



Executive Board of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme
First session of 2024
Nairobi, 6–8 May 2024

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first session of 2024

Decision 2024/1: Draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2025, and financial, budgetary and administrative matters and the strategic plan of UN-Habitat

The Executive Board

(a) **Status of the draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2025**

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the status of the draft work programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2025;¹

2. *Also takes note* of the proposal by the Executive Director regarding the non-earmarked budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2025;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director to finalize the draft work programme and budget of UN-Habitat for 2025 based on feedback from the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and to present those documents for further consideration by the Executive Board at its second session of 2024;

(b) **Financial, budgetary and administrative matters of UN-Habitat, including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy and geographical and gender balance**

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the financial status of UN-Habitat as at 31 December 2023,² the report of the Executive Director on the financial status of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme as at 31 March 2024,³ and requests the Executive Director to continue the efforts to strengthen non-earmarked and earmarked funding in accordance with the resource mobilization strategy;

¹ HSP/EB.2024/3 and HSP/EB.2024/INF/4.

² HSP/EB.2024/2.

³ HSP/EB.2024/CRP.2.

5. *Also takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the staffing of UN-Habitat as at 31 December 2023,⁴ and the report of the Executive Director on recruitment, equitable geographical distribution and gender parity,⁵ and notes with concern that some States Members of the United Nations remain underrepresented or unrepresented, and encourages the Executive Director, consistent with articles 101 and 8 of the Charter of the United Nations, to strengthen efforts towards equitable geographical distribution and gender parity in its staffing;

6. *Further takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on actions to improve the internal management, policies and procedures of UN-Habitat;⁶

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on action by UN-Habitat to strengthen protection against sexual and any other type of exploitation and abuse and against sexual harassment in the workplace;⁷

(c) **Midterm review of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2020–2025 and status of the draft strategic plan for the period 2026–2029**

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the midterm review of the strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the period 2020–2025;⁸

9. *Also takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the development of the draft strategic plan for the period 2026–2029⁹ and encourages its development and refinement.

Decision 2024/2: Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat

The Executive Board

(a) **Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat**

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including updates on the Inclusive Communities, Thriving Cities flagship programme, the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) initiative, urban crises prevention and response initiatives and activities for the period July–December 2023,¹⁰ and further acknowledges the need for detailed clarifications related to the background report within the framework of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director to continue implementing normative and operational activities and to develop partnerships to promote flagship programmes to enhance support for all Member States and members of specialized agencies of the United Nations system;

3. *Also requests* the Executive Director, in accordance with the mandate of the Programme, resolutions 19/18 and 23/2 of the Governing Council and decisions of the Executive Board, including decision 2022/2, paragraph 9, decision 2022/6, paragraph 3, decision 2023/2, paragraph 4 and decision 2023/5, paragraph 5, to continue to support the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements affected by conflict and disaster, as reflected in the annex to the present decision, through a comprehensive system-wide response, and to continue to provide assistance to urban crises, using urban profiling to assess the needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of urban areas and to establish urban recovery frameworks, and to submit regular reports on the status of the development of the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements affected by conflict and disaster to the Executive Board;

4. *Urges* the Executive Director, in that context, to use all the tools at their disposal to engage, including through collaboration with the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, with recent urban crises, without prejudice to the identified urban crises and conflicts reflected in the annex to the present decision;

⁴ HSB/EB.2024/INF/3.

⁵ HSP/EB.2024/2/Add.1.

⁶ HSP/EB.2024/11.

⁷ HSP/EB.2024/10.

⁸ HSP/EB.2024/4.

⁹ HSP/EB.2024/5.

¹⁰ HSP/EB.2024/6.

5. *Recalls* decision 2023/5 of the Executive Board and takes note of the preliminary report of the Executive Director on the status of the development of the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements in the Gaza Strip, and requests the Executive Director to present an updated report to the Executive Board at its second session of 2024;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director, in accordance with the mandate of the Programme, to further develop the neighbourhood-based approach to recovery and reconstruction in the Gaza Strip, to use urban profiling to deepen the assessments and to explore options for building back better;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Director to report to the Executive Board on other urban crises, upon request by affected Member States and members of the specialized agencies of the United Nations system;

(b) Preparations for the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum

8. *Welcomes* the report of the Executive Director on the status of preparations for the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum, to be held in Cairo in November 2024;¹¹

9. *Takes note* of the presentation made by Ethiopia on the preparations for the inaugural Africa Urban Forum, to be held in Addis Ababa in September 2024;

10. *Welcomes* the selection of the city of Baku to host the thirteenth session of the World Urban Forum in 2026;

(c) Implementation by UN-Habitat of the reform of the United Nations development system

11. *Takes note* of the note by the secretariat and the related checklist on the implementation by UN-Habitat of the reform of the United Nations development system and welcomes efforts by UN-Habitat to continue contributing to the implementation of the reform of the United Nations development system.¹²

Annex to decision 2024/2

Countries, territories and areas affected by conflict and disaster

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|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | 14. Myanmar |
| 2. Burkina Faso | 15. Nepal |
| 3. Cameroon | 16. Nigeria |
| 4. Democratic Republic of the Congo | 17. Pakistan |
| 5. Haiti | 18. Philippines |
| 6. Honduras | 19. Somalia |
| 7. Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 20. South Sudan |
| 8. Iraq | 21. Sudan |
| 9. Kenya | 22. Syrian Arab Republic |
| 10. Lebanon | 23. Ukraine |
| 11. Libya | 24. Yemen |
| 12. Malawi | 25. State of Palestine |
| 13. Mozambique | 26. Kosovo ¹³ |

¹¹ HSP/EB.2024/7.

