



UN-HABITAT

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME  
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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

## MEDIA ADVISORY

# UN-Habitat on housing and the upcoming World Urban Forum

**Nairobi, Kenya, 14 February 2024** — The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) – the United Nations entity responsible for sustainable urban development – is pleased to invite editors and reporters based in Nairobi to a media briefing on 22 February at the UN complex in Gigiri.

The briefing will cover the following topics:

- Progress in the implementation of the key resolutions from the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 5 to 9 June 2023: housing, people-centered smart cities, transformation of informal settlements and biodiversity;
- Theme and the logo of the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12), to be held in Cairo, Egypt, from 4 to 8 November 2024;
- UN-Habitat's new strategic plan for the period 2026-2029.

Light refreshments will be served throughout.

**WHERE:** Press Room, UNON complex, Gigiri, Nairobi

**WHEN:** 22 February 2024 from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM East Africa Time (UTC +3:00)

**WEBCAST:** <https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k1k/k1kpc9ovfi>

**SPEAKERS:** [Michal Mlynár](#), Assistant Secretary-General and Acting Executive Director of UN-Habitat

**Edlam Abera Yemeru**, Director (a.i.), External Relations, Strategy, Knowledge, and Innovation Division, UN-Habitat

**Oumar Sylla**, Director, Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat

**RSVP:** Send an email to [unhabitat-media@un.org](mailto:unhabitat-media@un.org) by **12 PM on 21 February** attaching a **copy of your passport photo page or national ID** (for Kenyan nationals) or **passport photo page** (for foreign nationals) along with a **copy of your press card**. Please note that **submissions received after 12 PM will not be processed and you will be refused entry to the UNON complex**.

**ACCESS:** Visitor passes should be collected on **Thursday morning 22 February between 8:00 AM and 10 AM** immediately before the start of the briefing at the pass and ID office of the UNON complex upon presentation of the **same identification document submitted by email.**

The second United Nations Habitat Assembly, which took place in June 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya, adopted a historical resolution on affordable housing for all. Member States agreed to renew their call to prioritize adequate housing and view housing as a human right for the first time since 1948, when the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted. The Assembly also adopted a resolution with a mandate to develop international guidelines for people-centred smart cities, accelerate transformation of informal settlements by 2030 and preserve biodiversity in cities.

The twelfth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12) will be co-organized with the Government of Egypt. The forum will return to Africa for the first time since 2001. It will be held in Cairo from 4 to 8 November 2024.

UN-Habitat has started work on developing its new strategic plan that will set priorities for sustainable urban development from 2026 to 2029. Its current plan will expire in 2025. It focuses on impact in four broad areas: reduce spatial inequality and poverty, enhance shared prosperity for cities and regions, strengthen climate action and improve urban environment, and provide effective urban crisis prevention and response.

### **About UN-Habitat**

UN-Habitat is the United Nations entity responsible for sustainable urbanization. It has programmes in over 90 countries supporting policymakers and communities to create socially and environmentally sustainable cities and towns. UN-Habitat promotes transformative change in cities through knowledge, policy advice, technical assistance, and collaborative action. To know more, visit [www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org) or follow us on X @UNHABITAT.

### **For further information and to confirm your attendance, please contact:**

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