

Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Draft technical inputs from the Secretariat for the proposed draft outcomes for consideration by the Executive Board during its second session for the year 2021

15-16 November 2021

Draft Decision 2021/6 work programme and draft budget, implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023, and alignment of the planning cycles of the Programme with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process

The Executive Board

a) Implementation of the strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the period 2020–2023

1. *[Takes note]* of the update and the annual report for 2020 on the implementation of strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) for the period 2020–2023¹; the reports of the Executive Director on the recalibration of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2020–2023 following the first meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat for a high-level midterm review² and on the analysis of linkages between the operational and normative activities of the UN-Habitat to increase the impact of its work across the outcomes of the strategic plan in support of sustainable and inclusive recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic³;

2. *[Takes note]* of UN-Habitat’s recalibration strategy aiming to rebalance the implementation of the four subprogrammes and maximize synergies for the interlinkages of different outcomes of the strategic plan, in order to establish a better connection to knowledge assets and capacities by prioritizing indicators in the Results Framework to efficiently monitor results and institutional and human impacts based on the three-lens approach;

3. *[Recommends]* that the Executive Director in the implementation of the approved work programme and budget for 2022 and the remainder of the Strategic Plan for its period 2022-2023 takes into account the proposed recalibration and linkages between normative and operational activities;

4. *[Takes note and decides to approve]* the methodology and format of the draft financial plan as reflected in the report of the Executive Director entitled “implementation of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2020-2023 : update and the on the actual annual income and expenditures in support of the draft financial plan”⁴ ;

5. *[Requests]* UN-Habitat to prepare, in conjunction with the development of the next Strategic Plan of UN-Habitat, a financial plan in line with this methodology and format for consideration by the Executive Board and *[Recommends]* that the Executive Director takes into account the proposed recalibration strategy and creates provisions for the draft financial plan to cater for the three-lens

¹ HSP/EB.2021/15 and HS/004/21E

² HSP/EB.2021/19

³ HSP/EB.2021/19/Add.1

⁴ HSP/EB.2021/16

approach, strategically connecting to the next strategic plan at the outcome level of the strategic plan, recognizing that the four domains of change remain robust and relevant as they are aligned to the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and are critical to support the Decade of Action;

6. [*Urges*] the Executive Director to begin preparations for the next cycle of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat.

b) Work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2022

7. [*Recalls*] its Decision 2021/1, in particular paragraph 3⁵ in which it requested that the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters to continue discussions on the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation non-earmarked budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for 2022, to be within the range of \$10 million to \$12 million, and that the Executive Director finalizes a draft annual work programme and budget for 2022 based on feedback from the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, and to present it for further consideration by the Executive Board at its second session of 2021;

8. [*Takes Note*] of the recommendation by the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters that the foundation non-earmarked budget for 2022 be within the range of \$10 million to \$12 million for the draft budget of UN-Habitat for 2022 as recommended by the Executive Board;

9. [*Takes note*] of the notional budget allocations for 2022 provided by the Secretariat on the basis of projected revenue levels for 2022 for the Foundation non-earmarked budget, [*takes note*] of the recommended allocation of \$13.3 million from the regular budget Section 15 of the United Nations and further [*takes note of and approves*] the estimates of \$11.2 million for programme support, \$69.1 million for Foundation earmarked, and \$149.8 million for technical cooperation budgets;

10. [*Takes note and approves*] the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation non-earmarked budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for 2022 to be USD 12 million as reflected in the report of the Executive Director⁶;

11. [*Takes note*] of the report of the Executive Director on UN-Habitat cost-recovery policies and methodologies⁷;

c) Preparation of the draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2023

12. [*Takes note*] of the need to align the sessions of the Executive Board in 2022 with the preparatory and approval process for the draft 2023 work programme and budget of UN-Habitat and [*requests*] the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters of the Executive Board to discuss a draft work programme of UN-Habitat for 2023 for timely submission to the United Nations Controller, and [*also requests*] the working group to discuss a draft budget for UN-Habitat for 2023 in line with the recommended budget range for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation non-earmarked budget of UN-Habitat for 2023 of between \$[X] million and \$[X] million and other extrabudgetary resources, for timely

⁵ HSP/EB.2021/11

⁶ HSP/EB.2021/4

⁷ HSP/EB/2021/13/Add.4

submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for subsequent consideration and possible approval of the work programme and budget for 2023 by the Executive Board;

Alt 12. [*Takes note*] of the need to align the sessions of the Executive Board in 2022 with the preparatory and approval process for the draft 2023 work programme and budget of UN-Habitat and [*requests*] the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters of the Executive Board to discuss a recommended budget range for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation non-earmarked budget of UN-Habitat for 2023 and a draft work programme of UN-Habitat for 2023 for timely submission to the United Nations Controller, and [*further requests*] the working group to discuss a draft budget for UN-Habitat for 2023 in line with the recommended budget range, for timely submission to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for subsequent consideration and possible approval of the work programme and budget for 2023 by the Executive Board;

