

Sixth meeting of the Bureau of the Executive Board for the year 2022

Monday, 12 September 2022

10:00 hrs – 12:00 noon EAT

Hybrid meeting-UN-Habitat OED Boardroom

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda item 1: Adoption of the provisional Agenda

1. H.E. Mr. Silvio Albuquerque, Chair of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat and Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil, opened the meeting at 10:10 am EAT.

The following members of the 2022-2023 Bureau of the Executive Board were present:

In-person

H.E. Mr. Silvio Albuquerque, Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil.

Ms. Lucianara Andrade Fonseca, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil.

H.E. Mr. Marek Rohr-Garztecki, former Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland, present in his personal capacity to say farewell.

Mr. Clement Payeur, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of France.

On-line

H.E. Ms. Saqlain Syedah, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

Mr. Oleni Brian Muhunda, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya.

The following UN Habitat Secretariat members were also present:

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director.

Mr. Chris Mensah, Secretary to the Governing Bodies.

Mr. Raf Tuts, Director, Global Solutions Division.

Ms. Shipra Narang Suri, Chief, Urban Practices Branch, Global Solutions Division

Mr. Justin Bonongwe, Management Advisory and Compliance Service

Ms. Katerina Bezgachina, Chief of Communication Unit

Mr. Martin Barugahare, Chief of Monitoring and Evaluation Unit

Ms. Modupe Adebajo, Management Advisory and Compliance Service

Ms. Xuesai Ma, OiC, Donor Relations Unit

Ms. Catalina Pizzaro, Legal Officer

The Chair welcomed all participants to the meeting. The Chair acknowledged that H.E. Mr. Marek Rohr-Garztecki has completed his tour of duty in Kenya as Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland and thanked him on his own behalf and on behalf of the Bureau for

his stewardship and leadership during his tenure as Permanent Representative of Poland to UN-Habitat and as Chair of the Bureau of the Executive Board. The Executive Director also expressed her gratitude to Mr. Rohr-Garztecki for his tireless work towards the successful hosting of WUF 11 in Poland.

2. The provisional agenda was adopted without any changes and can be accessed [here](#). The Bureau, however, recommended a proposed switch of the order of consideration of Agenda items 2 and 3, namely outcomes of the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum (WUF11) and preparations for the 2022 second session of the Executive Board. The Bureau recommended that Agenda item 3 on the outcomes of WUF11 should come before the consideration of the preparations for the 2022 second session of the Executive Board.

Agenda item 2 . Outcomes of eleventh session of the World Urban Forum (WUF 11).

3. Upon invitation by the Chair, the Executive Director presented the outcomes of the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum (WUF11) held from 26 to 30 June 2022 which can be accessed [here](#). The statement by the Executive Director can be accessed [here](#).
4. The presentation was followed by an exchange of views with Bureau members.
5. The Bureau welcomed and took note of the presentation by the Executive Director on the outcomes of WUF 11 and encouraged the Executive Director to further the outcomes of WUF11 to offer governments and other constituencies opportunities to advance the action areas emanating from WUF 11. The Bureau also encouraged the Executive Director to take stock of the lessons learnt from WUF11 towards the preparations of the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum to be held in January 2024 in Cairo, Egypt.

Agenda item 3: Preparations for the 2022 second session of the Executive Board

a) Dates of the 2022 second session

6. The Chair recalled that at its last meeting held on 8 June 2022, the Bureau recommended that the 2022 second session of the Executive Board be held from 21 to 23 November 2022. The Chair noted that the Bureau arrived at this recommendation to ensure adequate preparations by the Secretariat and Member States towards the second session of the Executive Board and considering the alternative dates available by the UNON Division of Conference Services based upon the United Nations global calendar of meetings and the COP 27 to be held in Egypt from 6 to 18 November 2022.
7. The Chair further informed that that on 22 July 2022, the Secretariat received a formal request from one Member State that the 2022 second session of the Executive Board be held on the dates initially decided by the Executive Board in its Decision 2022/3, *i.e* 15 -17 November 2022.
8. The update by the Chair was followed by an exchange of views with Bureau members.
9. Subsequently, the Bureau, after noting that there were no possible alternative dates available in the UNON Division of Conference Services based upon the United Nations global calendar of meetings, confirmed that the 2022 second session of the Executive Board should be held from 21 to 23 November 2022.

b) Format of the 2022 second session of the Executive Board

10. Upon invitation by the Chair, the Executive Director briefed the Bureau on the format and venue options for holding the 2022 second session of the Executive Board. The statement by the Executive Director can be accessed [here](#).
11. The presentation was followed by an exchange of views with Bureau members.
12. Subsequently, the Bureau, after reviewing [the proposal by the Executive Director](#), recommended that the Executive Director continues her preparations for the 2022 second session with the assumption that the meeting will be held in a hybrid format.
13. The Bureau further recommended that future sessions of the Executive Board move gradually into full in-person format, so as to follow the practice of other fora and organizations.
14. The Bureau further acknowledged that there are no longer limitations with respect to delegates' in-person participation to the session. The Bureau encouraged in-person participation to the session, with the understanding that the choice and level of representation remains at the discretion of State Members of the United Nations, United Nations Specialized Agencies, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or accredited to the UN-Habitat Assembly.

