

Summary of Discussions and Recommendations Emanating from the Fourth Bureau Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN-Habitat for the Year 2021

H.E. Mr. Beyene Russom
Chair of the CPR and Permanent Representative of the State of Eritrea to UN-Habitat
 Online Meeting- Wednesday 28 April 2021 from 10:00 - 12:00 noon EAT

The following Bureau members attended the meeting : Eritrea (Chair) and Bangladesh, Serbia, Costa Rica (Vice Chair), United States of America.

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
1.	Adoption of the Agenda	
	a) Adoption of the provisional agenda	Amended by USA on behalf of the WEOG group with a request that the Bureau switch the order of consideration of Agenda items 2 and 3. It was adopted as amended. As such, the Bureau first discussed preparations for the CPR high-level midterm review meeting before moving to organization of word and work schedule of the CPR for 2021.
	b) Adoption of the draft summary of discussions and recommendations emanating from the second Bureau meeting held on 24 February 2021	Adopted
	c) The Chair recalled that on 21 April 2021 he received a communication from the representative of WEOG to the Bureau of the CPR, Honourable William Lehmborg, Permanent Representative of the United States of America, providing comments and proposals on behalf of the Western Europe and Others group (WEOG) group on the preparations of the high-level midterm review and that this communication was further shared with the Bureau by the Secretariat on Thursday 22 April 2021.	Noted
2.	Preparations for the high-level midterm Review of the CPR	
2 (a) Guidance on the format and venue of the session in light of the COVID-19 global situation	a) The Executive Director briefed the Bureau on sub-item 2 (a). The full presentation by the Executive Director can be found here . The Executive Director recalled the recommendations of the Bureau during its meeting held on 24 February 2021, as follows:	The Bureau took note of the briefing by the Executive Director and agreed to

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<p>2 (a) Guidance on the format and venue of the session in light of the COVID-19 global situation (continued)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. High-level midterm review will be held as a “Combination of in-person with Member States based in Nairobi and online with capital-based delegations” ii. The Executive Director should prepare for simultaneous interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations. iii. The Executive Director should continue to review the situation in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the representative of the Government of Kenya, both of whom are monitoring the situation, in order to determine the best possible format for the session. 	<p>continue monitoring and further review the situation at the next Bureau meeting.</p>																																				
<p>2 (b) Preliminary discussion on the dialogue during the high-level meeting.</p>	<p>a) Under this sub-item, the Executive Director highlighted the preliminary organization of work for the high-level CPR midterm review, as preliminarily discussed by the Bureau during its meeting held on 24 February 2021 and as reflected below:</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Day 1</th> <th>Day 2</th> <th>Day 3</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Morning</td> <td>1. Opening of the meeting</td> <td>4. Briefing on the implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the UN-Habitat Assembly;</td> <td>6. Update on preparations for the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum;</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9am – 12 noon</td> <td>Regional Statements</td> <td>5. Report on implementation of the UN-Habitat Covid-19 response plan;</td> <td>7. Update on the alignment of the planning cycles of UN-Habitat with the QCPR</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2. Mid-term review of the implementation of UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023</td> <td></td> <td>Consultations on draft outcomes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Afternoon</td> <td>3. Progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda</td> <td>Dialogue on selected topics</td> <td>8. Review of the provisional agenda for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2pm to 5pm</td> <td>a. SG quadrennial report b. Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration c. Quito +5.</td> <td>Consultations on draft outcomes</td> <td>9. Dates and provisional agenda for the open-ended CPR meeting</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>National Statements</td> <td></td> <td>10. Election of officers; Adoption of outcomes</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>11. Other matters;</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>12. Closure of the session</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div>		Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Morning	1. Opening of the meeting	4. Briefing on the implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the UN-Habitat Assembly;	6. Update on preparations for the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum;	9am – 12 noon	Regional Statements	5. Report on implementation of the UN-Habitat Covid-19 response plan;	7. Update on the alignment of the planning cycles of UN-Habitat with the QCPR		2. Mid-term review of the implementation of UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023		Consultations on draft outcomes	Afternoon	3. Progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda	Dialogue on selected topics	8. Review of the provisional agenda for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly	2pm to 5pm	a. SG quadrennial report b. Implementation of the Ministerial Declaration c. Quito +5.	Consultations on draft outcomes	9. Dates and provisional agenda for the open-ended CPR meeting		National Statements		10. Election of officers; Adoption of outcomes				11. Other matters;				12. Closure of the session	<p>The Bureau took note of the briefing by the Executive Director</p>
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	<p>b) The Executive Director emphasized that the high-level midterm review presents an opportunity for a meaningful dialogue with Member States and key stakeholders. She recalled that during its meeting held on 24 February 2021, based on the presentation by the Secretariat, the Bureau recommended that a dialogue led by high level officials and a thought leader as part of the work during plenary should be included in the preliminary organisation of work scheduled for the afternoon of day 2 of the high-level mid-term review.</p>																																					
	<p>c) The Executive Director gave further details on the dialogue and proposed the topic of the dialogue to be “Cities and Pandemics”. She further highlighted that the dialogue topic is aligned with Agenda item 5 of the provisional Agenda of the CPR midterm review. Agenda item 5 is on the ‘Report of the Executive Director on implementation of the UN-Habitat COVID-19 response</p>	<p>The Bureau took note of the briefing by the Executive Director</p>																																				

