



UN HABITAT Executive Board
of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme

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Executive Board of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme
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**Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme at its resumed first session**

**Decision 2019/1: Implementation of the strategic plan for the period
2014–2019 and the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023, and approval
of the work programme and budget for 2020**

The Executive Board

- (a) **Implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2014–2019 of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme**
1. *Decides* that the final annual report on the strategic plan for the period 2014–2019 of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) will be considered by the Executive Board at its first session of 2020;
 2. *Also decides* that the final report on the full cycle of the strategic plan for the period 2014–2019 will be considered at its second session of 2020;
 3. *Further decides* that the final report on the full cycle of the strategic plan for the period 2014–2019 should include an evaluation report on the implementation of the plan, and requests the Executive Director to provide an update to the Executive Board on the status of the final report at its first session of 2020, with a view to completing the report in 2020;
- (b) **Implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023 of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme**
4. *Welcomes* the consultative process undertaken by the Executive Director with Member States of the United Nations Habitat Assembly of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat Assembly) to prepare the draft results framework for the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023 in an open and inclusive manner;
 5. *Takes note* of (a) the impact communication strategy and (b) the partnerships strategy to be annexed to the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023, as reflected in the report of the Executive Director on progress in the implementation of resolution 1/1 on the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the period 2020–2023,¹ and requests the Executive Director to resubmit them for further consideration and approval by the Executive Board at its first session of 2020;
 6. *Approves* the typology of human settlements demands as reflected in the report of the Executive Director;

¹HSP/EB.1/7.

7. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit for approval by the Executive Board at its first session of 2020 (a) an accountability framework, along with monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for assessing the implementation of the framework, (b) a resource mobilization strategy, and (c) a financial plan, all of which are needed to support the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023, in accordance with operative paragraph 3 (a) of resolution 1/1 of 31 May 2019 of the UN-Habitat Assembly;²

8. *Also requests* the Executive Director to continue to engage with Member States in the further development and implementation of the draft results framework, with a view to presenting the framework to the Executive Board at its first session of 2020;

9. *Welcomes* a continued focus on outcomes and impact in the draft results framework and the development of the framework as an effective tool to support the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023 and the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals;

10. *Requests* that the Executive Director, as part of the mid-term review of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023, submit to the Executive Board at its next meeting a review of the impact of UN-Habitat engagement with the private sector;

11. *Also requests* that the Executive Director, as part of the mid-term review of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023, submit to the Executive Board at its first session of 2020 a review of the impact of UN-Habitat engagement with non-governmental partners and a review of the investment funds;

(c) Approval of the work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2020

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed work programme of UN-Habitat and the budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2020,³ and requests that future reports be made available to the Executive Board as soon as they are issued;

13. *Requests* the Executive Director to follow up on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and to provide briefings to the Executive Board on the progress made;

14. *Approves* the work programme of UN-Habitat and the budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2020,⁴ and requests the Executive Director to present to the Executive Board at its first session of 2020 additional information in response to questions and issues raised during the resumed first session of the Executive Board and during consultations with the relevant ad hoc working groups;

(d) Alignment with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process

15. *Reiterates* the importance of aligning the planning cycles of UN-Habitat with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process and of further considering how best to achieve such an alignment, and requests the Executive Director to brief the Executive Board on alternatives in that regard.

Decision 2019/2: Financial, budgetary and administrative matters of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on financial, budgetary and administrative matters of UN-Habitat,⁵ which outlines the financial position of UN-Habitat as at 30 June 2019;

2. *Also takes note* of the current situation of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation non-earmarked resources and the measures taken to manage the financial situation, and notes the performance of the other funding segments, namely, regular budget, programme support, foundation earmarked and technical cooperation;

² HSP/HA.1/Res.1.

³ HSP/EB.1/2/Rev.1/Add.1.

⁴ See HSP/EB.1/2/Rev.1.

⁵ HSP/EB.1/6.

