



**HSP**

**HSP/WUF/2/INF/5**



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**Second session**

**Barcelona, 13-17 September 2004**

Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*

**Establishment of an advisory group for the  
second session of the World Urban Forum**

**Resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly and of the  
Governing Council of UN-Habitat relevant to the work of the  
World Urban Forum**

**Note by the secretariat**

1. The secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the participants two resolutions which were adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), respectively, and which are relevant to the work of the World Urban Forum.
2. At its fifty-sixth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 56/206 of 21 December 2001, in which it affirmed that the Forum was a “non-legislative technical forum in which experts can exchange views in the years when the Governing Council of the United Nations Programme does not meet”.
3. At its nineteenth session, the Governing Council of UN-Habitat adopted resolution 19/14 of 9 May 2003, entitled “World Urban Forum, Barcelona 2004”. For ease of reference, the full text of resolution 19/14 is set out in the annex to the present note.

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\* HSP/WUF/2/1.

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## Annex

### 19/14. World Urban Forum, Barcelona 2004

*The Governing Council,*

*Recalling* paragraph 10 of its resolution 18/5 of 16 February 2001 in which the Governing Council requested the Executive Director "to promote a merger of the Urban Environment Forum and the International Forum on Urban Poverty into a new urban forum, with a view to strengthening the coordination of international support to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda",

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution 56/206 of 21 December 2001, and in particular paragraph 3 of section B, in which the General Assembly decided that the Forum would be a "non-legislative technical forum in which experts can exchange views in the years when the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme does not meet",

*Further recalling* paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 56/205 of 21 December 2001 in which the General Assembly encouraged local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners to participate, as appropriate, in the World Urban Forum in its role as an advisory body to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT),

*Taking note* of the close relationship between the objectives of the World Urban Forum and those of the Universal Forum of Cultures (Barcelona, 9 May to 26 September 2004), which is supported by the Economic and Social Council and organized by a consortium between the Government of Spain, the Autonomous Government of Catalonia and the Municipality of Barcelona,

*Having considered* the report of the Executive Director on the first session of the World Urban Forum,<sup>1</sup>

*Having heard* the explanations on the Universal Forum of Cultures, Barcelona, 2004, in whose framework the second session of the World Urban Forum will be held,

1. *Welcomes* the wide participation at the first session of the World Urban Forum by Governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners and the successful outcome of the session including its recommendations on sustainable urbanization which were submitted to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, 26 August to 4 September 2002;
2. *Takes note* of the objectives and working arrangements for future sessions of the World Urban Forum as contained in annex IV of the report of its first session;
3. *Confirms* that the World Urban Forum should serve as a think tank of experts who advise the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT on issues concerning international cooperation in the area of shelter and sustainable urbanization;
4. *Reiterates* that, in addition to Governments, attendance at sessions of the World Urban Forum should be as inclusive as possible so as to ensure that local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners participate in the identification of new issues, the sharing of lessons learned, best practices and good policies with a view to facilitating the optimum exchange of experiences and the advancement of collective knowledge among Governments, cities and their development partners in the field of shelter and sustainable urbanization;
5. *Welcomes, with appreciation,* the invitation by the Government of Spain, the Municipality of Barcelona and the Universal Forum of the Cultures Barcelona 2004, for the World Urban Forum to hold its second session in the city of Barcelona from 13 to 17 September 2004;
6. *Requests* the Executive Director to take into account the deliberations and decisions of the nineteenth session of the Governing Council in her preparation of the provisional agenda and documentation for the second session of the World Urban Forum;

7. *Further requests* the Executive Director to provide adequate organizational and substantive support to the preparations for and convening of the second session of the World Urban Forum in Barcelona;

8. *Urges* all Governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners to attend and participate actively in the deliberations of the second session of the World Urban Forum;

9. *Invites* Governments in a position to do so to contribute generously to the Trust Fund which will be utilized by the Executive Director to support the travel and participation of representatives of the least developed countries and of Habitat Agenda partners in the second session of the World Urban Forum;

10. *Also welcomes, with appreciation,* the invitation by the Prime Minister of Canada for the World Urban Forum to hold its third session in Vancouver in the year 2006;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twentieth session on the outcome of the second session of the World Urban Forum;

12. *Considers* the Universal Forum of Cultures, Barcelona 2004, an initiative of great interest for UN-HABITAT and *gives its full support* to it.

**8th meeting  
9 May 2003**

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<sup>1</sup> HSP/GC/19/2/Add.1.