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2 (b) Preliminary discussion on the dialogue during the high-level meeting (continued)	<p>plan’. Specifically, she anticipates the dialogue to be an interactive session based on the findings and recommendations of a report prepared by UN-Habitat entitled “Cities and Pandemics: Towards a more just, green and healthy future”, which was recently launched on 31 March 2021.</p>	The Bureau took note of the briefing by the Executive Director
	<p>d) The Executive Director emphasized that the high level midterm review is an important opportunity to highlight the status of implementation of the Strategic Plan and UN-Habitat Assembly decisions and will also identify implementation gaps in the remaining two years of the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan for the period 2020-2023.</p>	Agreed
	<p>During the discussions on this item:</p> <p>e) WEOG represented by USA expressed that the high-level midterm review is a CPR’s meeting, and therefore a working meeting and accordingly, the highest level of participation should be Permanent Representatives. He emphasized that WEOG’s definition of “high-level” does not necessarily entail Ministerial level of participation but should rather be flexible to include other stakeholders in the urban sphere. He reiterated that the preparations for the high-level midterm review thus far, gives the impression that a mini UN-Habitat Assembly is planned and that is not in line with the expectations from WEOG for the meeting. He further emphasized that historically, high-level meetings have not been interactive enough and emphasized that the discussions for the CPR midterm review need to be kept at the Permanent Representative’s level to achieve the interactivity and remain rooted in the status, implementation, achievements, gaps of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan and to provide guidance to the Secretariat, including course correction if warranted.. In that respect, the representative of USA on behalf of WEOG, requested for clarification on how the dialogue and the ministerial statements as planned in the organization for work would contribute to the review of the implementation of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan.</p>	The position of WEOG on the dialogue being held but not as a high-level dialogue was noted.
	<p>f) The Eastern Europe Group emphasized the importance of the term ‘high-level’ as reflected in the title of the midterm review and further highlighted that the high-level attendance and discussions on current global urban challenges would give great relevance to the midterm review, noting that political support from high-level representation should not be seen as detrimental to the substance of the exercise.</p>	The position of Eastern Europe in support of high-level participation in the high-level midterm review meeting of the CPR was noted

