



THIRD SESSION OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY FOR 2023

Agenda Item 7

Principal Obstacles to the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda by Member States

Report of the Executive Director

Malaysia's Intervention

28th November 2023

Thank you, Excellency Chair.

As this is the first time I take the floor as the representative of Malaysia, I would like to express the Government of Malaysia utmost gratitude towards your contributions to UN-Habitat. You have made us proud.

On Agenda Item 7, we wish to thank the Executive Director, Madam Maimunah Mohd Sharif for her comprehensive report and findings on Agenda Item 7. It has provided us with good understanding on our collective progress and challenges to enable us to plan our actions, prior to the Mid-term review of New Urban Agenda implementation progress in 2026.

Malaysia is fully committed to the **New Urban Agenda**, where its implementation is aligned to the localisation of the **2030 Sustainable Urban Development**. The three-fold implementation framework is well accepted and Malaysia has set the necessary eco-system, through national urbanisation policies, integrated and inclusive urban planning, legal frameworks and local regulations, to ensure incremental progress through multi-level governance and multi-stakeholders commitments to deliver an equitable and sustainable urbanisation.

We uphold the principle of “**Leaving No One Behind**” and this is well translated in our 5-year economic blueprint, the 12th Malaysia Plan, which has four key measures as follows:

- a. Promoting Effective Urban Planning and Governance.
- b. Fostering Sustainable Urban Economy.
- c. Prioritising Green Resilient Urban Development; and
- d. Building a Sustainable Urban Society

Excellency Chair,

Malaysia wish to second the proposal to further develop the Urban Agenda Platform using earmarked funding. Initiated as a global platform for sharing progress, actions and knowledge on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, the platform should evolve to accelerate the implementation of the agenda in realising the 17 SDGs.

Urban Platform 2.0 should be a **single window** that integrates information and data from various sources and transform them into resource for reporting and subsequently used for further learnings and knowledge sharing. It has the opportunity to be a central data system, a knowledge hub and a technical service centre that provides support to member states in establishing the communities of practice for the development of sustainable urbanization.

Malaysia hereby offers to support the Urban Agenda Platform for Asia Pacific, where it can assist cities and nations to accelerate their progress reporting. With only 4 nations that has submitted its voluntary national reports, it can provide the **necessary technical support**. And with assistance of existing collaborative partnerships available in the Asia Pacific, such as the Penang Platform for Sustainable Urbanization and its partners, it can assist UN-Habitat in **regional outreach and capacity building on New Urban Agenda implementation and progress reporting**.

This will also include sharing of **strategic resources to support learning, knowledge exchange and capacity development** that will encourage to accelerate achievement of local SDGs and implementation of New Urban Agenda that is transformative.

Finally, we believe **a regional platform** will also provide better communication that will increase participation, assist in getting back on track to strengthen the progress of the New Urban Agenda.

I thank you, Excellency Chair.