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**Executive Board of the United Nations  
Human Settlements Programme  
First session of 2023  
28-29 March 2023  
Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda  
Organizational matters**

## **Update on the work of the 2022- 2023 Bureau of the Executive Board towards preparations of the session**

1. The second session of the Executive Board for the year 2022 was held from 21 to 23 November 2022. At that session, in its Decision 2022/7, the Executive Board decided that the first session of the Executive Board for the year 2023 would be held from 28 to 29 March 2023 and also decided that the provisional agenda for the first session of 2023 would be reviewed by the Bureau and made available in due course.

2. Subsequently, the Bureau of the Executive Board met four times on 9 December 2022, 8 February 2023, 14 March 2023 and 27 March 2023 to review the preparations for the first session of the year 2023. During these meetings, the Bureau recommended the following:

- a) That the session be held in a hybrid format from 28 to 29 March 2023.
- b) The provisional Agenda for the first session of the Executive Board for the year 2023 which can be accessed [here](#).
- c) That the pre-session documents supporting Agenda item 5 on “the upcoming session on the findings of the analysis of the risks related to the Sustainable Human Settlements Foundation and on the overview of earmarked private sector contribution agreements” be released as information (INF) documents and in English only. The Bureau arrived at this recommendation noting the deadline for submission of pre-session documents to UNON Conference Services is 17 January 2023 so as to give time to the Secretariat to prepare a meaningful update on the matter.
- d) That the dates for the second and third session of the Executive Board for the year 2023 be as follows:
  - i. The second session for the year 2023 be held for half a day on the morning of Thursday 8 June 2023 in the margins of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, for the purpose of electing the 2023-2024 Bureau once the members of the Executive Board for the term 2023-2027 are elected by the United Nations Habitat Assembly at its second session to be held from 5 to 9 June 2023.
  - ii. The third session for the year 2023 be held from 7 to 9 November 2023, taking into consideration the fact that the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28)

would convene from 30 November to 12 December 2023 and noting that that the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on Plastic Pollution of the United Nations Environment Programme is expected to meet in Nairobi mid-November 2023.

- e) The proposed organization of work for the first session of the Executive Board for the year 2023 which can be accessed [here](#).
- f) That the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters of the Executive Board be instrumental in the prior consideration of any draft decisions before they are formally discussed and adopted by the Board at its 2023 first session.
- g) That the Secretariat sends a Note Verbale to the Chairs of the Regional Groups in Nairobi inviting them to start caucusing towards identifying nominations for their respective representatives to the Executive Board for the period 2023-2027.
- h) That the Secretariat sends a Note Verbale to the Chairs of the Regional Groups in Nairobi inviting all regional groups to start caucusing towards nominations for their respective representatives to the 2023-2024 Bureau of the Executive Board.

3. With respect to the draft decisions to be possibly adopted during the first session of the Executive Board in 2023:

- a) That an additional meeting of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters to be scheduled prior to the upcoming session of the Executive Board so that the Secretariat can brief Member States further on the concept of the ‘Sustainable Development Goals Cities certification’ to enable finalization of paragraph 10 of Draft Decision 2023/[B].
- b) That the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Republic of Kenya as Vice-Chairs of the Bureau of the Executive Board chair the informal consultations on the draft decisions which will take place during the upcoming session of the Executive Board.

4. With respect to the letter dated 23 December 2022 from the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ms. Amina J. Mohamed regarding the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNDSG) Reform Checklist:

- a) The Bureau noted that in a letter addressed to the Executive Directors of the United Nations entities and to the President of the Governing Bodies of the United Nations entities sharing a checklist for the consideration of the governing bodies of the United Nations, proposed that reporting against the checklist be part of governing bodies’ annual programme of work, either as an additional agenda item on the implementation of the reform of the United Nations development system, or to complement or replace reporting on an existing agenda item on the topic.
- b) In that respect, the Bureau preliminary recommended pending further consultations with the Regional Groups on this matter that the Executive Board considers the checklist document containing questions and responses by the Secretariat at the 2023 third session of the Executive Board as part of the Agenda item on the ‘implementation of the United Nations development system reform’.

5. The detailed summaries of discussions emanating from the meetings of the Bureau of the Executive Board held on 9 December 2022, 8 February 2023, 14 March 2023 and 27 March 2023 can be accessed on the following link <https://unhabitat.org/governance/executive-board> under “Bureau” > “Bureau meetings of the Executive Board”.

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