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
<p>2 (b) Preliminary discussion on the dialogue during the high-level meeting (continued)</p>	<p>g) In response of the views expressed and at the request of the Chair, the Secretariat reiterated the following :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The term “high-level” emanates from resolution 73/729 and from Rule 23.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly and not a proposal from the Secretariat and as such the Secretariat it does not have the mandate to change the title of the meeting as per Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly. ii. The findings and recommendations of the open-ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat (CPR) pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/226, also called for a high-level midterm review. iii. The findings and recommendations of the Open-ended Working Group was transmitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations as a Note by the Secretary General entitled: Report on the work of the open ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/226. That Report is now reflected as General Assembly Document A/73/726 after it was welcomed and endorsed by the General Assembly of the United nations in its resolution 73/239. iv. With respect to the CPR, the Report specifically, states that “The Committee of Permanent Representatives would convene in Nairobi, in an open-ended manner, twice every four years: once prior to the UN-Habitat Assembly in preparation for that session and a second time for a high-level midterm review”. v. The Report further states that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) was called upon to coordinate the preparation of the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, in close collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, ensuring an inclusive United Nations system-wide coordination process. vi. In its resolution 73/239, the General Assembly decided to: “dissolve the Governing Council of UN-Habitat as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and replace it with the UN-Habitat Assembly, in line with the findings and recommendations of the Open-ended Working Group”. As indicated earlier herein, in the same resolution, the General Assembly welcomed and endorsed the findings and 	<p>Noted</p>

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2 (b) Preliminary discussion on the dialogue during the high-level meeting (continued)	<p>recommendations of the open-ended Working Group on changing the governance structure of UN-Habitat.</p> <p>vii. Resolution 73/239 also decided that in 2019, the Executive Board, after the election of its members by the UN-Habitat Assembly, shall meet for its first session in Nairobi for a duration of three days and that the CPR shall “prepare draft rules of procedure for the UN-Habitat Assembly, to be completed no later than April or May 2019, with a view to their adoption at the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly”.</p> <p>viii. Accordingly, resolution 73/239 only dissolved the Governing Council of UN-Habitat and established the Executive Board. Needless to say, Resolution 73/239 did not dissolve the CPR but actually tasked the CPR to draft the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly. The General Assembly welcomed and endorsed the provision in the Report on the frequency of the meetings of the CPR, as further reiterated in Rule 23.2 of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly as already quoted above as follows: “The Committee of Permanent Representatives shall convene, in an open-ended manner, twice every four years: once prior to the UN-Habitat Assembly, in preparation for that session, and once for a high-level midterm review”.</p>	Noted
	<p>h) The Secretariat emphasized that the design of the CPR high-level midterm review needs to catalyse a meaningful dialogue with Member States and between Member States and key stakeholders on important topics within the Agenda and is in congruence with what is contained in the General Assembly resolutions and the importance of UN-Habitat.</p>	Noted
	<p>i) The Secretariat confirmed that the high-level midterm review will discuss progress in the implementation of the 2020-2023 UN-Habitat Strategic Plan, success stories, narrowing and closing gaps in programmatic and financial status of the Organization in the implementation of the second phase of Strategic Plan.</p>	Noted
	<p>j) The Executive Director again emphasized that the high-level midterm review and the dialogue present an opportunity to discuss the findings of the report on “Cities and Pandemics report: Towards a more just, green and healthy future” with other stakeholders including other UN agencies. That report is also linked to domains of change 1,2 and 3 of the 2020-2023 UN-Habitat Strategic Plan and reveals the need for UN-Habitat to adjust its normative guidance and programming following its findings. Hence, the purpose of the dialogue is to bring in speakers who will shed light in different thematic areas from academia, municipalities, other UN agencies. The objective of the dialogue would be to provide recommendations for discussion on the third</p>	Noted

