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

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Nairobi, 11–15 April 2011

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 fortieth regular meeting, held on 2 March 2011, the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) adopted its intersessional report for the period 2009–2011, which it hereby submits to the Governing Council at its twenty-third session for its consideration.

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I. Introduction

1. The Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat, the intersessional subsidiary body of the Governing Council, held the following meetings during the period between the Governing Council's twenty-second session (30 March–3 April 2009) and its twenty-third session (11–15 April 2011):

(a) **Meetings during 2009:**

Thirty-third regular meeting – 11 June 2009;
Thirty-fourth regular meeting – 24 September 2009;
Thirty-fifth regular meeting – 7 December 2009.

(b) **Meetings during 2010:**

Thirty-sixth regular meeting – 5 March 2010;
Thirty-seventh regular meeting – 14 June 2010;
Thirty-eighth regular meeting – 15 September 2010;
Thirty-ninth regular meeting – 16 December 2010.

(c) **Meetings during 2011:**

Fortieth regular meeting – 2 March 2011;

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

2. The members of the Bureau during the period 2008–2009 were:

Ms. Jacqueline Mendoza (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) – Chair
Mr. Kelebet Nkomani (Zimbabwe) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Iftikhar A. Arain (Pakistan) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Igor Liška (Slovakia) – Vice-Chair
Mr. James Stewart (United States of America) – Rapporteur

3. The members of the Bureau during the period 2010–2011 are:

Ms. Yvonne Khamati-Kilonzo (Kenya) – Chair
Mr. Masoud Gharanfoli (Islamic Republic of Iran) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Sergey Trepelkov (Russian Federation) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Bruno Garcia-Dobarco Gonzalez (Spain) – Vice-Chair
Mr. Konrad Paulsen (Chile) – Rapporteur

III. Summary of the meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in 2009

A. Thirty-third regular meeting, 11 June 2009

4. At its thirty-third regular meeting, the Committee observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect for the victims and the bereaved following the disappearance of an Air France flight en route from Brazil to France on 1 June 2009. It reviewed the report of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat on the work of its twenty-second session and reactivated three working groups to review follow-up actions on the resolutions adopted at that session. The Executive Director briefed the Committee on progress in the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan, including experimental reimbursable seeding operations, country-level activities, preparations for the fifth session of the World Urban Forum and the financial status of UN-Habitat.

B. Thirty-fourth regular meeting, 24 September 2009

5. At the Committee's thirty-fourth regular meeting, the chair of the contact group on the terms of reference for a governance review of UN-Habitat introduced the draft terms of reference, which were discussed and approved by the Committee. Members were requested to join the implementation and assessment teams for the governance review. The Deputy Executive Director described the format and contents of a quarterly report on UN-Habitat country activities and, in the light of comments and proposals made by the Committee, committed the secretariat to refining and improving future reports. Participants discussed the terms of reference for the medium-term strategic and institutional plan peer review; a report on the review of the past four sessions of the World Urban Forum (2002–2008); the

status of preparations for the fifth session of the World Urban Forum; preparations for the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly; and a quarterly report on the financial status of UN-Habitat.

C. Thirty-fifth regular meeting, 7 December 2009

6. At its thirty-fifth regular meeting, the Committee held elections for the Bureau for the biennium 2010–2011. The Executive Director presented a six-monthly progress report on the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan 2008–2013, a quarterly report on UN-Habitat country activities, an update on preparations for the fifth session of the World Urban Forum and a quarterly report on the financial status of UN-Habitat. She also reported on developments at the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly. Representatives of the secretariat briefed the Committee on various advocacy activities on human settlement issues, including World Habitat Day celebrations hosted by the Government of the United States in Washington, D.C., and the presentation of the UN-Habitat flagship report on urban planning, *Global Report on Human Settlements 2009: Planning Sustainable Cities*, to the European Parliament in Brussels and discussions thereafter with the European Commission. The co-chair of the open-ended contact group for the governance review process provided an update on the progress of the review, including the outcome of a related visioning workshop held in Nairobi in November 2009.

IV. Summary of the meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in 2010

A. Thirty-sixth regular meeting, 5 March 2010

7. At its thirty-sixth regular meeting, the Committee observed a minute of silence to pay tribute to the memory of the victims of and those affected by recent earthquakes in Chile and Haiti. The Committee approved its work schedule for 2010. The Executive Director provided updates on preparations for the fifth session of the World Urban Forum, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 22 to 26 March 2010, and for the Shanghai World Expo to be held in Shanghai, China, from 1 May to 31 October 2010. Updates were provided by the chair of the working group on the work programme and budget on the proposed strategic framework for 2012–2013; the co-chair of the implementation team on the UN-Habitat governance review process; and the vice-chair of the peer review on the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan. The Executive Director presented quarterly reports on UN-Habitat country activities and the organization's financial status.

