



**Preparations for the Second Session of
the United Nations Habitat Assembly**



"A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL IN AN URBANIZING WORLD"



COVID-19
RESPONSE



IMPLEMENTING
THE NEW
URBAN AGENDA

THE STRATEGIC PLAN

2020-2023

INDUCTION SEMINAR
25 JANUARY 2023

MR. CHRIS MENSAH

Secretary to the Governing
Bodies

UN HABITAT



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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

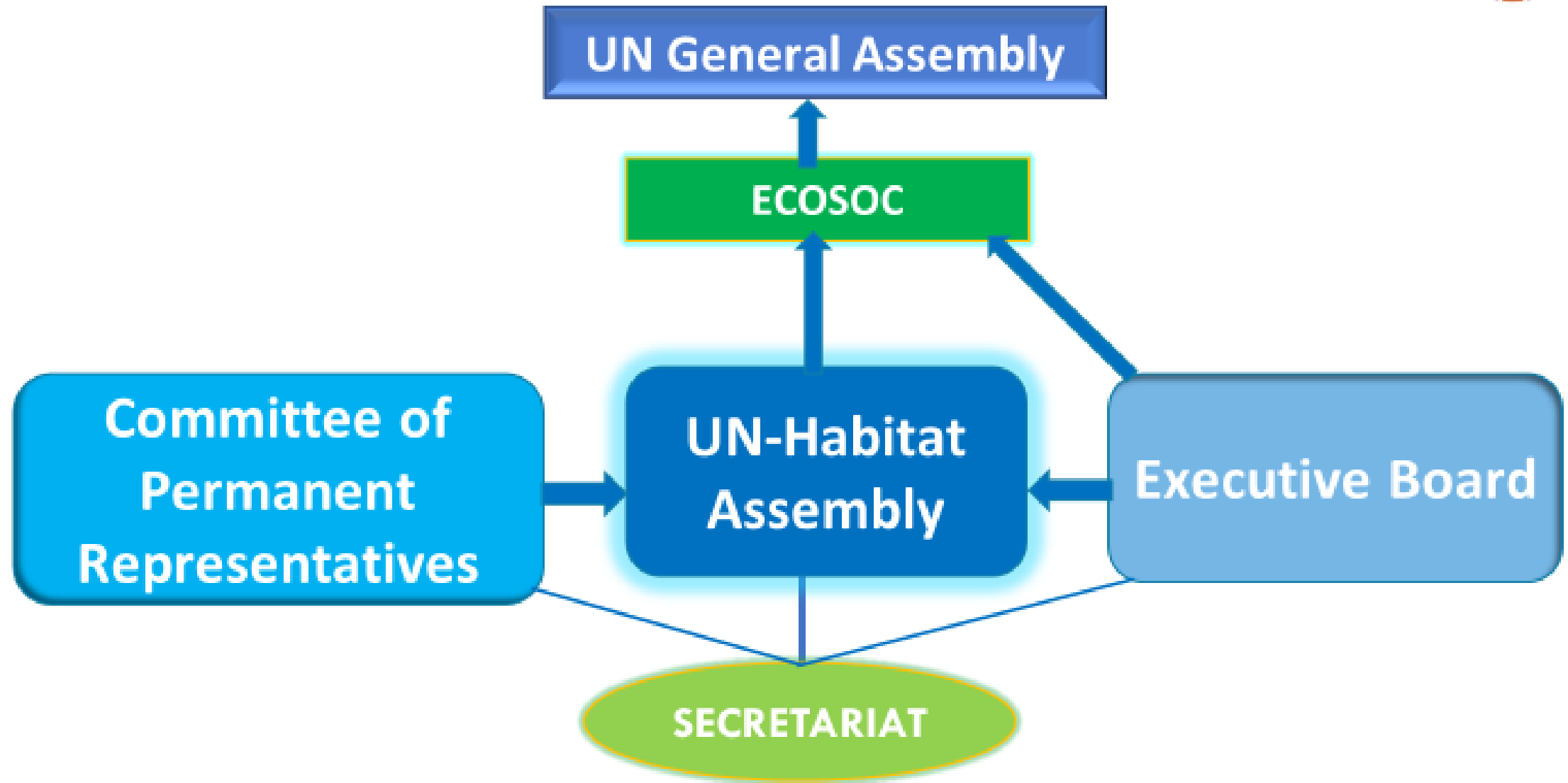
HISTORY OF THE CURRENT GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF UN-HABITAT



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- **2017** : A/72/226 Implementation of the outcomes of Habitat III and strengthening of UN-Habitat requesting the Chair of the CPR to establish an **Open-ended working group** to examine different options for strengthening Member States' oversight of UN-Habitat.
- **2018** : A/73/726 Report on the work of the Open-ended Working Group (WG) established by the Chair of the CPR to UN-Habitat
- **2018** : **A/RES/73/239** of 20 December 2018 on strengthening of UN-Habitat endorsing the findings and recommendations of the Open-ended WG and **creating the new governance structure**.
- **2019 (27-31 May)** : First session of the UN-Habitat Assembly **elects 36 members of the Executive Board** and elects the Bureau of the CPR taking into account the distribution of seats described in the report on the work of the Open-ended Working Group (A/73/726) . **UN-Habitat Assembly decisions 1/1 and 1/2** adopting the **Rules of Procedure** of the UN-Habitat Assembly and those of the Executive Board.
- **2019 (30 May)** : First session of the Executive Board
- **2021 (29 June-1 July)** : First open-ended meeting of the **CPR for a high-level midterm review**
- **2023 (29 May – 2 June 2023)** : Open-ended meeting of the CPR to **prepare for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly**
- **2023 (5 to 9 June 2023)** : **Second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly**

NEW UN-HABITAT GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE





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ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS HABITAT ASSEMBLY.

