cases, the delegation should provide either an interpretation or a written text of the statement in one of the official languages. The interpretation or written text will be considered by the secretariat to represent the official text of the statement and will be used by United Nations interpreters as the basis for interpretation into the other official languages.

### **Registration for statements**

Government delegations wishing to inscribe on the list of speakers are invited to contact the General Assembly Affairs Branch (e-mail [heddachem@un.org](mailto:heddachem@un.org) copying [habitat3secretariat@un.org](mailto:habitat3secretariat@un.org)). Statements should be limited to three minutes when speaking in a national capacity and five minutes when speaking on behalf of a group.

### **Distribution of documents**

In an effort to support greening, participants are encouraged to download documents

of the Preparatory Committee from the Conference website (<http://www.unhabitat.org/habitat-iii>) or the Official Documents System of the United Nations (<http://documents.un.org>).

### **Wireless internet**

Wireless Internet access will be available in both meeting rooms.

## **IV. Additional practical information**

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### **Accommodation**

Participants are responsible for making arrangements for their own accommodation and travel. All representatives interested in attending are required to have adequate medical insurance prior to arrival.

The Habitat III Secretariat can be contacted at [habitat3secretariat@un.org](mailto:habitat3secretariat@un.org)

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE FIRST SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY  
COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HOUSING AND  
SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HABITAT III)

**Programme**

**AGENDA ITEM/PROGRAMME**

SEPTEMBER 2014

**17**

10:00 A.M - 01:00 P.M

**Plenary [Conference Room 2]**

1. Opening of the session
2. Election of officers
3. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work
5. Organizational matters
4. Preparations for the Conference: progress report of the Secretary-General of the Conference.
6. Progress to date in the implementation of the outcomes of the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and identification of new and emerging challenges on sustainable urban development (general exchange of views)

SEPTEMBER 2014

**17**

03:00 - 06:00 P.M

**Plenary [Conference Room 2]**

6. Progress to date in the implementation of the outcomes of Habitat II and identification of new and emerging challenges on sustainable urban development (general exchange of views) (continued)

**Working Group (Operational and Administrative) [Conference Room 3]**

5. Organizational matters (continued)

SEPTEMBER 2014

**18**

10:00 A.M - 01:00 P.M

**Plenary [Conference Room 2]**

6. Progress to date in the implementation of the outcomes of Habitat II and identification of new and emerging challenges on sustainable urban development (general exchange of views) (continued)

**Working Group (Operational and Administrative) [Conference Room 3]**

7. Financing of the preparatory process and the Conference
8. Arrangements for future sessions of the Preparatory Committee

SEPTEMBER 2014

**18**

03:00 - 06:00 P.M

**Plenary [Conference Room 2]**

Report of the Working Group on items 5, 7 and 8

9. Other matters
10. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on the work of its first session
11. Closure of the first session of the Preparatory Committee

**PARALLEL EVENTS: PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON HOUSING AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HABITAT III)**

First Session - New York, 17 & 18 September 2014

## Programme

	LOCATION	EVENT TITLE AND DESCRIPTION	EVENT ORGANIZER(S)
SEPTEMBER 2014 <b>12</b> 05:30 P.M	Centre for Architecture, 536 La Guardia Place, New York, NY 10012	<b>HABITAT III: The Role of Design – A Path to Sustainable Urbanization</b> This event will try to ensure that the role of design will be given appropriate prominence at HABITAT III. Habitat III will provide a unique opportunity to focus the attention of world governments on the critical importance of a city-scale sustainable urbanization in planning for the future. The goal is to achieve an agreed upon blueprint that will set the priorities for many countries for the next 20 years	CSU – Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization AIA – American Institute of Architects, New York Chapter UN-Habitat
SEPTEMBER 2014 <b>15</b> 05:30 - 07:00 P.M	Central Park Place Club 301, 301 West 57th Street (off 8th Ave), 6th floor, New York, NY 10019	<b>FIABCI, the United Nations and the World</b> Celebration of the 60th anniversary of FIABCI's special status with the UNITED NATIONS	FIABCI
SEPTEMBER 2014 <b>15-16</b> TIME: TBC	Grimshaw Architects, 237 West 27th St., NY	<b>Workshop/Forum: Innovations in Urban Infrastructure – Where Practice Meets Policy</b> Centered on the question of which innovations and technologies will be necessary to ensure resilient and equitable urban infrastructure for the 21st century several different aspects of this question shall be examined to bring forward new ideas and implementation strategies for an integrated and co-optimized infrastructure platform capable of resiliency beyond 2100	Sherwood Institute Columbia University Urban Design Lab – the Earth Institute
SEPTEMBER 2014 <b>16</b> 09:30 - 01:00 P.M	UN Church Centre, 8th Floor 777 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017	<b>Habitat III Orientation Session</b> A multi-stakeholder dialogue that will reflect on Habitat II and the state of urbanization and cities worldwide, and review the roadmap to Habitat III and a New Urban Agenda. Following the panels, participants will engage in break out groups on key urban issues, such as planning, urban governance and rights, rural-urban synergies, living conditions and security of tenure in informal settlements, and urban policies for climate change and resilience. An outcome document from this event will be submitted to the Habitat III Secretariat to document civil society's priorities, expectations, and recommendations in the Habitat III process.	Habitat III Civil Society Working Group
SEPTEMBER 2014 <b>16</b> 02:00 - 05:00 P.M	The Alvin Johnson/J.M. Kaplan Hall, Auditorium at 66 West 12th Street, New York	<b>Thinking Inside Out – How Cities Contribute to Solving Global Problems</b>	The New School OLA – Observatory on Latin America Penn Institute for Urban Research UN-Habitat
SEPTEMBER 2014 <b>16</b> 03:30 - 05:30 P.M	Church Center – 44th St. & 1st Ave, New York City	<b>ROUNDTABLE: Right to the City for All – Building a Global Platform towards Habitat III</b> This roundtable aims to promote a cross-sector dialogue to strengthen international coordination and mobilization for the construction of a Global Platform for the Right to the City, to influence the definition of the New Habitat and Urban Agenda in the HABITAT III Conference and the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals.	HIC – Habitat International Coalition

