



United Nations Habitat Assembly of the
United Nations Human Settlements Programme

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Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements
Programme, including coordination matters

Annual Progress Report 2018 on the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2014–2019

Note by the secretariat

1. The present note describes the Annual Progress Report 2018 on the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2014–2019 and the delivery of the biennial work programme for the period 2018–2019. The strategic plan is being implemented through three consecutive biennial work programmes and budgets and is in its final phase. The report was prepared in accordance with Governing Council resolution 26/3. In line with the request of Member States, it presents the progress made towards expected accomplishments measured against their indicator targets for 2018/2019.
2. An overall assessment of the implementation of the strategic plan shows that UN-Habitat has made good progress towards the achievement of the planned results for all indicators. Some 90 per cent of the targets have been surpassed or are expected to be achieved by the end of 2019.
3. The report describes normative and operational results or changes realized at the local, national, regional and global levels through the contribution of UN-Habitat and its partners. Some of the transformations taking place are demonstrated through impact stories presented in each subprogramme. Both the financial performance and the institutional milestones achieved during the reporting period have been highlighted.
4. One of the key institutional highlights in 2018 was the strengthening, by the General Assembly, of Member States' ownership, leadership and oversight of UN-Habitat through the establishment of the universal Habitat Assembly and a 36-member executive board as well as the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
5. In 2018, the Executive Director launched a major internal change process aimed at improving trust, transparency, efficiency, accountability and the achievement of results within UN-Habitat. While the change process is still ongoing, one of its key successes is the completion of the new six-year strategic plan for the period 2020–2025 that was endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives in December 2018.
6. As the United Nations programme responsible for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 11 and the New Urban Agenda, UN-Habitat achieved two outcomes in 2018. In May, UN-Habitat presented the first quadrennial report on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda to the General Assembly. That report, prepared in consultation with 23 United Nations entities, provided a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the progress made. In July, the high-level political forum on sustainable development reviewed Goal 11

* HSP/HA/1/1.

for the first time. A comprehensive report prepared by UN-Habitat and other United Nations entities, entitled “Tracking Progress towards Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements: SDG 11 Synthesis Report – High Level Political Forum 2018”, formed the basis of the review.

7. The Annual Progress Report 2018 contains four sections. Section 1 presents the Executive Summary, which includes institutional highlights and a timeline of key events in 2018; financial performance and programmatic highlights; a summary of cross-cutting issues, advocacy, partnerships and evaluations; and audit highlights. Section 2 provides a detailed assessment of the progress and results achieved in each of the seven subprogrammes. Section 3 sets out regional highlights. Section 4 highlights performance in the areas of advocacy and partnerships, cross-cutting issues, financial matters, evaluations and audits.

8. The Annual Progress Report 2018 on the implementation of the 2014–2019 strategic plan can be viewed at www.unhabitat.org/habitatassembly.