B. Thirty-seventh regular meeting, 14 June 2010

8. At the Committee's thirty-seventh regular meeting, the Executive Director presented a report on the outcome of the fifth session of the World Urban Forum and an update on preparations for the sixth session of the World Urban Forum. She also presented a six-monthly progress report on the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan, a quarterly report on UN-Habitat country activities and a quarterly report on the financial status of UN-Habitat. The co-chair of the governance review implementation team provided an update on the progress achieved in the governance review. Given that the thirty-seventh meeting of the Committee would be the last that the Executive Director would attend, members took the floor to express their gratitude for her exemplary work in championing the mission of UN-Habitat and in transforming the organization from a centre into a fully-fledged programme of the United Nations. The Executive Director thanked members for their support and guidance during her ten-year tenure and reaffirmed her commitment to tackling human settlement issues in her future role.

C. Thirty-eighth regular meeting, 15 September 2010

9. At the Committee's thirty-eighth regular meeting, the Chair recalled that Ms. Anna K. Tibaijuka's tenure as Executive Director of UN-Habitat had come to an end on 31 August 2010 and announced that Mr. Joan Clos of Spain has been elected by the General Assembly as her replacement for a term of four years with effect from 18 October 2010. In the meantime, the Secretary-General had appointed Ms. Inga Björk-Klevby, Deputy Executive Director, as the Officer-in-Charge of UN-Habitat. An election of an additional member of the Bureau for the biennium 2010–2011 was held. The Officer-in-Charge presented a report on the peer review of the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan 2008–2013 together with updates on preparations for the medium-term strategic and institutional plan midterm review, the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly and the twenty-third session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat. She also presented quarterly reports on UN-Habitat country activities and on the organization's financial status. The chair of the implementation team on the governance review process provided a progress report on the governance review process. The Committee endorsed the quick-wins proposed by the team.

D. Thirty-ninth regular meeting, 16 December 2010

10. At the Committee's thirty-ninth regular meeting, the Chair welcomed Mr. Clos on taking up his position as Executive Director of UN-Habitat, and thanked the Officer-in-Charge for her work in the period between the departure of the former Executive Director and the arrival of Mr. Clos. An election to replace a departing member of the Bureau for the biennium 2010–2011 was held and the proposed dates for the regular sessions of the Committee for 2011 were presented. The Committee approved the draft work programme and budget for the biennium 2012–2013. Matters discussed included: a report of the working group on the preparation of the twenty-third session of the Governing Council; a six-monthly progress report on the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan; a quarterly report on UN-Habitat country activities; a quarterly report on the financial status of UN-Habitat; and a report on the deliberations at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly. The Committee was also briefed on the progress made by the implementation team for the governance review process and endorsed the additional quick-wins and medium-term and long-term interventions proposed by the team.

V. Summary of meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in 2011**Fortieth regular meeting, 2 March 2011**

11. At its fortieth regular meeting, the Committee adopted the report on its work during the intersessional period. In addition, the Committee agreed that the draft resolutions that it had prepared should be transmitted to the Governing Council for consideration at its twenty-third session. Quarterly reports on UN-Habitat country activities and the organization's financial status were also presented.

VI. Working groups of the Committee of Permanent Representatives, 2009–2011

12. The following working groups were activated during 2009:

- (a) Working group on preparations for the fifth session of the World Urban Forum, chaired by Mr. James Stewart (United States);
- (b) Working group on the implementation of the experimental reimbursable seeding operations, chaired by Mr. Igor Liška (Slovakia);
- (c) Working group on the medium-term strategic and institutional plan and work programme and budget of UN-Habitat, chaired by Mr. Kelebert Nkomani (Zimbabwe);
- (d) Working group on the work programme and budget, chaired by Mr. Masroor A. Junejo (Pakistan).

13. The following working groups were activated during 2010 by the Bureau of the Committee on 19 January 2010:

- (a) Working group on preparations for the Governing Council and the World Urban Forum, chaired by Mr. Konrad Paulsen (Chile);
- (b) Working group on the work programme and budget, chaired by Mr. Ketan Shukla (India) and Mr. Tse Hou Hew (Malaysia);
- (c) Working group on the medium-term strategic and institutional plan, chaired by Mr. Sergey Trepelkov (Russian Federation);
- (d) Working group on the experimental reimbursable seeding operations, chaired by Mr. Bruno Garcia-Dobarco Gonzalez (Spain).

14. The following working groups were activated during 2011 by the Bureau of the Committee on 20 January 2011:

- (a) Working group for planning, co-chaired by Mr. Konrad Paulsen (Chile) and Mr. Masoud Gharanfoli (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- (b) Working group for monitoring, co-chaired by Mr. Sergey Trepelkov (Russian Federation) and Mr. Bruno Garcia-Dobarco Gonzalez (Spain).

15. Draft resolutions prepared by the Committee for the Governing Council at its twenty-third session are contained in document HSP/GC/23/3/Add.1.