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PARAGUAY - NATIONAL STATEMENT

In **2016**, after the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Housing and Urban Development - **Habitat III**, Paraguay assumed the commitment to address the guidelines arising from this important event. Later, through a resolution of the then **National Secretariat for Housing and Habitat (SENAVITAT)**, in 2018, **the National Housing and Habitat Policy was approved.**

In that same year, **SENAVITAT** became the **Ministry of Urbanism, Housing and Habitat (MUVH)**, thus acquiring competencies in urban planning. Then, a process began widely participation, updating and adaptation of the policy, with the **important collaboration of UN Habitat**, and the National Habitat Committee, a national instance of intersectoral convergence created as an advisory body. As a result, consensus was achieved for **the new National Policy on Urban Planning, Housing and Habitat of Paraguay**, which is currently awaiting the formalization of its entry into force through a Decree of the Executive Branch.

This instrument reflects the efforts to build a long-term public management strategy, based on political will, comprehensive technical planning and intersectorial collaboration. Now it is constituted in a **State Policy**, which promotes an articulate and systemic perspective between all the actors related to urban planning, housing and habitat, including the powers of the State, local governments, the private sector, civil society and academi.

Its content establishes guidelines to guarantee the development of the urban and rural territory, it is a clear and solid roadmap that guides our actions towards a sustainable urban future in compliance with current laws. Paraguay has the premise that housing is a fundamental human right, and that the needs of citizens must be considered in an integral manner. Committed to continuous improvement, impact assessment and adaptation to climate changes, social and environmental, Paraguay implements this policy, creating urban environments sustainable, that promote social inclusion, community cohesion and economic prosperity, to improve the quality of life of its inhabitants.

The National Urban Planning, Housing and Habitat Policy is the main framework for the development of plans, programs and projects that are currently being executed in the country. The goal is being fulfilled, through strategies that promote development and facilitate access to decent solutions and adequate housing, in a quality urban environment.

Our sectoral policy is aligned with national and international instruments, particularly with the **Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda**. It allows an adequate planning of urban development and housing provision, as well as the construction of smart cities with a modern and current urban approach. It provides a framework for generating solutions that help us order the territory, improve the conditions of precarious settlements and address the complex challenges of the quantitative and qualitative housing deficit in all sectors of society.

We are committed to this challenge and will work tirelessly to continue making that the right to decent and adequate housing be a reality for all Paraguayans. Together, we can transform our cities into vibrant, accessible and equitable spaces, where every person can find a safe home and a community that supports them. **And only like this, we will build an inclusive, healthy and prosperous urban future.**