¹² HSP/EB.2024/9 and HSP/EB.2024/INF/8.

¹³ All references to Kosovo in the present document should be understood to be in compliance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

Decision 2024/3: Update on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly

The Executive Board

- (a) **Progress in the implementation of all the resolutions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly**
1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly;¹⁴
 2. *Welcomes* the efforts by the Executive Director to regularly update Member States on the progress of all resolutions, and emphasizes the need to implement them in a balanced manner;
- (b) **Implementation of UN-Habitat Assembly resolution 2/5 on enhancing the interlinkage between urbanization and climate change resilience, in particular, the operationalization of the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) initiative as a meaningful institutional arrangement**
3. *Recalls* resolution 2/5 of the UN-Habitat Assembly, takes note of the supporting documents provided by the secretariat regarding the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) initiative,¹⁵ and decides that UN-Habitat should operationalize the initiative in order to accelerate multilevel climate action, with full regard for the mandates of the United Nations Environment Programme and relevant multilateral environmental agreements, by establishing a secretariat for the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) initiative, supporting the organization of ministerial meetings on urbanization and climate change, seeking synergies with other initiatives (including the Coalition for High Ambition Multilevel Partnerships for Climate Action, Building Climate Resilience of the Urban Poor and RISE-UP: Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor), establishing a Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) portal to introduce the initiative and stimulate donor contributions, and providing technical advice to Member States upon their request, subject to the availability of earmarked funding, the initial target for which is 1 million United States dollars per year;
- (c) **Implementation of UN-Habitat Assembly resolution 2/7 on adequate housing for all, in particular, the date and agenda for the first session of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on adequate housing for all and its activities and programme of work**
4. *Recalls* resolution 2/7 of the UN-Habitat Assembly and decides that the first session of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on adequate housing for all will be held for a duration of three days from 9 to 11 December 2024, in Nairobi;
 5. *Decides* that the provisional agenda for the first session will be as follows:
 1. Opening of the session.
 2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda for the first session;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Terms of reference of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group.
 3. State of efforts to progressively realize adequate housing for all.
 4. Development of a framework for measuring and reporting on the adequacy of housing across diverse national and local contexts.

¹⁴ HSP/EB.2024/8.

¹⁵ Document HSP/EB.2024/INF/5 and the note by the secretariat entitled "Responses to questions raised by Member States related to the Sustainable Urban Resilience for the Next Generation (SURGe) initiative during the 49th and 50th meetings of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters of the Executive Board" (available at https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2024/05/responses_to_questions_from_member_states-pba_49th_and_50th_on_surge.pdf).

5. Progress made in implementing the UN-Habitat programme of work related to adequate housing, including addressing homelessness and slum upgrading.
6. Existing multilateral and bilateral support for the development and implementation of effective housing policies, programmes and projects.
7. Establishment of a publicly accessible, complementary platform that includes summaries of the most recently available data on the provision of adequate housing.
8. Other matters.
9. Closure of the session.

Decision 2024/4: Methods of work of the Executive Board and the workplan of the Executive Board for 2024

The Executive Board

(a) Reports of the Executive Board and its ad hoc working groups

1. *Adopts* the report of the Executive Board of UN-Habitat on the work of its third session of 2023;¹⁶
2. *Takes note* of the briefing by the co-chairs of the ad hoc working group on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters on the group's work;
3. *Also takes note* of the briefing by the Chair of the ad hoc working group on the development of a draft stakeholder engagement policy on the group's work;
4. *Requests* the Chair of the ad hoc working group on the development of a stakeholder engagement policy to exert all efforts to finalize and present a draft stakeholder engagement policy for consideration by the Executive Board at its second session of 2024 and for possible recommendation to the UN-Habitat Assembly at its resumed second session in May 2025;

(b) Working methods of the Executive Board to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the sessions of the Board

5. *Takes note* of the results of the survey conducted by the secretariat following the third session of the Executive Board of 2023 to evaluate the effectiveness of that session so as to further improve the process and the outcome of future sessions;¹⁷

(c) Dates and provisional agenda for the second session of 2024 of the Executive Board

6. *Decides* that the second session of 2024 of the Executive Board will be held for a duration of three days from 4 to 6 December 2024;
7. *Also decides* that the provisional agenda for the second session of 2024 will be as follows:
 1. Opening of the session.
 2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and the workplan for the second session of 2024;
 - (b) Adoption of the report of the Executive Board on the work of its first session of 2024.
 3. Reports of the ad hoc working groups established by the Executive Board.
 4. Financial, budgetary and administrative matters.
 5. Consideration and possible approval of the draft work programme of UN-Habitat and the draft budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for 2025.

¹⁶ HSP/EB.2023/22.

¹⁷ HSP/EB.2024/INF/9.

6. Strategic plan:
 - (a) Annual report for 2023 on the strategic plan for the period 2020–2025;
 - (b) Update on the development of the strategic plan for the period 2026–2029.
 7. Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on the programmatic activities of UN-Habitat in 2024 and the implementation of its subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities, and UN-Habitat engagement in countries, territories and areas affected by conflicts and disasters.
 8. Outcomes of the twelfth session of the World Urban Forum.
 9. Briefing by the Executive Director on the implementation of all resolutions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly.
 10. Update by the Executive Director on the preparations for the resumed second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
 11. Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services to the Executive Board.
 12. Report of the Ethics Office to the Executive Board.
 13. Consideration and adoption of the outcomes of the session, including the provisional agenda for the first session of the Executive Board of 2025.
 14. Other matters.
 15. Closure of the session.
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