

Seventh Bureau Meeting of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat

Thursday, 8 June 2023

09:00 am – 09:45 am EAT

Speaking notes for the President

Excellencies,

Madam Executive Director,

Good morning and welcome to the Bureau meeting.

Our meeting this morning is to give us the opportunity to review progress made on the third day of the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly and identify any issues arising.

1. Adoption of the provisional Agenda

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Adoption of the provisional Agenda.
2. Reflections on DAY 3
3. Status of draft resolutions and decisions
4. Expectations for Day 4 of the session including organizational work with respect to the Committee of the Whole and the Drafting Committee
5. Expectations for the second session of Executive Board 2023
6. Any other matters.

Does anyone wish to add to the Agenda?

I see no request for the floor.

The agenda is therefore adopted.

Before I move to agenda item 2, let me take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all of you for your support on Day 3 of the ongoing session of Assembly.

As you may recall, in line with Rule 21 of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly, the Bureau, on the recommendation of the President has designated Ghana, a Vice-President of the Bureau of the Assembly, to temporarily preside over the proceedings, due to his inavailability.

I look forward to working with you.

Let us now move to **Agenda item 2**.

Agenda item 2 – Reflections on DAY 3

Excellencies,

Colleagues,

I now wish to first invite the Executive Director to share her views for DAY 3 of the ongoing session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

[AFTER THAT]

Thank you, Madam Executive Director.

Let me now go around the table to allow members of the Bureau to express their views?

[AFTER THAT]

I now move to **Agenda item 3- Status of draft resolutions and decisions**

Excellencies,

On this item let me first call on the Chair of the Drafting Committee to give us any updates on the deliberations of that Committee yesterday.

[AFTER THE UPDATE BY THE CHAIR OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE]

Thank you, Your Excellency.

The floor is open for questions from the Bureau or additions by the Secretariat.

Thanks Colleagues.

I now move to **Agenda item 4-Expectations for Day 4 of the session including organizational work with respect to the Committee of the Whole and the Drafting Committee.**

Under this item, I am aware that the Committee of the Whole did not meet yesterday, I have also been informed that some resolutions are ready for consideration by the Committee of the Whole.

I wish to propose for your consideration that, this morning, we begin the Plenary with national Statements as we wait for the Report of the Committee of the

Whole, including Resolutions and Decisions. If the Report is ready, we will adopt it at Plenary.

With respect to the Resolutions and Decisions, however, and since they are yet to be considered by the Committee of the Whole for transmission to the Plenary, I am proposing, for your consideration, that at 11 am or there about, the Plenary suspends the National Statements to allow the Committee of the Whole to be convened to consider the Resolutions and Decisions that may be forward from the Drafting Committee.

After the consideration of the Draft Resolutions and Decisions by the Committee of the Whole, the Plenary resumes for the Chair of that Committee to present its report, and after which the Plenary will then move to adopt them. Procedurally, this will prevent any impediment by any Member State.

In addition, and should the Procedural Decision, including on the extension of the term of office of the Members of the Executive Board be ready, that Board can convene at 3pm, in Conference Room 2, based upon the notification we received from the secretariat last night. It is my hope that the Procedural Decision will enjoy consensus on the proposal for extension. This way we avoid elections, which could be messy.

May I hear your views on this proposal?

[AFTER THAT]

Another issue I wish to bring to your attention is the Chairing of the Committee of the Whole. As you are already aware, Ghana was requested to chair the Committee of the Whole before we became aware that the President would not

be able to preside over the proceedings from today. With me being acting President, I think this could present a conflict interest issue here. I therefore propose that opportunity be given to other Members of the Bureau to chair the Committee of the Whole to ensure transparency.

Do I hear any offers.

Tanzania?

Germany?

[DEPENDING UPON OF OFFERS TO TAKE UP THE POSITION]

Thank you Tanzania/Germany

I would now be interested in your views and expectations for today and any guidance you may provide to me.

[MR. PRESIDENT PAUSE FOR MEMBERS TO REACT.]

I now move to **Agenda item 5- Expectations for the second session of Executive Board 2023**

Members of the Bureau, as I said earlier, the second session of Executive Board will take place Today 8 June 2023, tentatively from 3pm this afternoon. It is my understanding that there seems to be consensus on the extension of the term of office of the current Bureau, similar to what the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) decided during the meeting of the open ended Committee



of Permanent Representatives(OECPR) last week, to extend the term of office of its Bureau.

Am I right in my understanding.?

Distinguish Members, any views on this.? [**AFTER THAT**]

ED, DED.?

I thank you.

I now move to **Agenda item 6- Any other matters.**

Does anyone wish to take the floor on any other matters?

[**AFTER THAT**]

Thank you, Excellencies, I am truly grateful for the assistance and all the help you have given me, and I wish us all the Best and a successful Assembly.

I count on your continued support today.

The meeting is now adjourned.