MANDATE OF THE ASSEMBLY: RULE 2 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE



- i) Identify key issues and areas of focus for the normative and policy work of UN-Habitat;
- ii) Review major trends related to human settlements and urbanisation;
- iii) Examine global norms and standards in human settlements and sustainable urbanisation;
- iv) Adopt resolutions, declarations, recommendations, formal decisions, reports and other documents pertaining to strategic vision and political guidance in accordance with its mandate;
- v) Recommend strategies for coherent implementation of urban and human settlements dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and other global agendas, including of the work of the United Nations System;
- vi) Examine and approve UN-Habitat's strategic plan, to be prepared by the Executive Board;
- vii) Review the Secretary-General's quadrennial report on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.



-Guided by the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly and the report A/73/726 on the work of the Open-ended Working Group established by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives UN-Habitat, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/226. The report was adopted by the General Assembly through **resolution A/73/239** of December 2018 which created the New Governance Structure of UN-Habitat.

-Universal body composed of the **193** member states of the United Nations. The Bureau was elected during the first session of UN-Habitat Assembly in May 2019 :

- **President:** Mexico
- **Vice President :** Ghana
- **Vice President :** Poland
- **Vice President :** Germany
- **Rapporteur:** China

During its first session held in May 2019, the UN-Habitat Assembly :

- Adopted its rules of procedure,
- Elected its Bureau,
- Elected the 36 members of the Executive Board, and the first Bureau of the CPR
- Approved UN-Habitat's strategic plan for the period 2020-2023,
- Adopted five resolutions and one decision on [UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan for the period 2020-2023](#), UN System-Wide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements, enhancing capacity-building for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, achieving gender equality through the work of UN-Habitat to support inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements, on enhancing urban-rural linkages for sustainable urbanization and human settlements and on transitional arrangements towards the new governance structure of UN-Habitat,
- Concluded its five days of discussions with a [Ministerial Declaration](#) recognizing that the unprecedented rate of urbanization constitutes both a challenge and an opportunity.



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PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS HABITAT ASSEMBLY.



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1. OPEN-ENDED MEETING OF THE CPR TO PREPARE FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY.

Dates of Open-ended meeting of the CPR to prepare for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly
: 29 May 2023– 2 June 2023

- Open-ended meeting** of the **CPR to prepare** for the second session of the **United Nations Habitat Assembly** (Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly)
- The CPR is expected to consider and **review, inter-alia, the draft resolutions** to be adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly



**Dates of the second session of the United Nations
Habitat Assembly: 5-9 June 2023**

**Venue of the session: Headquarters of UN-Habitat in
Nairobi**

3. PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY.



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1. Opening of the session.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Report of the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. Elections of members of the Executive Board.
6. Adoption of the report of the Executive Board.
7. Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including coordination matters.
8. Review of progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
9. Reports on the World Urban Forum.
10. Dialogue on the special theme for the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
11. Strategic plan of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the period 2024– 2027.
12. Adoption of the report of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
13. Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the third session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.
14. Election of officers.
15. Other matters.
16. Closure of the session.

4.OBJECTIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY.



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- i) Identify key issues and areas of focus for the normative and policy work of UN-Habitat;
- ii) Review major trends related to human settlements and urbanisation;
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- iv) Adopt resolutions, declarations, recommendations, formal decisions, reports and other documents pertaining to strategic vision and political guidance in accordance with its mandate;
- v) Recommend strategies for coherent implementation of urban and human settlements dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and other global agendas, including of the work of the United Nations System;
- vi) Examine and approve UN-Habitat's strategic plan, to be prepared by the Executive Board;
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5. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY.



- Thematic areas towards implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.
- Decision on extension of the current strategic plan until 2025 to align with the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR).
- Decision on the stakeholder engagement policy depending on the advancement of the discussion by the ad hoc working group of the Executive Board on the matter.
- Resolutions related to the report of the JIU on administrative and management review of UN-Habitat, especially as related to governance.
- Election of 36 new Members of the Executive Board for a new term
- Decision on the date and the provisional Agenda for the next session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly.



6.EXPECTED STRUCTURE OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY.