## SIDE EVENTS: PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON HOUSING AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HABITAT III)

First Session - New York, 17 & 18 September 2014

### Programme

SEPTEMBER 2014

# 17

	LOCATION (UN HQ)	EVENT TITLE & DESCRIPTION	EVENT ORGANIZER(S)
08.30 – 09.30 A. M	Room A	<p><b>Services, Human Rights and Inclusion in an Urbanizing World</b></p> <p>This event will examine service delivery and social protection in the context of rapid urban transitions. The urban advantage is disappearing for some populations, secondary and tertiary cities are struggling to find the resource base and capacity to support residents amidst rapid growth, and rural populations are often excluded from development in urban areas. This event builds on the conclusions of the ICPD Beyond 2014 review on urbanization, experiences of urbanization in the BRICS and recent efforts around urban maternal and newborn health to propose new directions for realizing the access, rights and inclusion of all in an urbanizing world.</p>	UNFPA (in conjunction with the Population Council, the City of New York and Rockefeller, UN- Women and WHO)
08.30 – 09.30 A. M	Room D	<p><b>Linking Public Transportation to a New Urban Agenda</b></p> <p>The event will show how to optimize the contribution of mobility policies to the success delivery of Habitat III's New Urban Agenda. This event will show how a global shift in investment and policy towards public transport, walking, and cycling could save over 20% in public and private transport costs between now and 2050. This could free up \$100 trillion for more sustainable development and cut urban passenger transport CO2 emissions by over 20%. The event will also provide evidence of the contribution of public transport to growth and jobs, and to the attractiveness and competitiveness of cities.</p>	Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) (in conjunction with Partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT), International Association for Public Transportation (UITP), World Resources Institute/Embarq and the Ford Foundation)
01.30 – 02.30 P.M	Room A	<p><b>Cities that Work for Everyone: Inclusion, Participation, and Partnership in the New Urban Agenda</b></p> <p>This side event shall facilitate a multi-stakeholder dialogue on the non-negotiables of an urban agenda that works for grassroots women, communities and local authorities. The session will highlight best practices in partnership models, urban planning and budgeting that make cities more inclusive, resilient and responsive to community needs and priorities. It will explicitly link the new urban agenda to discussions around localizing the post-2015 development agenda.</p>	Huairou Commission (in conjunction with Shack/ Slum Dwellers International, Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing, UCLG Global Secretariat)



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01.30 – 02.30 P.M	Room C	<p><b>Priorities for HABITAT III in the UNECE region</b></p> <p>The event shall monitor progress with the implementation of the UNECE Strategy on Housing and Land Management in the ECE Region 2014-2020 , the UNECE CHLM is preparing a regional study “Challenges and Priorities in Housing and Urban Development”. The proposed side event will present preliminary findings of the study and discuss preparations for HABITAT III in the UNECE region.</p>	<p>United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) - Committee on Housing and Land Management (in conjunction with Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of Slovakia, Ministry of Regional Development of Czech Republic)</p>
06.30 – 07.30 P.M	Room A	<p><b>Seizing the opportunity for global partnerships: Exploring outlooks, expectations and opportunities for Habitat III to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</b></p> <p>The side event will discuss four key areas of the Alliance in promoting equity in cities: equitable city growth, responding to informality, promoting good governance and city resilience. It will also look at the forms of stakeholder involvement and preparation processes necessary in the lead up to Habitat III. The Cities Alliance partnership has set up a Joint Work Programme to prepare inputs to the Habitat III Conference while discussing priorities and messages key to the Post 2015 Agenda. Outcomes from this event will help guide and set priorities for the Joint Work Programme.</p>	<p>Cities Alliance (in conjunction with United Cities and Local Government (UCLG), German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development (MFA), Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD), Shack/Slum Dwellers International (SDI), Habitat for Humanity International)</p>
06.30 – 07.30 P.M	Room D	<p><b>Eliminating Constraints to Urban Land and Property Ownership by Women: A Practical Perspective</b></p> <p>In the past decade, gender sensitive legislation and policies have multiplied, but have often failed to impact the lives of women in cities or increased their opportunities to own land and property. Some regulatory frameworks recognize the right to property for women, promote women’s voices in public policy, and encourage inclusive and accessible mechanisms for land use, planning, finance and registry. Still, women in cities may not feel empowered to act on regulatory promises and address the barriers to ownership. This event presents different approaches to eliminating legal, political, social, and customary barriers to women owning land and property.</p>	<p>International Housing Coalition (in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity International, Huairou Commission, Pan American Development Foundation)</p>

