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**Governing Council
of the United Nations Human
Settlements Programme**

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Nairobi, 15–19 April 2013

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

**Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements
Programme, including coordination matters**

**Report of the work of the Committee of Permanent
Representatives during the intersessional period**

Note by the secretariat

Summary

At its forty-eighth regular meeting, held on 20 March 2013, the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) adopted its intersessional report for the period 2011–2013, which it hereby submits to the Governing Council at its twenty-fourth session for its consideration.

* HSP/GC/24/1.

I. Introduction

1. The Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat, the intersessional subsidiary body of the Governing Council, held the following regular meetings during the period between the twenty-third session of the Governing Council (11–15 April 2011) and the twenty-fourth session (15–19 April 2013):

- (a) Meetings held during 2011:
 - Forty-first regular meeting – 22 June 2011
 - Forty-second regular meeting – 7 September 2011
 - Forty-third regular meeting – 15 December 2011
- (b) Meetings held during 2012:
 - Forty-fourth regular meeting – 3 April 2012
 - Forty-fifth regular meeting – 28 June 2012
 - Forty-sixth regular meeting – 24 October 2012
 - Forty-seventh regular meeting – 19 December 2012
- (c) Meetings held during 2013:
 - Forty-eighth regular meeting – 20 March 2013

II. Members of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives

2. The members of the Bureau during the period 2010–2011 were as follows:

Ms. Yvonne Khamati-Kilonzo (Kenya) – Chair
Mr. Masoud Gharanfoli (Islamic Republic of Iran) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Sergey Trepelkov (Russian Federation) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Joseph Murphy (United States of America) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Konrad Paulsen (Chile) – Rapporteur

3. The members of the Bureau during the period 2012–2013 are as follows:

Mr. Chan-woo Kim (Republic of Korea) – Chair
Ms. Yvonne Khamati-Kilonzo (Kenya) – Vice-Chair (replaced during the year by Mr. Owuor)
Mr. George Owuor (Kenya) – Vice-Chair (upon the departure of Ms. Khamati-Kilonzo)
Mr. Sergey Trepelkov (Russian Federation) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Konrad Paulsen (Chile) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Joseph Murphy (United States of America) – Rapporteur (replaced during the year by Ms. Lynette Poulton Kamakura [United States of America])

III. Summary of the meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in 2011

A. Forty-first regular meeting, 22 June 2011

4. At the 41st regular meeting, the Executive Director noted that since the twenty-third session of the Governing Council, the secretariat had focused on internal reorganization and an in-depth review of the portfolio of UN-Habitat products and services. The representative of the secretariat mentioned that the Governing Council had adopted 18 resolutions at its twenty-third session, from which UN-Habitat work in the lead-up to the twenty-fourth session would emanate. The Executive Director presented the six-monthly progress report on the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan, highlighting significant achievements over the previous six months and work in progress. He also presented the quarterly report on the financial status of UN-Habitat and the progress report on the preparations for the sixth session of the World Urban Forum and made reference to the draft road map for the preparation of a strategic plan for the period 2014–2019, as requested by the Governing Council in its resolution 23/11. The co-chair of the governance review process presented a progress report on the process.

B. Forty-second regular meeting, 7 September 2011

5. At the start of the 42nd regular meeting, the Committee observed a minute of silence to pay tribute to the victims of the recent attack on the United Nations house in Abuja. Elections were held for the office of Vice-Chair for the biennium 2010–2011 to replace the departing member of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The Executive Director of UN-Habitat noted that significant progress had been made with the organizational review process and gave an update on preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in 2012, while reporting on the preparations for the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly. He also presented the first six-monthly report on UN-Habitat country activities while drawing attention to the quarterly report on the financial status of UN-Habitat. The Executive Director then gave a progress report on the preparations for the sixth session of the World Urban Forum. The co-chair of the open-ended consultative group on the UN-Habitat governance review process presented a report on the progress made by the group.

C. Forty-third regular meeting, 15 December 2011

6. The 43rd regular meeting saw the election of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives for the biennium 2012–2013. The Executive Director introduced the new Deputy Executive Director of UN-Habitat. He then described relevant developments at the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly and summarized the progress made in the preparations for the sixth session of the World Urban Forum. The chair of the open-ended contact group on the preparation of the strategic plan for 2014–2019 provided an update on progress in the work of the group. The Executive Director presented the quarterly report on the financial status of UN-Habitat. He stressed that compared with 2010 the programme was financially stable. The co-chair of the open-ended consultative group on the governance review process provided a progress report on its work.

IV. Summary of the meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in 2012

A. Forty-fourth regular meeting, 3 April 2012

7. At the 44th regular meeting, the Executive Director briefed the Committee in a statement outlining progress made in the organizational review and the preparations for the sixth session of the World Urban Forum. He gave a presentation on the financial status of UN-Habitat, stressing that the financial situation of the organization had greatly improved over the past year. The representative of the secretariat introduced the six-monthly progress report on the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan, and the Executive Director presented the six-monthly country activities report. The chair of the open-ended consultative group on the governance review process provided a progress report on the work of the group. The chair of the open-ended contact group on the strategic plan for 2014–2019 also provided an update on the work of the group.

