Management Response: Evaluation Report of the Cooperation Agreement Between UN-Habitat and Sweden 2012-2015 Evaluation Report 2/2016

UN-Habitat Management the welcomes the evaluation report of the cooperation agreement between UN-Habitat and Sweden to support the implementation of the UN-Habitat Institutional and Strategic Plans (2012-2015). The evaluation was conducted from December 2015 through March 2016 by two consultants: Ms. Martha McGuire and Mr. Daniel Biau. The evaluation process was managed by the Evaluation Unit, and a Reference Group. The latter comprised of representatives of Sida and UN-Habitat, which was responsible for quality assurance of the evaluation report.

The report provides insightful information about the effectiveness and value added of UN-Habitat in key areas of work that are considered of strategic important to the organization and specifically on the performance of the 19 projects funded by Sida under the Cooperation Agreement.

In general, the management finds that the evaluation findings and recommendations are clear and appreciates the format of the report that gives an overall assessment of the cooperation agreement in Part I and assessment of each individual project in Part II of the report.

The Management notes that the report records good performance of the cooperation agreement, highlighting achievements of results, relevance of the cooperation agreement, levels of efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability as well as impact outlook. The lessons learned and eight recommendations given, which are all accepted, will further improve the implementation of the new UN-Habitat/Sida cooperation agreement for 2016-2019.

While appreciating the overall findings and recommendations of the report, management also noted that some recommendations are already implemented (recommendation 1), while some set a high bar for achievement. Specifically, recommendation 8 on improving monitoring systems that focus on outcomes and impact, while acknowledging that it is as an issue for improvement, it will require additional resources beyond the cooperation agreement to be fully implemented.