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
2 (b) Preliminary discussion on the dialogue during the high-level meeting (continued)	day of the high-level midterm review and would be attended by anyone involved in the urbanization field including representation of Member States in Nairobi.	
	k) The Bureau agreed to the proposed organization of work with the exception of WEOG which noted that while it did not object to holding the dialogue and to its proposed topic, it objects to the high-level nature of the participation in the dialogue, reiterating that the dialogue should be at the Permanent Representatives' level to ensure interactivity and keep it at a working level.	Noted
	l) The topic of the dialogue, as presented under Agenda 5 of the preliminary organization of work, should be “ Cities and Pandemics ” and will be based on the recently launched UN-Habitat report on “ Cities and Pandemics: Towards a more just, green and healthy future. ”	Agreed
	m) The dialogue should last 90 minutes and be held in the afternoon of day 2 of the CPR high-level midterm review.	Agreed
2 (c) Discussion on the level of participation at the high-level midterm review meeting.	a) The Executive Director briefed the Bureau on sub-item 2 (c). The full presentation by the Executive Director can be found here . The Executive Director recalled the recommendations of the Bureau during its meetings held on 8 December 2021 and 24 February 2021, as follows : (i) The Secretariat proposed the following high-level participation at the opening ceremony of the CPR high-level midterm review to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President of the Republic of Kenya • President of the General Assembly • President of the UN-Habitat Assembly • Selected Ministers of sustainable urbanization and human settlements by region and with specific roles during the meeting. • An option to invite all Ministers of sustainable urbanization and human settlements to the CPR high level midterm review meeting 	The Bureau took note of the briefing by the Executive Director. WEOG welcomed the participation from the Senior Kenyan Officials but preferred that the rest of representations should be at the Permanent Representatives level only. There was no other objection from any other member of the Bureau to the proposal made by the Executive Director.
	b) The Executive Director informed that the President of the General Assembly is highly likely to participate in the meeting and that the Host Country, Kenya, is also likely to be represented at a high level.	
	c) The Executive Director further emphasized the “high-level” nature of the midterm review as provided for in the Rules of Procedure , which will enhance a two-way conversation between high level officials and other representatives during the meeting.	The Bureau took note of the briefing by the Executive Director

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2 (c) Discussion on the level of participation at the high-level mid-term review meeting (continued)	d) The Executive Director encouraged the Bureau to support UN-Habitat to maximize on the opportunity presented by the high-level midterm review , which is global in nature, to provide a global and regional picture of UN-Habitat’s activities, challenges, the catalytic role that UN-Habitat can play in localizing Sustainable Development Goals 11 and in implementing the New Urban Agenda, and in the recovery by cities and human settlements from the global pandemic.	The Bureau took note of the briefing by the Executive Director
	During the discussions on this item: e) The representative from Serbia on behalf of the Eastern European group underscored that the fact that UN-Habitat is facing strong organizational challenges despite its relevance to current urban global challenges. He reiterated that the CPR midterm review would provide an opportunity to further discuss the urban global challenges at a highest level. He emphasized the need for high level participants during the dialogue to ensure global interest among ministers in the discussions on existing urban challenges.	Noted
	f) The representative of USA on behalf of WEOG welcomed the participation from the Senior Kenyan Officials but preferred that the rest of representations should be at the Permanent Representatives level only.	Noted
	g) The Executive Director clarified the three categories of invitations for the CPR high-level midterm review She explained that as with any GA mandated meeting with Member States, and particularly in accordance with Rule 8.1 and Rule 8.2 of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly, bearing in mind the provision of Rule 29 of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly which is guiding the preparations of the CPR high-level midterm review, the three categories are as follows: i. Invitations for ceremonial opening: These would specifically go to high-level officials who would be expected to make opening remarks during the high-level meeting. Such remarks would be welcoming and policy-related remarks on the work and mandate of UN-Habitat. It is anticipated that , the President of Kenya, the President of the General Assembly, the President of the UN-Habitat Assembly would be part of the ceremonial opening. These high-level officials are not expected to engage in the substantive discussions under each Agenda item and moreover, the ceremony takes a very short time.	Noted

