

First Bureau meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat for the year 2022

Wednesday 15 June 2022

14:30 hrs – 16:00 hrs East Africa Time (EAT)

Hybrid meeting-UN-Habitat OED Boardroom

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda item 1: Adoption of the provisional Agenda

1. H.E. Ms. Saqlain Syedah, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, opened the meeting at 14:40 hrs EAT.

The following members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives were present:

H.E. Ms. Saqlain Syedah, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to UN-Habitat.

Mr. Muhammad Junaid Wazir, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to UN-Habitat.

H.E. Ms. Monica de Greiff, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Colombia to UN-Habitat.

H.E. Mr. Dr. John Stephen Simbachawene, Permanent Representative of United Republic of Tanzania to UN-Habitat.

Ms. Felista Rugambwa, Head of Chancellery of the United Republic of Tanzania.

The following nominated member of the 2021-2023 Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives representing the Group of Eastern European States for the position of Rapporteur was present:

H.E. Ms. Katarina Zuffa Leligdonova, Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to UN-Habitat.

The following UN Habitat Secretariat members were also present:

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director.

Mr. Chris Mensah, Secretary to the Governing Bodies.

Mr. Chris Williams, Director, UN-Habitat New York Office.

Mr. Raf Tuts, Director, Director, Global Solutions Division.

Mr. Stephen Slawsky, Management Advisory and Compliance Service.

Mr. Atsushi Koresawa, Director, Regional Office for Asia Pacific.

Mr. Rong Yang, Officer-in-Charge, Regional Programmes Division.

2. The Chair welcomed all participants to the meeting. The provisional Agenda was adopted without any changes and can be accessed [here](#).

Agenda item 2: Feedback from the Executive Director on the ECOSOC special meeting and on the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

3. Upon invitation by the Chair, the Executive Director briefed the Bureau on the high-level meeting (HLM) of the General Assembly on the progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda held on 28 April 2022 and further expressed how UN-Habitat intended to leverage on the outcome of HLM. The statement by the Executive Director can be accessed [here](#).
4. The Bureau took note of the briefing by the Executive Director.

Agenda item 3: Review of the proposed organization of work and workplan for the CPR including its Bureau meetings for 2022 – 2023 towards the open-ended meeting of the CPR in 2023 to prepare for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

5. Under this item and upon invitation by the Chair, the Executive Director presented the proposed organization of work and workplan for the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) to UN-Habitat including its Bureau meetings for 2022-2023 towards the open-ended meeting of the CPR in 2023 to prepare for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly. The proposed organization of work is as set out on slide six of the presentation which can be accessed [here](#).
6. The Bureau after reviewing the [proposal by the Executive Director](#), recommended the proposed work and work plan for the CPR for 2022- 2023 which can be accessed [here](#).

Agenda item 4: Preliminary discussion on the preparations for the open-ended meeting of the CPR in 2023 to prepare for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

7. Upon invitation by the Chair, the Executive Director briefed the Bureau on the preparations for the open-ended meeting of the CPR in 2023 to prepare for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly. The statement by the Executive Director can be accessed [here](#).

a) Confirmation of the dates of the open-ended meeting.

8. The Bureau, after reviewing the [proposal by the Executive Director](#), confirmed that the dates of the second open-ended meeting of the CPR should be 29 May to 2 June 2023 as already recommended by the CPR in its [Recommendation 2021/4](#) adopted by the CPR at its open-ended meeting for a high level mid-term review held from 29 June to 1 July 2021.

b) Confirmation of the provisional Agenda for the open-ended meeting.

9. Subsequently, the Bureau after reviewing the [proposal by the Executive Director](#), confirmed that the provisional Agenda for the second open-ended meeting of the CPR in preparation for the second session of the UN-Habitat should be approved by the CPR in paragraph 4 of its [Recommendation 2021/4](#) adopted by the CPR at its open-ended meeting for a high level mid-term review held from 29 June to 1 July 2021. The provisional Agenda can be accessed [here](#).

Agenda item 5: Outstanding vacancies on the 2021-2023 Bureau of the CPR

10. The Chair recalled that pursuant to Rule 27 of rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly, the current Bureau was elected at the end of the open-ended high-level mid-term review of the CPR held in June 2021 and would hold office for 2 years until the end of the second open-ended meeting of the CPR in preparation for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly. The Chair recalled that the composition of the current Bureau as follows:

Chair: Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Vice-Chairs: United Republic of Tanzania and Republic of Colombia. One position of Vice-Chair remained vacant pending the nomination of the representative of Western European and other States (WEOG)

Rapporteur: The position of Rapporteur remained vacant pending the nomination of the representative of Eastern European States.

11. In addition, the Chair informed that on 13 October 2021, the Chair of the Regional Group of WEOG informed the Secretariat of the nomination of the Kingdom of Belgium for the position of Vice-Chair, and on 15 November 2021, the Chair of the Regional Group of Eastern European States informed the Secretariat of the nomination of the Slovak Republic for the position of Rapporteur.
12. The Bureau recommended that the Secretariat should circulate to all Member States on behalf of the Chair of the CPR, a letter on the election on a no objection basis of remaining members of the 2021-2023 CPR Bureau upon nomination by the regional groups for the positions of Vice-Chair and Rapporteur.

Agenda item 6: Any other matters

13. Upon invitation by the Chair, the Executive Director briefly discussed her recommendations and action plan following HLM and invited members of the Secretariat to briefly explain the action plan and potential resolutions to be adopted by the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
14. The Secretariat informed that HLM raised the profile of sustainable urbanization and expressed that UN-Habitat Assembly should take advantage of its role as a global urban policy platform for global urban policy on housing, urban climate, post conflict and recovery on a multi-level governance. The Secretariat further recommended that the CPR could lay the groundwork for the UN-Habitat Assembly to achieve its global policy making capacity.
15. Upon invitation by the Chair, the Secretariat provided detailed information on SDG cities certification. Participating cities have been awarded different levels of United Nations certification for their exceptional efforts to accelerate progress toward meeting global SDG. The Secretariat explained the different categories of the certification as follows; 1. Silver certification is awarded upon commitment to meet SDGs and completion of a baseline assessment to inform further action; 2. Gold certification is awarded upon evidence of a public plan outlining how SDG targets will be achieved; 3. Platinum certification is awarded upon evidence of strengthened local institutional capacity to deliver the SDGs; 4. Diamond certification is awarded upon measurable human impact, or significant investment and progress towards implementing projects and actions with high impacts on SDG indicators, in line with the city's SDG priorities. The Secretariat noted that the pilot stage was being tested in seven countries which included Bolivia, Ghana, Ecuador, Saint Lucia, Malaysia, Tunisia, and Turkey. The idea would be to have certification based on the commitment of the mayor or head of the local government to reach Sustainable Development Goals at the city level.
16. One member of the Bureau inquired about UN-Habitat's work in Ukraine. The Secretariat informed that it lacked the capacity for big presence in Ukraine but UN-Habitat was collaborating with other United Nations agencies such as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) in reconstruction, building better integrated neighbourhoods, and integration of migrants to neighbouring countries that have agreed to host migrants.
17. Subsequently, and at the request of the Bureau the Secretariat informed that potential resolutions to be adopted by the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly in June 2023 could include Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) cities, housing, localizing SDGs, climate

adaptation and climate change, and development of international guidelines on people friendly smart cities.

There were no other matters under discussion and the first meeting of the Bureau of the CPR for the year 2022 was adjourned at 16:00 East African Time (EAT).