- Member States are encouraged to **participate fully in** the five-day session.
- Detailed discussions are expected **under each item** of the provisional Agenda
- High-level segment on the special theme** of the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly with expected participation of Governments, Partners and Stakeholders
- Member States will have the opportunity to **deliver National Statements – most likely delivered at the Ministerial level.**
- It is expected that **various partners and stakeholders, notably subnational governments, parliamentarians and non-governmental organizations,** will convene their own informal consultations, **events and** activities prior to and during the session

The Bureau is expected to firm up the detailed organisation of work of the second session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly



Given that the UN-Habitat Assembly is expected to discuss key issues related to human settlements and urbanization it is anticipated that States will attach great **significance to the need for high-level representation at the Ministerial level for the 193 State Members of the United Nations,** and for substantive representation at the session.

UN-HABITAT also expects participation at highest level of Government as has been in the past.

The first session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly held in May 2019 was attended by 4000 participants, 60 Ministers and 4 Heads of States.

8.THEME OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY.



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1. The choice of the **theme** of the second session should be **guided by Resolution 20/21** of the former Governing Council which requires the theme **to be selected by the Bureau at least six months** before the start of each **on the basis of advice from the Executive Director** taking into account the outcome of the sessions of the World Urban Forum and other key international meetings, including the High Level Meeting of the General Assembly to assess the progress in implementation of the New urban Agenda.
2. The theme of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly is
“A sustainable urban future through inclusive and effective multilateralism : Achieving the SDGs in times of global crises”

9. NOTIFICATION BY THE EXECUTIVE FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY (RULE 8).



1. The Executive Director shall send notification of the **date of each session** of the UN-Habitat Assembly and **its provisional agenda** to the following:

- (a) All States Members of the United Nations;
- (b) The chairs of the intersessional organs of the UN-Habitat Assembly, as appropriate;
- (c) The United Nations specialized agencies, related organizations and other United Nations bodies;
- (d) The entities, intergovernmental organizations and other entities referred to in rule 66;
- (e) The organizations referred to in rules 67 and 68 and other relevant stakeholders.

2. The notification shall be **addressed to the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council** and the organizations and institutions referred to in rule 68.

3. The notification for a regular session, be sent in the official and working languages of the UN-Habitat Assembly, **not less than 6 months prior to the opening of the session.**

4. **Notification and Agenda for the second session has therefore be sent in the 6 official and working language on 30 December 2022.**

10. SOME KEY TIMELINES IN THE ROADMAP TO THE UN-HABITAT ASSEMBLY.



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- **18 October 2022:** Recommendation of theme of the second session by the **Joint Bureaux of the Governing Bodies.**
- **31 October 2022:** Submission to the Division of Conference Services the Notification and Provisional Agenda for editing and translation.
- **30 December 2022:** Transmission of the **Notification** of the Executive Director and provisional Agenda in all six languages to Member States and key organs of the United Nations and partners.
- **February 2023:** **Invitations** to high level Government officials for the second session of the Assembly, particularly Ministers of Foreign Affairs and line Ministers.
- **End of March 2023- Early April 2023 :** First session of the Executive Board for the year 2023 with possible recommendations for the UN-Habitat Assembly.
- **April 2023:** Transmission of **pre-session documents** for the UN-Habitat Assembly to all Member States in all languages.
- **April 2023:** Final submission of **supplementary items to the provisional Agenda** of the session in line with Rule 10.3 for further consideration by the CPR.
- **29 May – 2 June 2023 :** Open-ended meeting of the **CPR to prepare** for the second session of the **UN-Habitat Assembly.**



1. Submission of draft resolutions for consideration by the UN-Habitat Assembly is the prerogative of Member States.
2. A Member State or group of Member States may submit draft resolutions for consideration.
3. Draft resolutions may be submitted for consideration by the UN-Habitat Assembly any time before or during the session. Guidance will be given by the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly for consideration by the delegations at the first meeting of the session, on the deadline for submission of resolutions during the session.
4. Member States may wish start consultations on draft resolutions, guided by the provisional Agenda of the session.
5. Member States may also submit draft resolutions from mid-April 2023 after the pre-session documents, including reports of the Executive Director, have become available. Nothing, however, precludes the submission of resolutions prior to that date.
6. The objective of a resolution may be to offer guidance or recommendations to the Executive Director or to Member States or as a decision on a particular matter based upon the provisional Agenda or matters under discussions.



7. The Secretariat may offer technical and substantive support to Member States in preparing draft resolutions, if requested or as appropriate.

8. It is highly encouraged that resolutions be submitted early to allow sufficient time for negotiations and consensus-building including through informal consultations organized by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and through formal consultations during the open-ended meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives in preparation for the Assembly.

9. In this regard, the Bureau of the Assembly working with the Bureau of the CPR may issue guidance on the recommended deadline for submissions of resolutions, which may be first considered first by the CPR, under informal consultations and during the second open ended meeting of the CPR, for onward transmission to the Assembly.

10. Draft resolutions that are formally submitted will be considered by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its second session.

11. Draft resolutions may be addressed to the Chair of the CPR but submitted through the Secretary of the Governing Bodies at chris.mensah@un.org with a copy to unhabitat-sgb@un.org

Thank you!

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