

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

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Agenda item 6

**Dialogue on the special theme for the
twenty-first session of the Governing Council**

**Submission by South Africa, supported by the African
Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development**

Draft resolution

**Establishment of an earmarked Africa Fund/Finance Mechanism on
slum prevention and upgrading**

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 20/2 on the establishment of the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development, in which the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) was requested to inform the Governing Council at its twenty-first session on the progress made by the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development and to report on the implications which it may have for the programme of work and the budget,

Recalling also the Durban Declaration on the Establishment of the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development and the adoption by that body of the Enhanced Framework for the Implementation of Sustainable Housing and Urban Development in Africa and, at its special ministerial conference, of the Framework Memorandum and Programme of Action for the Mobilization of Governments and Institutions on Slum Prevention and Upgrading, which together set forth the institutional agreements to fulfil Goal 7, Target 11 of the Millennium Development Goals,

Acknowledging that many countries in Africa lack adequate financing mechanisms and institutional abilities for slum prevention and upgrading,

Acknowledging also the good cooperative spirit and political will thus far demonstrated by the first Bureau of the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development and its executive secretariat in conducting the business of the conference during its first two years of existence in the absence of dedicated resources,

Convinced that an earmarked fund/financing mechanism would serve as a catalyst in inducing African countries to increase the share of national budgets allocated for housing and urban development,

1. *Endorses* the establishment of an earmarked Africa Fund/Finance Mechanism for Slum Prevention and Upgrading which would be supported by the international community and would be targeted on facilitating and spearheading pilot projects aimed at preventing further slum development, including the upgrading of those that are in extremely dangerous condition, and on supporting the critical elements, identified by the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development, of research; the identification of best practices; the establishment of monitoring systems on meeting slum targets; and the dissemination of lessons learned into the development of more effective urban development policies and strategies;

2. *Also endorses* the principle that the Fund's/Mechanism's administration and the operationalization of the Africa Fund/Finance Mechanism should be co-administered with the executive secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development in accordance with the principle that 90 per cent of collected and garnered funds shall be used primarily for producing the intended outcomes of the Fund/Mechanism;

3. *Decides* that the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development and UN-Habitat should assess the requisite level of indigenous resources and institutional abilities to provide the seed capital and programmatic support which would catalyse and mobilize support from the international community;

4. *Calls on* African Governments, the international community, States members of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and the donor community to give their full support to the capitalization and operationalization of the earmarked Africa Fund/Finance Mechanism.
