

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco
Nairobi



سفارة المملكة المغربية
نيروبي

Second Session of the Executive Board 2024

IV- Intervention of Morocco on Agenda item 7: the Normative and operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme:

Mr Chair,

- The Kingdom of Morocco welcomes the report on the normative and operational activities of UNHABITAT, as well as the presentations just made, and especially on the updates of the work of the organisation at the country level, **in Nepal and Jordan** with the development of programmes across the different domains of change of the strategic plan and achievements on the ground, based on the human centred approach and on women gender based approach; the updates really show the good scale of transformation, the balance between normative and operational work, their interconnectivity with impact on the ground. **This work is really commendable and should certainly be replicated elsewhere, as it contribute to the achievement of SDGs.**
- Morocco also appreciates the examples given to demonstrate progress in the provision of support to countries experiencing urban crisis and the reconstruction efforts in countries and territories affected by conflict and disaster;
- Morocco encourages UN-Habitat to continue delivering its mandate at the country level, based on national priorities, and to continue providing examples where UN-Habitat work on the ground is impactful, in its future reports;
- Such reports should also underline the major challenges encountered that impede operational activities on the ground, for an introspective analysis that will enable improvement of the programme's work, through addressing constraints particularly **that we are in the process of the developing a new strategic plan 2026-2029.**
- In the context of the ongoing crisis in the State of Palestine, Morocco deplores that no comprehensive report on the situation in Gaza was possible, as called for by decision 2023/5.
- The selected updates on the impact of the war on the human settlements in the Gaza Strip provided in the report of the Executive Director **speak on the immensity of destruction and the enormity of displacements of populations.** This urges UNHABITAT, with its partners, including the World Bank and the EU to start preparations for a new interim rapid damage and needs assessment;
- Finally, Morocco stresses on the importance for UNHABITAT **to continue fulfilling its technical mandate in Gaza and to produce a comprehensive report** that will prepare for its engagement on the ground for the reconstruction of Gaza.

I thank you Mr Chair.