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
2 (c) Discussion on the level of participation at the high-level mid-term review meeting (continued)	<p>ii. Invitations to Member States which would be through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and which allows the Governments as sovereign nations to decide on the nature, level and composition their delegations to the meeting. As a courtesy, the Secretariat also informs the line ministries who have the experts that would support the substantive discussions during the meeting. The Ministers of Human Settlements will be invited to look into issues around integrated sustainable urbanization.</p> <p>iii. Invitations to Permanent Representatives</p>	Noted
	<p>h) In addition, the Executive Director stated that UN-Habitat will further dialogue with ministers to understand reasons behind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack or minimal investment in urbanization yet urbanization continues to be a global urban challenge • Challenges on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. 	Noted
	<p>i) The Executive Director emphasized that at the end of the day, it will be up to the Member States as sovereign Nations to individually decide their appropriate level of participation. The Secretariat does not have the mandate to tell Member States what the level of representation of any country to a General Assembly mandated meeting should be or for that matter limit the participation to Permanent Representatives only. She reiterated that the Secretariat simply follows the Rules of Procedure.</p>	Noted
	<p>j) Finally, and with respect to invitations related the dialogue, the Executive Director clarified that there is no expectation to invite Heads of States or special invitations to Ministers particularly.</p>	Noted
	<p>k) The Secretariat stated that the final details of the dialogue are still being worked on and should be shared with the Bureau at its next meeting for further consideration.</p>	Agreed
2.(d) Possible outcomes of the high-Level midterm review including elections of the 2021/2023 Bureau of the CPR	<p>a) The Executive Director briefed the Bureau on sub-item 2 (d). The full presentation by the Executive Director can be found here. The Executive Director recalled that as reflected in the minutes of the first Bureau meeting of the CPR held on 1 October 2019, the Bureau recommended that the CPR should pronounce itself mainly through recommendations as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recommendations to the Executive Director, • recommendations to Member States, • recommendations to the UN-Habitat Assembly. 	Noted

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
2.(d) Possible outcomes of the high-Level midterm review including elections of the 2021/2023 Bureau of the CPR (continued)	<p>b) The Executive Director further provided, as discussed during the Bureau meeting held on 24 February 2021, areas of possible outcome for the high-level midterm review meeting as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommendation on the progress in implementing the UN-Habitat Assembly resolutions and including specifically resolution 1/1 on the strategic plan. 2. Recommendation on financing the mandate of UN-Habitat through support for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, the New Urban Agenda and SDGs 3. Recommendation on the high-Level meeting to assess progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda of the General Assembly in 2022 in line with GA resolution <i>A/RES/75/224</i>. 4. Recommendation on WUF 10 outcome and WUF 11 preparations in line with GC resolution 26/6 on the World urban Forum. 5. Recommendation on the dates and agenda of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and the dates and agenda for the next Open-Ended CPR meeting 	<p>Noted</p>
	<p>During the discussions on this item :</p> <p>a) The representative of USA on behalf of WEOG pointed out that General Assembly Resolution A/73/239 does not refer to the possible outcomes of the high-level midterm review of the CPR.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
	<p>b) In response to the above concern expressed by WEOG represented by USA, the Secretariat recalled that Rule 36 of the Rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly, which pursuant to Rule 29 are applicable to the CPR mutatis mutandis, anticipates outcomes when it states that “Resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions of the UN-Habitat Assembly shall be immediately communicated by the secretariat to all members of the Assembly and to any other participants in the session. The published text of such resolutions, recommendations and other formal decisions, as well as the report of the UN-Habitat Assembly to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, shall be distributed, including through electronic means, in the official and working languages of the UN-Habitat Assembly after the closing of the session to all States Members of the United Nations and members of the United Nations specialized agencies referred to in the present rules.”</p> <p>In light of the above, the Secretariat noted that the outcomes of the midterm review are expected to be recommendations from Member States on the implementation of UN-Habitat Strategic Plan as well as implementation of the resolutions and decisions of the UN-Habitat Assembly.</p>	<p>Noted</p>