B. Forty-fifth regular meeting, 28 June 2012

8. At the 45th regular meeting, the Executive Director provided an update on the progress made in the organizational reform and in preparations for the sixth session of the World Urban Forum, and outlined the highlights and outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012. The Executive Director then provided an overview of the financial status of UN-Habitat. The chair of the open-ended consultative group on the governance review provided a progress report on the governance review process. The chair of the open-ended contact group on the preparation of the strategic plan gave an overview of progress and highlighted the spirit of trust, goodwill and cooperation that had characterized the collaboration between the secretariat and the members of the Committee.

C. Forty-sixth regular meeting, 24 October 2012

9. At the 46th regular meeting, the Executive Director gave a briefing on the sixth session of the World Urban Forum and the opening of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly. He made mention of the visit to Mozambique, which had been extremely informative and productive. He then delivered the quarterly report on the financial status of UN-Habitat, in which he acknowledged the efforts of UN-Habitat staff towards cost reduction and said that the resource mobilization strategy was in place. He also expressed gratitude for pledges made and received from partners of UN-Habitat. He then delivered the six-monthly progress report on the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan, after which he delivered the six-monthly country activities report. The chair of

the open-ended consultative group on the governance review process then provided an overview of progress in that process.

D. Forty-seventh regular meeting, 19 December 2012

10. At the 47th regular meeting, Ms. Lynette Poulton Kamakura (United States of America) was elected as Rapporteur of the Bureau of the Committee for the biennium 2012–2013. The Executive Director highlighted issues relevant to the third United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat III). He then provided an overview of missions he had undertaken in November and December, including missions to Rabat, Dakar and Amman, after which he emphasized the importance of the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015, stating that UN-Habitat had an important role to play in ensuring that human settlements issues were adequately reflected in the sustainable development goals. In the quarterly report, the Executive Director updated members on the financial status of UN-Habitat, after which the vice-chair of the open-ended consultative group on the governance review process presented a progress report on that process. On behalf of the chair, the rapporteur of the working group presented the proposed work programme and budget for the biennium 2014–2015.

V. Summary of meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in 2013

Forty-eighth regular meeting, 20 March 2013

11. At the forty-eighth regular meeting, Mr. Martin Kimani (Kenya) was elected to the position of Vice-Chair of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives for the biennium 2012–2013. During the briefing, the Executive Director described activities under way in the context of the United Nations post-2015 development agenda. The Chair of the Committee introduced the report its work during the intersessional period. An update on the status of preparations for the twenty-fourth session of the Governing Council was presented by the Executive Director in which he highlighted the theme of the session, “Sustainable urban development: the role of cities in creating improved economic opportunities for all, with special reference to youth and gender”, and noted that the session would be “PaperSmart” in line with the meetings of the Committee since June 2011. The Executive Director then introduced the 2012 annual progress report on the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan for 2008–2013, after which he presented the quarterly report on the financial status of UN-Habitat, highlighting the resource mobilization strategy. The Co-chair of the open-ended consultative group on the governance review process then provided a progress report on the group’s work.

VI. Working groups of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, 2011–2012

12. The following working groups were activated by the Bureau of the Committee on 19 August 2011:

- (a) Working group on preparations for the sixth session of the World Urban Forum, chaired by Mr. Masoud Gharanfoli (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- (b) Working group on the preparation of the strategic plan for 2014–2019, chaired by Ms. Yvonne Khamati-Kilonzo (Kenya);
- (c) Working group on the governance review process, chaired by Mr. Konrad Paulsen (Chile);
- (d) Working group on the implementation of the resolutions of the twenty-third session of the Governing Council, chaired by Mr. Sergey Trepelkov (Russian Federation).

13. The following working groups were activated by the Bureau of the Committee on 17 January 2012:

- (a) Preparations for the sixth session of the World Urban Forum, chaired by Mr. George Owuor (Kenya);
- (b) Working group on the preparation of the strategic plan for 2014–2015 and the strategic framework for 2014–2019, chaired by Mr. Joseph Murphy (United States of America);
- (c) Working group on the governance review process, chaired by Mr. Konrad Paulsen (Chile);

(d) Working group on the draft medium-term strategic and institutional plan and on the implementation of the resolutions of the twenty- third session of the Governing Council, chaired by Mr. Sergey Trepelkov (Russian Federation);

(e) Working group on preparations for the Governing Council and preparations for the work programme and budget, chaired by Ms. Lynette Poulton Kamakura (United States of America).

14. Draft resolutions prepared by the Committee for the Governing Council at its twenty-fourth session are contained in document HSP/GC/24/3/Add.1.