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### Programme

SEPTEMBER 2014

# 18

	EVENT TITLE	EVENT DESCRIPTION	EVENT ORGANIZER(S)
08.30 – 09.30 A. M	Room A	<p><b>From MDG to SDG: Towards a New Paradigm at Habitat III! Sustainable Cities &amp; Human Settlements in the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda</b></p> <p>What are the channels by which a Sustainable Development Goal on Cities &amp; Human Settlements can provide for more sustained, long term approaches and interventions within the framework of the Post 2015 Development Agenda?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moving from sectoral interventions to city-wide approaches:</li> <li>- Adopting sustained, longer term approaches and solutions for the majority</li> <li>- Use the transformative power of urbanization.</li> <li>- The catalytic effect of urbanization in rural areas.</li> <li>- Well-planned urbanization</li> </ul>	Communitas Coalition and the Penn Institute for Urban Research
08.30 – 09.30 A. M	Room D	<p><b>Harnessing the Potential of Public Space for Women and the Youth</b></p> <p>Public space is particularly valuable for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and the youth as well as for equal access to political, economic, cultural and social opportunities and for promoting social change. Bringing together member states, UN entities and civil society, this event seeks to highlight areas to enhance women's and youth's access and use of public space. The event will draw on experience with public policies and good practices for enabling the effective use of public space with the aim of promoting gender equality, the empowerment of women and the youth, the full and universal enjoyment of human rights, inclusiveness, and the elimination of gender-based violence and gender-based stereotypes, all of which are critical to achieve sustainable urbanisation.</p>	UN-Women (in conjunction with the Huairou Commission and the UN Youth Envoy)

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01.30 – 02.30 P.M	Room A	<p><b>Local and regional governments' contributions to Habitat III: priorities, expectations, and challenges for sustainable cities and territories</b></p> <p>The side event will provide the opportunity to reiterate the commitment of local authorities to contribute and it will provide indications of policy priorities, challenges experienced in the Habitat II outcomes implementation as well as presenting expectations of local and regional governments, their networks and partners towards the Habitat III agenda.</p>	<p>United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) on behalf of Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments CLGF/CEMR/AIMF/FOGAR/UCLGA</p>
01.30 – 02.30 P.M	Room C	<p><b>Resilient Cities at the Intersection of Social and Physical Infrastructure</b></p> <p>The integration of “bottom up” strategies in next generation urban and ecological infrastructure development across of the spectrum of global development contexts must be accelerated. Unlike centralized systems, decentralized systems are more resilient to natural or manmade acts of disaster – being composed of distributed, multi-component pieces. This event will outline the mix of centralized and decentralized infrastructures that cities must target to optimize future needs and where critical innovations are required. It will include drawing lessons learned from practitioners active in the NYC-region after Sandy, to inform key strategies for building community-based resilience in coastal cities around the world. This agenda includes recognition of the importance of “people approaches” versus “process approaches” within current infrastructural research and practice; the importance of enabling collaborative relationships between local community members, design professionals and other technical expertise to drive practical relevance, and the inherent need for social sustainability within this sensibility.</p>	<p>Urban Design Lab at the Earth Institute at Columbia University, Sherwood Institute and the MAS Global Practitioner Network</p>

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06.30 – 07.30 P.M	Room A	<p><b>Civil society and local government's expectations for Habitat III</b></p> <p>Cross-sector dialogue of civil society and local government networks with national authorities and UN agency representatives. Objectives/ moments will be: (a) Present civil society and local government's expectations and proposals for the New Habitat Agenda and Habitat III; (b) Discuss a shared vision and methodology to guarantee substantive civil society and local governments involvement and participation in the Habitat III process, at local, national, regional and international levels; (c) Share current work and upcoming activities on the Global Platform for the Right to the City with a focus on Habitat III, inviting interested institutions to join and contribute.</p>	<p>Habitat International Coalition-Housing and Land Rights Network (HIC-HLRN) (in conjunction with Polis Institute, National Forum for Urban Reform, National Front of Mayors, Brazilian Association of Municipalities (Brazil), United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), Commission on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights, Habitat for Humanity, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Network (ESCR-Net), Women in Informal Employment Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO), Huairou Commission, Hunter College for Community Planning &amp; Development, Ford Foundation, Action Aid)</p>
06.30 – 07.30 P.M	Room D	<p><b>Displacement in Urban Settings</b></p>	<p>IRC (in conjunction with Rockefeller Foundation and the American Red Cross)</p>