



## General Assembly

Final Draft – 6 December 2012

### **Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**

The General Assembly,

*Recalling* the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held in Vancouver, Canada, in 1976 and of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements held in Istanbul, Turkey in 1996, [**agreed ad ref**]

*Recalling further* relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and Strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat), as well as relevant decisions and resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda, [**agreed ad ref**]

*Reaffirming* the outcome document entitled “The Future We Want” of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 20-22 June 2012, [**agreed ad ref**]

*Recognizing* the progress made in meeting and even surpassing Millennium Development Goal 7, target 11 while *noting* that slums continue to be a global challenge; [**agreed ad ref**]

*Acknowledging* that while significant progress has been made in implementing the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, challenges remain, such as *inter alia* the continuing increase of slum-dwellers in the world, the negative impact of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements and the need to reduce disaster risks and build resilience to disasters in urban settlements; [**agreed ad ref**]

*Cognizant* of the fact that these challenges may hinder the work towards improving the quality of human settlements, including the living and working conditions of both urban and rural dwellers, and achieving a safe and healthy living environment for all; [**agreed ad ref**]

*Recognizing* that cities are engines of economic growth and that, if they are well planned and developed, including through integrated planning and management approaches, they can

promote economically, socially and environmentally sustainable societies; **[agreed ad ref]**

*Recalling* paragraphs 134 through 137 of the Future We Want on sustainable cities and human settlements, **[agreed ad ref]**

*Noting* the ongoing review of the governance structure of the United Nations Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), which aims to improve its transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness, **[agreed ad ref]**

*Recognizing* that the World Urban Forum is the foremost global arena for interaction among policy makers, local government leaders, non-government stakeholders and expert practitioners in the field of human settlements and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Italy and the city of Naples for hosting the sixth session of the Forum from 1 to 7 September 2012; **[agreed ad ref]**

*Recalling* its resolutions 64/207, 65/165 and 66/207 which addressed the convening in 2016 of a follow-up conference to Habitat II, Habitat III; **[agreed ad ref]**

1. *Takes note* of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); **[agreed ad ref]**

2. *Encourages* giving appropriate consideration to sustainable urbanization in the elaboration of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda; **[agreed ad ref]**

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring consistency and coherence in the deliberations of the ECOSOC and the General Assembly on agenda items related to the work of UN-Habitat; **[agreed ad ref]**

4. *Reaffirms* its decision to convene in 2016 the third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), *welcomes* the offer of the Government of Turkey to host the Conference in Istanbul, Turkey in 2016 and *invites* participation to the Conference at the highest possible level; **[agreed ad ref]**

5. *Welcomes* the appointment of the Executive Director of UN-Habitat by the United Nations Secretary-General to serve as Secretary-General of HABITAT III and to act as focal point on behalf of the United Nations system; **[agreed ad ref]**

6. *Decides* that:

(a) The objective of the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) will be to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable urban development, assessing accomplishments to date, addressing poverty and identifying and addressing new and emerging challenges; the focus of the Conference will

include, but not be limited to, the theme “Sustainable Urban Development: The Future of Urbanization”, to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process; [**agreed ad ref**]

(b) The Conference will result in a concise, focused, forward looking and action oriented outcome document, which shall reinvigorate the global commitment to and support for housing and sustainable urban development and the implementation of a “New Urban Agenda”; [**agreed ad ref**]

(c) The Conference and its preparatory process should take into account and build upon the principles and gains achieved through the implementation of the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, the 1996 Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, as well as the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20); [**agreed ad ref**]

7. *Decides* to establish a Preparatory Committee for the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) to carry out the preparations for the Conference; [**agreed ad ref**]

8. *Further decides* that the Conference and its Preparatory Committee shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations and members of specialized agencies and of the International Atomic Energy Agency; [**agreed ad ref**]

9. Mindful of the need to carry out the Conference and the preparatory process in the most inclusive, efficient, effective and improved manner, *decides* that: [**agreed ad ref**]

(a) The Preparatory Committee will meet three times before the opening of the Conference; [**agreed ad ref**]

(b) The first meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in New York during the 69<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly for a period of two days; [**agreed ad ref**]

(c) The second meeting of the Preparatory Committee will be held in Nairobi in 2015 for a period of three days taking full advantage of the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat; [**agreed ad ref**]

(d) The venue and duration of the third and final Preparatory Committee meeting will be considered no later than its 69<sup>th</sup> session before the end of 2014; [**agreed ad ref**]

(e) The Preparatory Committee, when considering the rules of procedure of the Committee and the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference, will take into consideration the rules of procedure of HABITAT II endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/100 of 2 February 1996 and the established practice of the General Assembly; [**agreed ad ref**]

10. Further *decides* to consider the final dates, format and organizational aspects of the Conference no later than at its 69<sup>th</sup> session before the end of 2014; **[agreed ad ref]**

11. *Encourages* effective contributions from, and the active participation of, all relevant stakeholders, including local governments, major groups as identified in Agenda 21, the relevant United Nations funds and programmes, the regional commissions and specialized agencies, the international financial institutions, and other Habitat Agenda partners, at all stages of the preparatory process and at the Conference itself, and *requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to make proposals to the Preparatory Committee on improved participation of local authorities and other stakeholders in the preparatory process and the Conference itself, building on the positive experience of the rules and procedures of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and the inclusive engagement modalities of HABITAT II; **[agreed ad ref]**

12. *Encourages* stakeholders gathered at the seventh session of the World Urban Forum, as well as at the regular ministerial conferences on housing and urban development and other relevant expert group meetings, to provide inputs and to contribute as appropriate to the process leading to the Conference; **[agreed ad ref]**

13. *Decides* to establish a trust fund for Habitat III, and in this regard:

(a) *Urges* international and bilateral donors as well as the private sector, financial institutions, foundations and other donors in a position to do so to support the preparations for the Conference through voluntary contributions to the trust fund and to support the participation of representatives of developing countries to the Preparatory Committee meetings and to the Conference itself; **[agreed ad ref]**

(b) *Invites* voluntary contributions to support the participation of Habitat Agenda partners to the Preparatory Committee meetings; **[agreed ad ref]**

(c) *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference, when using the resources of the trust fund, to prioritize the coverage of economy class air tickets, daily subsistence allowance and terminal expenses; and to report on its use to the Governing Council of UN-Habitat at its 25<sup>th</sup> session; **[agreed ad ref]**

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference to prepare, using the expertise of the United Nations System, a proposal for consideration by the Governing Council of Habitat at its 24<sup>th</sup> session, as to how best provide inputs for and support to the preparatory process of the Conference in the most inclusive, efficient, effective and improved manner, and to proceed accordingly; **[agreed ad ref]**

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide, in the most efficient and cost-effective manner, all appropriate support to the Secretary-General of the Conference and to the work of the preparatory process and the Conference, while promoting to the maximum possible extent inter-agency support; **[agreed ad ref]**

16. *Takes note* with appreciation of the completion of the organizational review undertaken by the Executive Director of UN-Habitat; [**agreed ad ref**]

17. *Invites* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to present, as appropriate during the 67<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly the outcomes of the governance review process for consideration by the General Assembly at its 68<sup>th</sup> session and *encourages* the Executive Director together with the Committee of Permanent Representatives to continue their efforts in order to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of UN-Habitat; [**agreed ad ref**]

18. *Welcomes* the progress in the elaboration of the strategic plan for the period 2014-2019 and its focus areas; [**agreed ad ref**]

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including an update on progress made in the preparations for the Conference; [**agreed ad ref**]

20. *Decides* to include in its provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled “Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN- Habitat)”;  
[**agreed ad ref.**]

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