13. [*Requests*] the Executive Director to update the Executive Board at its first session of 2022 on the status of the draft work programme and budget for 2023, taking into account the recommendations of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters;

14. [*Further takes note of/ Welcomes*] the efforts by the Executive Director towards prioritization of UN-Habitat by the United Nations Controller for a possible increase of the regular budget allocation to UN-Habitat for the year 2023, as part of wider, multi-pronged strategy to strengthen the financing of UN-Habitat that includes increasing non-earmarked contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, maintaining a robust portfolio of earmarked contributions to the Foundation, and exploring non-traditional sources of financing through the establishment of a third-party endowment; and [*requests*] the Executive Director to update the Executive Board at its first session of the year 2022.

d) Alignment of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process with the planning cycles of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

15. [*Recalls*] its Decision 2020/3, in particular paragraph 16 in which it requested the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters to further consider and discuss the prioritization of scenarios 2 and 3, as set out in the report of the Executive Director on the alignment of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review with the planning cycles of UN-Habitat⁸;

16. [*Notes*] that the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters agreed on the need to align the quadrennial comprehensive policy review with the planning cycles of UN-Habitat and discussed five options including i) the prioritization of Scenario 2, ii) the prioritization of Scenario 2 with the possibility of holding an on-line session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in 2025, iii) the prioritization of Scenario 3, iv) the empowerment of the Executive Board by the UN-Habitat Assembly to approve the next strategic plan of UN-Habitat on an exceptional

⁸ HSP/EB.2020/16/Add.1.

basis, and iv) the amendment by the UN-Habitat Assembly of its rules of procedure to allow the Executive Board to approve the strategic plans of UN-Habitat on a permanent basis, without reaching consensus on any of the five options;

17. [*Decides*] to further refer the five options considered by the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters to the UN-Habitat Assembly for further consideration and decision by the UN-Habitat Assembly on the alignment on UN-Habitat planning cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy process at its second session scheduled in 2023.

Draft Decision 2021/7: Implementation of normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, reporting on the programmatic activities of the Programme in 2021, implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities and the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda

The Executive Board

a) Implementation of the normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

1. [*Takes note*] of the update and report by the Executive Director on the normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, focusing on the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) , guidance on housing rights and policy, and work on migration and displacement⁹;

2. [*Takes note*] of paragraph 10 of Recommendation 2021/1 adopted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives in which the Committee encouraged the Executive Director, subject to approval by the Executive Board of the work programme and budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for 2022, to support the preparation of voluntary local reviews by local and regional governments through normative guidance and technical assistance, upon request, and by building connections with voluntary national reviews, as appropriate and [*welcomes*] the leadership role of the Executive Director as Chair of the UN Task Team on Future of Cities, and as permanent Co-Chair of the Local2030 Coalition, among other activities;

3. [*Takes note*] of the proposal to establish the Secretary-General's Advisory Group on Local and Regional Governments as outlined in the Secretary-General's Report on Our Common Agenda¹⁰; and [*recommends*] that the Executive Director actively advances the SDG localization in support of the Decade of Action, through normative guidance, technical assistance, strategic partnerships, harmonized data collection based on the Urban Monitoring Framework, and implementing the SDG Cities Flagship Programme.

4. [*Takes note*] of UN-Habitat normative guidance and advocacy on housing policy and priorities¹¹ and [*welcomes*] the joint coordination between UN-Habitat and the Economic Commission for

⁹ HSP/EB.2021/18

¹⁰ <https://www.un.org/en/content/common-agenda-report/>

¹¹ HSP/EB.2021/18

Europe and [*takes note*] of the emphasis placed on access to affordable housing in the Secretary-General's Report on Our Common Agenda¹² ;

5. [*Recalling*] Resolution 23/16 adopted by the former Governing Council of UN-Habitat dated 15 April 2011 on the formulation of a Global Housing Strategy and Resolution 25/4 adopted by the former Governing Council of UN-Habitat dated 23 April 2015 taking note of the Housing at the Centre approach;

6. [*Further recalling*] the commitment of Member States in the New Urban Agenda to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living;

7. [*Welcomes*] the report of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management endorsing 'A Regional Action Plan 2030: Tackling challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic, climate and housing emergencies in region, city, neighborhood and homes' ;

8. [*Requests*] the Executive Director to cooperate with all United Nations regional commissions to support the development of studies and the formulation and implementation of regional action plans addressing housing policy in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and climate emergencies;

9. [*Further requests*] the Executive Director to continue the efforts of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to support Member States in the development of capacity to implement housing policy, particularly as impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change emergencies, and to test innovative solutions and provide forums for sharing knowledge and examples of policies among Member States and other stakeholders;