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
Recommendation on the progress in implementing the UN-Habitat Assembly resolutions and including specifically resolution 1/1 on the strategic plan	<p>During the discussions on this recommendation:</p> <p>a) The representative of USA on behalf of WEOG raised concerns that the development of the Strategic Plan is guided by the Executive Board, yet the mandate for the approval of the Strategic Plan is under the authority of the UN-Habitat Assembly. He further requested for clarification on the rationale of the recommendation, in order to ensure the Bureau is not encroaching on the Executive Board’s competency.</p>	Noted
	<p>b) The Executive Director recalled that the midterm review is expected to look into the implementation of the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan of 2020-2023. Therefore, the session presents an opportunity to look into the under-funded situation of the programmes, which will provide further recommendation on the next steps of UN-Habitat financing. The session will also provide an opportunity to discuss possible course correction including how Member States would like to shape UN-Habitat. The Executive Director emphasized that under the current financial situation, UN-Habitat operated more as a project-funded agency and not as a multi-lateral agency as established by the General Assembly.</p>	Noted
	<p>c) The Deputy Executive Director further emphasized that the CPR mimics the Second Committee in New York, which looks at the substantive issues related to the mandate and the Fifth Committee on the budgetary and financial issues, which is likened to the Executive Board. This requires that the CPR focuses on the substance of UN-Habitat’s work and make recommendations, which also provides a platform for financial discussions.</p>	Noted
	<p>d) The representative of USA on behalf of WEOG mentioned that WEOG does not support a resolution from the CPR on the progress in implementing the UN-Habitat Assembly resolutions and including specifically resolution 1/1 on the Strategic Plan. However, in a separate proposal, the representative proposed a new outcome recommendation to the Secretariat on work programme adjustments and reprioritization, for the remaining years of the Strategic Plan, based on gaps analysis.</p>	Noted
Recommendation on financing the mandate of UN-Habitat through support for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, the New Urban Agenda and SDGs	<p>During the discussions on this recommendation:</p> <p>a) the representative of USA on behalf of WEOG raised concerns on the CPR’s and the Executive Board’s responsibilities on this matter and highlighted that CPR decisions should not concern UN-Habitat’s financing as it’s the mandate of the Executive Board, emphasizing that this outcomes for the high-level midterm review meeting seems to be driven by the Secretariat and not Member States and hence should be further discussed during the next session Executive Board.</p>	Noted

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
Recommendation on financing the mandate of UN-Habitat through support for the implementation of the Strategic Plan, the New Urban Agenda and SDGs (continued)	<p>b) The Secretariat appreciated that this is the first high-level midterm review and is cognizant of the distinct roles of the CPR and the Executive Board. The recommendations will take the form of strategic direction and policy coherence. The review will take stock of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for the last two years, while also make course corrections for the next two years of the implementation of the Strategic Plan including the COVID-19 pandemic and financing. Therefore, for the next two years of the implementation of the Strategic Plan, it will also be important to strategically integrate the Secretary General’s quadrennial report, the regional forms on Sustainable Development, linkages of the high-Level meeting to the World Urban Forum and how that can inform the General Assembly in two years.</p>	Noted
	<p>c) The Secretariat further elaborated that finance is important to enable UN-Habitat Strategic Plan fulfil its function, put impetus on the achievement of the SDGs and to use the NUA to accelerate impact and highlighted the financial gap in UN-Habitat’s operational work, which challenges UN-Habitat to reach more countries and achieve some of the outcome areas of the 2020-2023 Strategic Plan.</p>	Noted
	<p>d) The representative of USA on behalf of WEOG mentioned that WEOG does not support a proposed outcome on financing the mandate of UN-Habitat as the budget and work programme are one of the duties of the Executive Board.</p>	Noted
Recommendation on the high-Level meeting to assess progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda of the General Assembly in 2022 in line with GA resolution <i>A/RES/75/224</i>	<p>During the discussions on this recommendation :</p>	Noted
	<p>a) The representative of USA on behalf of WEOG pointed that Resolution <i>A/RES/75/224</i> does not request for a recommendation from the high-level midterm review meeting of the CPR with respect to the high-level meeting scheduled for April 2022.</p>	Noted and agreed by the Bureau
	<p>b) The Secretariat highlighted that under this item it is proposed that the CPR makes any recommendation with respect to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA), emphasizing it all ties to the work on implementation of the NUA. It will be an opportunity to brief Member States on this important meeting and to galvanize Member States to participate in the preparatory process and in actual high-level meeting in New York for a successful outcome.</p>	
<p>c) The proposed outcome enhances UN-Habitat’s vision “Quality of life for all in an urbanizing world.” Emphasized on the importance to have guidance and recommendations from Member States in order to mitigate the effects of climate change, poverty among other urban challenges.</p>		

