

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco
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سفارة المملكة المغربية
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Draft Statement of the Kingdom of Morocco on Agenda Item 4 “Financial, budgetary and administrative matters, including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the strategic plan and Actions to strengthen protection against sexual and any other types of exploitation and abuse and against sexual harassment in the workplace”

Thank you, M. Chair for giving my delegation the floor;
Your Excellency, Mme Executive Director,
Excellencies, and distinguished delegates, Members of the Executive Board,
Excellencies distinguished delegates;

1. At the outset, allow me, Chair to extend on behalf of the Kingdom of Morocco to you our congratulations for your able leadership in steering our meeting. Our warm thanks to H.E the Executive Director of UN-Habitat for her able leadership in moving the UN settlements program forward and for converting it as an action-oriented program that delivers sustainable projects to meet the objectives of the SDGs. Morocco will continue its support to you Mme ED and to UN-Habitat, and is honoured as a member of the Executive Board, to contribute constructively to this 2nd session of the Executive Board. My delegation would like to seize this opportunity to thank the secretariat for the hard work and availability in advance of reports and working documents of this session, as well as for the presentations made today.
2. The report of Mme ED on financial, budgetary and administrative matters including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy, has highlighted clearly the financial status of the organisation as of 30 June 2022, with budgetary constraints that affect non earmarked fund. The measures of austerity applied by Mme ED did make a difference in trying to limit the gaps and we think that with the such resolve combined with the efforts made in resource mobilization, our organisation will help recover the organisation’s financial situation. The issue of financing is critical to the continuity and delivery of programs of UN Habitat, This is a conviction of my country which also believes that honouring financial commitments is a must as much as it is a collective responsibility.
3. In this regard, my delegation **commends Mme ED for her active engagement** in the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy in accordance with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme Strategic Plan for the period 2020–2023, and welcomes the tangible positive Progress achieved so far. The results of implementation of the strategy are encouraging and very positive as they delivered in **securing pledges**, through individual dialogues

with **member states, UN entities, private sector, local authorities, as well as with foundations and philanthropic organisations**. Such mobilisation resource strategy has proved its efficiency and deserves to be pursued regularly to **ensure sufficient predictable, and flexible long-term funds to implement activities under the strategic plan**. Efforts to develop and enhance strategic and innovative partnerships with funding partners, as well as enlarging and diversifying the donor base are key to secure more funds for the implementation of UN Habitat programs;

4. Mr Chair, on the report of the ED on Recruitment, equitable geographical distribution and gender parity, We would like to thank Mme ED for the clarity and transparent manner she and her team handled the report with clear cut figures on geographical representation and gender balance for posts in different categories at UN-Habitat.
 - My delegation welcome the progress made throughout the years to meet parity objectives thanks to the recruitment measures put in place, and we encourage you Mme Ed to continue doing so , so that parity is ensured at the professional senior levels and not be limited to lower professional levels. **(the report highlights clearly that when it comes to P5 levels, 17 % only are women, whereas men occupy 83 %. When it comes to D-1 level, the ratio is 14 % women to 86% for men. At the D-2 level, there is only one man, and no women, no one at the Assistant Secretary-General level and there is only 1 woman at the Under-Secretary-General level) We encourage you Mme ED to pursue attainment of parity objectives and do all what you can during your second mandate to enable qualified, competent women**, from underrepresented and unrepresented countries to support a transparent and equitable recruitment process.
 - As far as the geographical representation in the organisation, is concerned, my delegation is of the view that it is crucial to scrutinise the conformity of UN Habitat to the general UN Principle of equitable geographical representation, and our thanks go to you again Mme ED and to your team **for responding to the request of member states to provide us with a clear picture on how this principle is being applied in our organisation**.
 - Having said that our obvious observation, when looking into the figures in annex 1 and 2 to your report related to the Distribution of UN-Habitat staff by nationality, grade and gender as of 30 June 2022, is to take stock that Africa is occupying 48% with 146 posts (with all mixed categories) and that's appears to be a higher percentage in comparison with other regions. My delegation has made 2 observations:
 - First, is that when we look into the graphic and table that show distribution of those posts within the African Region, it is striking to see that the posts occupied by Africa are not the highest professional posts, meaning that the number of posts that made Africa rank first are of common or general staffing;
 - Second, is that when you look deeper, you see that one specific subregion has the monopoly, whereas other subregions are either non represented or underrepresented. My delegation thinks that a balance needs to be observed to have all subregions equally represented and that it is not satisfactory to give a figure that shows that Africa is being well represented when the reality is that not other subregions are equally represented. My delegation is therefore requesting from Mme ED to take into account the fact that equitable geographical distribution principle, needs also to be met during the selection of candidates from the different subregions that compose each of UN geographical regions.

I thank you Mr Chair.