3. *Further takes note* of the financial report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 and report of the Board of Auditors⁶ and its recommendations;
4. *Takes note* of the funding gap as of December 2018, and requests the Executive Director, based on the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023, to continue with the resource mobilization effort through a transparent, dialogue-based approach that includes continuous and regular communication with Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies, and to provide to the Executive Board, before its first session of 2020, an overview of options to further rationalize costs;
5. *Also takes note* of the information provided by the Executive Director regarding the ongoing restructuring of UN-Habitat, and requests the Executive Director to further consult with the Executive Board and the relevant ad hoc working groups and to keep Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies informed on that matter;
6. *Further takes note* of the UN-Habitat staffing report as at 30 June 2019,⁷ asks the Executive Director to submit to the Executive Board at its first session of 2020 a comprehensive report on human resources, with a focus on equitable geographical representation and gender balance in the Programme, including progress in the achievement of its gender parity target for positions financed through all sources of funding, and urges UN-Habitat to seize the opportunities in current and future recruitment processes to implement measures that will contribute to efforts to meet desirable ranges of geographical representation and gender balance and to secure the long-term core competencies required for the delivery of its work programme;
7. *Decides* to establish an ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters to assist and advise the Executive Board;
8. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 67/226 of 21 December 2012,⁸ paragraph 53 of General Assembly resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016,⁹ and paragraph 28 (d) of General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018;¹⁰
9. *Takes note* of the report of the Board of Auditors,¹¹ which found that UN-Habitat had not developed a framework that clearly explained how cost recovery should be handled in practice and that current cost recovery practices were not harmonized with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 67/226;
10. *Requests* the Executive Director to address the recommendation in the report of the Board of Auditors, to establish a framework and methodology for full cost recovery in accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/226, and to report on the progress achieved to the Executive Board at its first session of 2020;
11. *Decides* to establish an ad hoc working group on working methods to assist and advise the Executive Board, and that the ad hoc working group will complete its work by no later than the second session of 2020.

Decision 2019/3: Implementation of normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations Human Settlements Assembly

The Executive Board

(a) Implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted by the United Nations Human Settlements Assembly at its first session

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress report of the Executive Director on the implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its first session;¹²
2. *Encourages* the Executive Director to provide to the Executive Board at its first session of 2020, a concept note, including financial costing, on the implementation of a process to review the United Nations system-wide guidelines on safer cities in a manner that enables Member States to share

⁶ A/74/5/Add.9.

⁷ HSP/EB.1/INF.2.

⁸ A/RES/67/226.

⁹ A/RES/71/243.

¹⁰ A/RES/72/279.

¹¹ See A/74/5/Add.9.

¹² HSP/EB.1/8.

their experiences and best practices, in accordance with resolution 1/2 of 31 May 2019 of the UN-Habitat Assembly;¹³

3. *Takes note* of the presentation of the draft version of the capacity-building strategy, and requests the Executive Director to finalize the strategy in 2020, in accordance with resolution 1/3 of 31 May 2019 of the UN-Habitat Assembly,¹⁴ and to report on the progress made to the Executive Board at its first session of 2020;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to provide to the Executive Board at its first session of 2020 a comprehensive and up-to-date report on the status of the development of tools, thematic guides and a compendium on enhancing awareness, best practices and mainstreaming rural-urban linkages;

5. *Decides* to establish an ad hoc working group on the development of a draft stakeholder engagement policy, with a view to agreeing, as soon as possible, on a draft stakeholder engagement policy and presenting it to the Executive Board for consensus agreement and provisional implementation, pending consideration and possible approval by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its second session;

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

6. *Takes note* of the results achieved in the implementation of programmes in the fields of competence of UN-Habitat, in particular through activities advancing sustainable urbanization and improving living conditions for all, supporting different levels of government in implementing the New Urban Agenda,¹⁵ and supporting the most vulnerable communities;

7. *Encourages* the Executive Director, in consultation with the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters, to elaborate upon innovative programmes within the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023 to be discussed with the Executive Board, taking into account thematic and regional balance;

8. *Requests* the Executive Director, in consultation with the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters, to propose to the Executive Board a prioritization process with respect to normative and operational activities, in line with the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023.

