

**Resolution 23/13: Governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme**

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 56/206 of 21 December 2001, by which the General Assembly transformed the Commission on Human Settlements and its Secretariat, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), including the United Nations and Human Settlements Foundation, into the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,

*Recalling also* its resolution 22/5 of 3 April 2009, by which it requested the Executive Director and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to undertake jointly an examination of the governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme with a view to identifying and implementing ways to improve the transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness of the functioning of the existing governance structure and to identify options for any other potential relevant changes,

*Acknowledging* the significance of the prioritization described in the medium-term strategic and institutional plan for improved governance,

*Recognizing* the potential implications for the governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme of the outcome of the discussions under the theme of "institutional framework for sustainable development" at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, in 2012,

*Expressing appreciation* for the harmonious working relationship between the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the secretariat in their joint work on the review of the governance structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,

1. *Welcomes* the documents entitled "Quick-wins" and "Medium/long-term interventions" endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives;<sup>35</sup>
2. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the review of the governance structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in which he reported on work carried out up to and including 31 January 2011,<sup>36</sup> and the review of the governance structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, phase III,<sup>37</sup> which was discussed by the joint secretariat and Committee of Permanent Representatives implementation team and details work carried out after 31 January 2011 on the identification of options for further governance changes;
3. *Also takes note* of the range of options presented in the review of the governance structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, phase III, which are illustrative of the practical possibilities available for consideration;
4. *Requests* the Executive Director, jointly with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to examine those options further, without prejudice to

<sup>35</sup> HSP/GC/23/2/Add.1, annex.

<sup>36</sup> HSP/GC/23/2/Add.1.

<sup>37</sup> HSP/GC/23/INF/7.

any other emerging options, their modalities and financial and legal implications, to identify, if necessary, a preferred option;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Director, jointly with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, in an inclusive, transparent and participatory manner:

(a) To develop a procedure for the examination phase;

(b) To seek consensus on the identified option by member States of the Governing Council;

(c) To develop an action plan that defines clearly all steps that must be taken and takes into account rules and procedures of relevant United Nations bodies so that the financial, legal and procedural implications are specified;

6. *Further requests* the Executive Director to report regularly on the progress made to the Governing Council through its Bureau;

7. *Mandates* the Committee of Permanent Representatives to approve, if applicable, the action plan on behalf of the Governing Council at a meeting of the Committee;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director to present, through the appropriate channels, the action plan to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, if possible.

*7th plenary meeting  
15 April 2011*