10. [*Takes note*] of the update and report by the Executive Director on cooperation between the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme;¹³ including efforts to align the outcomes of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda, and the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Stockholm Conference, Stockholm+50, and [*encourages*] the Executive Director to further strengthen the collaboration, particularly in pursuit of the accelerated implementation of Subprogramme 3 of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan on strengthened climate action and improved urban environment, including through joint engagement of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Environment Programme in United Nations country-level programming;

11. [*Welcomes*] the focus of the 2021 Urban October on climate change as well as the engagement of UN-Habitat at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (CoP 26) and [*requests*] the Executive Director to actively advance support to Member States through normative guidance, technical assistance and strategic partnerships to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement through multi-level climate action mechanisms and the active engagements of cities and human settlements, and implementing the Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor Flagship Programme, and to explore with Member States whether the Innovate4Cities Conference can become a regular event to advance the science-innovation-policy and action nexus in the field of cities and climate change.

¹² <https://www.un.org/en/content/common-agenda-report/>

¹³ HSP/EB.2021/INF4

b) Implementation of the draft capacity-building strategy for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda

12. [*Takes note*] of paragraph 5 of Recommendation 2021/1 adopted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives in which the Committee requested the Executive Director to develop a plan to further develop the institutional anchoring of capacity-building as a cross-cutting function and to present the plan to the Executive Board for its further consideration and possible approval;

13. [*Welcomes*] the report by the Executive Director on the updated implementation plan of the UN-Habitat capacity-building strategy for the period 2021–2024 with priorities for the year 2022¹⁴ and requests the Executive Director to further update the implementation plan for consideration at the second Session of the Executive Board for the year 2022;

c) Terms of reference for the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations System-wide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements

14. [*Takes note of*] of the update and report by the Executive Director on the terms of reference for the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations System-wide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements¹⁵ and [*decides to approve*] [the terms of reference for the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the United Nations System-wide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements]

d) High-level meeting of the General Assembly on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda

15. [*Welcomes*] the update by the Executive Director on the preparations of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to assess progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda¹⁶ scheduled to be held on 28 April 2022;

16. [*Takes note of and welcomes*] paragraph 4 of Recommendation 2021/3 adopted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (the Committee) in which the Committee recommended that the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, the urban dimensions of the discussions of the regional forums for sustainable development, the high-level meeting on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum be aligned strategically to strengthen the implementation the New Urban Agenda and to accelerate the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Decade of Action for the Sustainable Development Goals.

17. [*Urges*] all Member States to prepare and submit their national reports on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

¹⁴ HSP/EB.2021/17

¹⁵ HSP/EB.2021/20

¹⁶ A/RES/75/224

Draft Decision 2021/8: Methods of work of the Executive Board and the workplan of the Executive Board for 2022

The Executive Board

a) Reports of the Executive Board and its working groups

1. *[Adopts]* the report of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat on the work of its first session of 2021¹⁷;
2. *[Takes note]* of the briefing by the Chair of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters on the work of that working group;
3. *[Recalls]* paragraph 5 of its Decision 2020/6 in which it recommended that the ad hoc working group on the development of a stakeholder engagement policy should resume its work once in-person meetings are possible and *[recommends]* that the ad hoc working group resumes its work in person following the laid down protocols for in-person meetings at UNON;

b) Date and agenda for the next session of the Executive Board and its workplan for 2022

4. *[Decides]* that the 2022 sessions of the Executive Board will be held as follows: the first session of 2022 will be held on [29 March and 30 March 2022] and the second session will be held [from 15 to 17 November 2022];
5. *[Also decides]* that the provisional agenda for the first session of 2022 shall be as follows:
 1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the first session of 2022;
 - (b) Adoption of the report on the second session of 2021.
 3. Reports of the ad hoc working groups established by the Executive Board.
 4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters, including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan and UN-Habitat actions to address geographical and gender imbalances in the composition of its staff
 5. Reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions relevant to the work and activities of UN-Habitat issued since the most recent session of the Executive Board.
 6. Status and discussion of the annual work programme and budget of UN-Habitat for 2023.
 7. Briefing by the Executive Director on the implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN-Habitat in 2021 and the implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities.
 8. Preparations for the High-level meeting to assess progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

¹⁷ HSP/EB.2021/10

9. Preparations for the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum
10. Implementation of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly.
11. Briefing by the Executive Director on progress made in the implementation of the United Nations development system reform.
12. Annual report on UN-Habitat actions to strengthen protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and against workplace sexual harassment, as well as any other type of exploitation or abuse.
13. Annual report on the Executive Director's actions to update and improve the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat.
14. Election of officers of the Bureau.
15. Other matters.
16. Closure of the meeting.