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
<p>Recommendation on WUF 10 outcome and WUF 11 preparations in line with GC resolution 26/6 on the World Urban Forum.</p>	<p>During the discussions on this recommendation:</p> <p>a) the representative of USA on behalf of WEOG raised concerns on the connection between the high-level midterm review of the CPR and the World Urban Forum and further highlighted that GC resolution 26/6 applies to the CPR under the old governance structure and that CPR's duties under the new governance structure are now only defined in the UN-Habitat Assembly Rules of Procedure. He further requested for legal clarification on whether the World Urban Forum is under the authority of the CPR or of the Executive Board.</p>	<p>Noted</p>
	<p>b) The Secretariat read out the legal opinion on the matter which highlights the following :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fact that a United Nations inter-governmental body has been dissolved does not mean that its Decisions and Resolutions do not continue to be applied. If this was the case, it would create a legal and legislative vacuum within the United Nations. Consequently, UN-HABITAT should continue to be guided by the Decisions and Resolutions of the former UN-HABITAT Governing Council unless these Decisions/Resolutions have been amended or overturned or rendered inapplicable by subsequent decisions of the UN Habitat Assembly or by the UN General Assembly. • The Report on the work of the Open-ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat, established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/226, identified the need for “a body to provide the political and strategic framework under which UN-Habitat shall function.” (Paragraph 1) The report indicated that, “this body could be called the UN-Habitat Assembly and would replace the current Governing Council. The UN-Habitat Assembly could also deliberate on its rules and procedures at its first session. The Committee of Permanent Representatives would convene in Nairobi, in an open-ended manner, twice every four years: once prior to the UN-Habitat Assembly in preparation for that session and a second time for a high-level midterm review.” (Paragraph 2). At no stage did this Report refer to the establishment of a new Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) or seek to revise the terms of reference of the CPR. The Report did also not address the applicability of Governing Council Decisions/Resolutions to a new governance arrangement. However, as indicated above, unless expressed otherwise, decisions of an inter-governmental body remain applicable, including to successor bodies or to those that remain in place, such as the CPR. 	<p>Noted</p>

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
Recommendation on WUF 10 outcome and WUF 11 preparations in line with GC resolution 26/6 on the World Urban Forum (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Assembly resolution A/RES/73/239 endorsed the Report’s findings and recommendations on changing the governance structure of UN-Habitat. However, the provisions of 73/239 were very specific on governance whereby the General Assembly decided to dissolve the UN-Habitat Governing Council as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and to replace it with the UN-Habitat Assembly. The resolution did not address the CPR. In this connection, it is useful to recall that paragraph 8 of General Assembly resolution 56/206 continues to apply whereby the Assembly decided that “the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN Habitat shall serve as the Governing Council’s intersessional subsidiary body.” Resolution 56/206 is recalled in the preambular part of resolution A/73/239. • In the light of the above, resolution 26/6 dated May 2017 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat on WUF continues to be applicable to the CPR. 	Noted
	c) The representative of USA on behalf of WEOG requested that the discussions on a possible outcome on the WUF 10 outcomes and WUF 11 preparations should be further continued.	Noted
Dates and agenda of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and the dates and agenda for the next Open-Ended CPR meeting.	During the discussions on this recommendation :	Agreed
	<p>a) The Bureau agreed to a possible outcome on the dates and agenda of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and the dates and agenda for the next Open-Ended CPR meeting.</p> <p>b) The representative of USA on behalf of WEOG proposed a new possible outcome for the high-level midterm review which would be recommendations to the Secretariat on work programme adjustments and reprioritization, for the remaining years of the Strategic Plan, based on gaps analysis.</p>	Noted
2d.(ii) Elections of the 2021/2023 Bureau of the CPR	<p>a) The Chair reminded the Bureau that the next Bureau of the CPR will be elected at the end of the high-level midterm review and will hold office for 2 years until the end of the Open-Ended CPR meeting held in preparations for the UN-Habitat Assembly scheduled in June 2023. The composition of the next CPR Bureau in terms of the seats for the respective regional groups is as follows:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Chair: WEOG Vice-Chairs: African States, Asian States, Latin American and Caribbean States Rapporteur: Eastern European States</p>	Noted