c) Organisation of work during the 2022 second session of the Executive Board

15. Upon invitation by the Chair, the Executive Director briefed the Bureau on the proposed organisation of work during the 2022 second session of the Executive Board. The statement by the Executive Director can be accessed [here](#).
16. The presentation was followed by an exchange of views with Bureau members.
17. Subsequently, the Bureau, after reviewing [the proposal by the Executive Director](#), recommended the organisation of work for the 2022 second session of the Executive Director which can be accessed [here](#). The Bureau further acknowledged and welcomed the fact that more time be allocated during the session to substantive discussions as part of the guidance received from the Bureau during its meeting held on 8 June 2022.
18. The Bureau also recommended that some of the formalities pertaining to the procedural report during the opening of the session, including the organisation of work of the 2022 second session, be shortened.

b) Informal consultations on possible outcomes of the 2022 second session of the Executive Board

19. Upon invitation by the Chair, the Executive Director briefed the Bureau on the dates of the informal consultations on possible outcomes of the 2022 second session of the Executive Board. The statement by the Executive Director can be accessed [here](#).
20. The presentation was followed by an exchange of views with Bureau members.
21. Subsequently, the Bureau, after reviewing [the proposal by the Executive Director](#), recommended that the meeting of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters scheduled for 10 October 2022 be cancelled, noting that if

warranted, more meetings can be scheduled in November 2022, depending on the availability of the Chair of the ad-hoc working group. The Bureau felt that at the 2022 first session of the Executive Board, the negotiations on the outcomes to be considered by the Executive Board started too early, leading to a low engagement from Member States.

22. The amended schedule of informal consultations on possible outcomes of the 2022 second session of the Executive Board can be accessed [here](#).
23. The updated roadmap for the 2022 meetings of the governing Bodies of UN-Habitat (version 12 September 2022) has been circulated to Member States after the meeting and can be accessed [here](#).

Agenda item 4: Report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) on the management and administration in the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

24. Upon invitation by the Chair, the Executive Director briefed the Bureau on the report of the Joint Inspection Unit of the United Nations (JIU) on the management and administration in Un-Habitat which can be accessed [here](#). The statement by the Executive Director can be accessed [here](#).
25. The presentation was followed by an exchange of views with Bureau members.
26. Subsequently, the Bureau, after reviewing [the presentation by the Executive Director](#), acknowledged that the JIU report brings important considerations and further noted that the JIU report should be adequately discussed amongst Member States to receive inputs.
27. The Bureau appreciated, however, that some of the recommendations of the JIU such as holding of regular joint meetings of the Bureaux of the Executive Board and the Committee of Permanent Representatives were already being implemented as an important step in improving the role of the three bodies.

Agenda item 5 : Discussion on the next steps for the open-ended informal contact group on Resource Mobilisation matters.

28. The Chair recalled that during the last meeting of the Bureau held on 8 June 2022, he briefed the Bureau on his decision to establish an open-ended informal contact group on resource mobilization matters.
29. The Chair indicated that it had been informed by the Secretariat that so far six Member States have sent a formal communication to express interest in joining the informal contact group. These are Belgium, Argentina, Cameroon, Pakistan, Mexico and Kenya.
30. The Chair reiterated that he suggested the establishment of the open-ended informal contact group in his capacity as Chair of the Executive Board and not necessarily as Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil to UN-Habitat.
31. The presentation was followed by an exchange of views with Bureau members.
32. Subsequently, the Bureau, recommended that a first meeting of the informal contact group be held before the 2022 second session of the Executive Board, for example on Monday 1 November 2022. The Bureau further recommended that a co-chairing administration of the informal contact group be suggested at the first meeting of the informal contact group, so as to have all views from Member States adequately reflected.

33. The Chair further indicated that he would suggest to the informal contact group that the recommendations emanating from that group be forwarded to the Executive Director, to guide her in her responsibilities on resources mobilization. The Chair further noted that the informal contact group could also serve as important communication tool, such as providing relevant and concise information to Member States to enable them to understand all aspects of the funding of UN-Habitat, underlining it was also one of the straightforward recommendations of the Joint Inspection Report on the management and administration in UN-Habitat.

Agenda item 6: Any other matters

There were no other matters under discussion and the sixth meeting of the Bureau of the Executive Board for the year 2022 was adjourned at 12:20 East African Time (EAT).