Decision 2019/4: Workplan of the Executive Board for 2020

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the proposed organization of work and workplan for the Executive Board and its Bureau meetings for 2020;¹⁶

2. *Decides* that the Executive Board will hold three sessions in 2020, with a maximum length of three days each;

3. *Also decides* that the sessions of the Executive Board in 2020 will be held as follows: the first session will be held from 31 March to 2 April; the second session will be held in September; and the third session will be held in early December;

4. *Further decides* that, after 2020, the following items will be included on the provisional agenda of Executive Board sessions for consideration at its first session of each year:

(a) The annual work programme and budget of UN-Habitat;

(b) The report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the proposed work programme of UN-Habitat and the budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlement Foundation;

(c) The annual report on the implementation of the UN-Habitat strategic plan;

(d) An annual report on the Executive Director's actions to update and improve the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat;

¹³ HSP/HA.1/Res.2.

¹⁴ HSP/HA.1/Res.3.

¹⁵ A/RES/71/256.

¹⁶ HSP/EB.1/5.

(e) An 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;

(f) An annual report on UN-Habitat actions to address geographical and gender imbalances in the composition of its staff;

5. *Decides* that, after 2020, the following items will be included on the provisional agenda of each Executive Board session for consideration:

(a) Financial situation of UN-Habitat, the use of resources, the resource mobilization strategy, the ongoing restructuring of UN-Habitat and the financing of UN-Habitat, including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan;

(b) Reports of any ad hoc working groups established by the Executive Board;

6. *Also decides* that the following items will be included on the provisional agenda of Executive Board sessions on a regular basis:

(a) Implementation of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly;

(b) Briefing by the Executive Director on the implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including a briefing by the Executive Director on country activities that may not be covered in the annual report;

(c) Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the Executive Board;

(d) Annual report of the Ethics Office to the Executive Board;

(e) Briefing by the Executive Director on progress made in the implementation of the United Nations development system reform until it is concluded;

7. *Further decides* that the provisional agenda for the Executive Board's first session of 2020 will be as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting.

2. Organizational matters:

(a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the first session of 2020;

(b) Adoption of the report on the resumed first session.

3. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters.

4. Approval of the annual work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2021.

5. Reports on the implementation of UN-Habitat strategic plans:

(a) Receipt of the 2019 annual report on the strategic plan for the period 2014–2019;

(b) Update on the final report on the UN-Habitat strategic plan for the entire 2014–2019 cycle and on the evaluation inception report;

(c) Report on the implementation of the 2020–2023 strategic plan:

(i) Accountability framework;

(ii) Financial plan;

(iii) Results-based management policy.

6. Briefing on the status of implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its first session.

7. Briefing on the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat.

8. Report on UN-Habitat action to strengthen protection against sexual exploitation and abuse and against workplace sexual harassment, as requested by the General Assembly.

9. Report on UN-Habitat's actions to address geographical and gender imbalances in the composition of its staff.

10. Report on the implementation of the United Nations development system and management reform in UN-Habitat.
 11. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Executive Board in 2020.
 12. Other matters.
 13. Closure of the meeting.
8. *Decides* that the provisional agenda for the second session of 2020 shall be as follows:
1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the second session of 2020;
 - (b) Adoption of the report on the first session of 2020.
 3. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters.
 4. Reports on the implementation of UN-Habitat strategic plans:
 - (a) Briefing on the status of the ongoing evaluation of the strategic plan for the period 2014–2019;
 - (b) Report on the implementation of the strategic plan for the period 2020–2023.
 5. Briefing on the status of implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its first session.
 6. Provisional agenda for the third session of 2020.
 7. Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the Executive Board.
 8. Annual report of the Ethics Office to the Executive Board.
 9. Briefing on the status of the development of the capacity-building strategy.
 10. Other matters.
 11. Closure of the meeting.

Decision 2019/5: Methods of work of the Executive Board

The Executive Board

1. *Decides* that the meetings of the Executive Board will not begin on a Monday, to avoid any overtime costs for registration over the weekend;
 2. *Recognizes* the possibility of joint meetings of the bureaux of the UN–Habitat Assembly, the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the Executive Board to coordinate their activities, if needed.
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