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
	b) The Secretariat should send a Note Verbale to the Chairs of the Regional Groups with a copy to the respective Bureau member, inviting all regional groups to start caucusing towards identifying nominations for their respective representatives to the new Bureau of 2021- 2023 of the CPR.	Agreed
3.	Organization of work and schedule for the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) in 2021 including meetings of the Bureau and informal consultations on draft outcomes for consideration and possible adoption by the CPR during the high-level midterm review.	
Bureau Meetings	<p>a) Under this sub-item the Executive Director provided an update the organization of work and schedule for the CPR in 2021 to the Members of the Bureau, which can be accessed here. <i>Planned 2021 CPR Bureau meetings:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 28 April 2021 - Fourth meeting of the Bureau of the CPR 2. 26 May 2021 - Fifth meeting of the Bureau of the CPR 3. 23 June 2021 -Sixth meeting of the Bureau of the CPR 4. 6 September 2021 – Seventh meeting of the Bureau of the CPR 	Noted and agreed as tentative schedule
Briefing by the Executive Director and Informal Consultations	<p>a) Under this sub-item the Executive Director provided a schedule of a briefing by the Executive Director, Consultation between the Executive Director and Regional Groups and Informal Consultation as below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing by the Executive Director on preparations for the CPR high-level midterm review meeting: Tuesday, 15 June 2021. • Consultations between the Executive Director and Regional groups on preparations for the CPR high level midterm review meeting: Wednesday, 9 June 2021 and Friday 11 June 2021. • Informal Consultations on the draft outcomes of the CPR high-level midterm review meeting: Thursday 17 June 2021 and Monday 21 June 2021 	Noted
	b) The representative of USA on behalf of WEOG objected to the proposed schedule of informal consultations, noting that for now there is no consensus on the potential outcomes to be adopted by the CPR and that therefore there is no point in scheduling dates to discuss draft outcomes. He proposed that the Bureau should further discuss the possible outcomes at the next CPR Bureau meeting. Should a consensus emerge at that meeting on possible outcomes, informal consultations can then be scheduled.	Noted

Agenda item	Discussion	Recommendation from the Bureau
Briefing by the Executive Director and Informal Consultations (continued)	c) The Bureau recommends that the Executive Director holds a briefing on the matters to be covered under each item on the provisional agenda of the high-level midterm review of the CPR on 15 June 2021.	Agreed
	d) The Bureau recommends that the Executive Director holds consultations with regional groups tentatively between Wednesday, 9 June and Friday 11 June 2021, in line with practice and to consult with Member States through the regional groups.	Agreed
	e) The Chair strongly encouraged prior informal consultations as well as caucusing among the regional groups including for nominations to the expected new CPR Bureau for the period 2021-2023 for a smoother high-level midterm review on that particular agenda item. The Chair further counts on an engagement across all regional groups towards the preparations of the high-level midterm review and count on the support and facilitation of the respective Chairs of the regional groups in this respect.	Agreed
6.	Any Other Matters	
	a) The next Bureau meeting is scheduled for 26 May 2021	Agreed as tentative schedule
	<i>The fourth Bureau meeting of the CPR was adjourned at 12.49PM East African Time</i>	