

Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

HSP/GC/23/CRP.1/Rev.1
14 April 2011

Original: English

Twenty-third session
Nairobi, 11–15 April 2011
Agenda item 7

**Work programme of the United Nations Human
Settlements Programme and budget of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme Foundation for the
biennium**

Draft resolution on gender equality and empowerment of women in sustainable urban development

Submission by the drafting group

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolutions 17/11 of 14 May 1999 on women in human settlements development and in the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), 19/16 of 9 May 2003 on women's role and rights in human settlements development and slum upgrading, 20/7 of 8 April 2005 on gender equality in human settlements development, 21/2 of 20 April 2007 on the medium-term strategic and institutional plan for 2008–2013, 21/9 of 20 April 2007 on women's land and property right and access to finance, and 22/7 on the work programme and budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the biennium 2010–2011 of 3 April 2009,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/34, by which the Economic and Social Council encouraged all United Nations entities to allocate adequate resources for gender mainstreaming, including for mandatory training on gender mainstreaming, especially gender analysis, for all staff,

Recognizing that persistent gender inequality, women's lack of empowerment and inequitable access to land, secure tenure, housing, infrastructure and basic services, in addition to their lack of participation in decision-making, create further challenges within the context of sustainable urban development,

Recognizing also the major development contributions made by grass-roots women worldwide, and that successful urbanization and development processes require grass-roots women's involvement and leadership, which should be supported so as to have a positive impact on sustainable urban development,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 establishing the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, which aims to lead to more effective coordination, coherence and gender mainstreaming across the United Nations system,

Taking note of the challenges and progress made in the implementation of the gender equality action plan 2008–2013 described in the report of the Executive Director,¹

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to strengthen the Gender Mainstreaming Unit and with the Unit, to manage a unified system of gender focal points and a gender task force effective throughout the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;
2. *Encourages* the Executive Director to continue strengthening staff capacity and competency in gender mainstreaming, including in the regional offices;
3. *Encourages* the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to incorporate fully a gender perspective into all its work;
4. *Requests* the Executive Director to encourage the establishment of a consultative mechanism with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, the gender units of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and other relevant agencies with a focus on human settlements, to promote coherence, coordination and alignment within the United Nations system, and, in particular, to involve grass-roots women and community-based organizations, to inform these consultations;
5. *Also requests* the Executive Director to set up an advisory group on gender issues consisting of representatives of women's organizations (both grass-roots and professional organizations), academic institutions, the private sector, local authorities, and policymakers and decision makers in Governments, taking into account equal regional representation, to advise the Executive Director on all issues related to gender mainstreaming in the work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and to provide oversight regarding the implementation of the gender equality action plan within the existing programme of work and budget;
6. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Governing Council at its twenty-fourth and future sessions.

1 HSP/GC23/5/Add.7.