

**SINGAPORE'S STATEMENT AT THE 2nd UN HABITAT
ASSEMBLY
5 JUNE 2023, NAIROBI, REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**By
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[*Mr / Madam*] President,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates and Colleagues

As the Head of the Singapore delegation, I would like to express our deepest appreciation for the good work of the UN-Habitat under the leadership of the Executive Director, Maimunah Mohd Sharif.

2 Singapore attended the 1st UN Habitat Assembly in 2019, held just a few months before the COVID-19 pandemic affected countries worldwide. Four years on, the fact that we can all gather here at this 2nd Assembly is a testament to our resilience as a global community.

Upholding Multilateralism (Global Perspective)

3 However, COVID-19 may have significantly affected many countries' ability to pursue goals under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and UN Habitat's New Urban Agenda.

Multilateral cooperation is even more critical now for us to push past COVID-19 in the pursuit of sustainable, inclusive and resilient growth.

4 Singapore is strongly supportive of efforts to uphold multilateralism through collective global cooperation, and we firmly believe in the value of sharing of experiences, best practices and solutions to enhance the cross-pollination of ideas and knowledge.

5 To this end, CLC and UN Habitat have jointly conducted 4 editions of the **Singapore-UN Habitat International Leaders in Urban Governance Programme**, with the 4th run of the programme having been concluded last month. In all, 161 participants from 60 African and Latin American cities had participated in this programme.

Localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (Local Perspective)

6 We draw encouragement from this Assembly's commitment to multilateralism and the localisation of SDGs to address pressing issues, especially Adequate Housing, Climate Action & Sustainability, Urban Crises Recovery, and Economic Development and Growth.

7 I will share a few examples from Singapore's experience:

Housing a Nation

- Since Singapore's independence, **providing affordable and accessible public housing** for our people has been a key priority, and will continue to be so.

- Over time, the needs of our residents have evolved . We recognise the need to provide affordable and accessible housing solutions suited for young families, older residents and a changing workforce. Besides **a safe and sustainable living environment**, our towns and neighbourhoods **aim to engender a sense of community and belonging**.

Green Infrastructure

- **Greening our buildings** is another key effort.
- In 2021, the Singapore Green Building Masterplan was launched to accelerate Singapore's transition towards a more sustainable, low-carbon built environment.
- We have adopted various measures to mitigate the Urban Heat Island effect and building a more sustainable and urban environment in Singapore. The government's multifaceted approach encompasses greening efforts, urban planning strategies, regulations and research collaborations, with the aim of creating a cooler and more liveable city for residents.

Green Spaces

- Access to greenery is another key effort which will ensure that all households are within a 10-minute walk to a park by 2030. Beyond this, we seek to transform Singapore into a **City in Nature**.

- This includes expanding our nature park networks, naturalising gardens and parks, and restoring nature into our urban areas including commercial and industrial districts. In support of this, we also aim to plant 1 million more trees across Singapore between 2020 and 2030.

Conclusion

8 To conclude, Singapore is committed to the implementation of SDGs, especially SDG 11, and the work enshrined in the New Urban Agenda. I wish the President of the Assembly, Executive Director of UN Habitat and all esteemed delegates a constructive outcome for this Assembly.

9 Thank you.

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