Resolution on Accelerating Transformation of Informal Settlements and Slums by 2030

A. **Recalling** Resolution 24/7[1]- Making slums history: a worldwide challenge- adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme at its twenty-fourth session and the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, and its Target 11.1 - by 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services, and upgrade slums, which establish the link between well managed urbanization and improving the lives of slum and informal settlement dwellers; Ad Ref 8 may 2023

B. **Recalling further** that the New Urban Agenda[2] was adopted as a blueprint to address sustainable urbanisation and human settlements, including in support of SDG 11 implementation; Ad Ref 8 May 2023

C. **Noting** that a slum[3] is defined as a settlement in which [the] {USA+} majority of the households experience one or more of the following deprivations [are prevailing] USA+}: lack of secure tenure, lack of access to improved water sources, lack of improved sanitation facilities, insufficient living space, poor structural durability of the dwelling;

D. **Recognising** that the creation of sustainable human settlements is one of the key developmental challenges facing the global community and that rapid urbanisation being experienced in many countries is often accompanied by an urbanisation of poverty as people migrate to cities to escape lack of opportunities, poverty, conflict, [lack of access to basic services [and] {USA+} the negative impact of] {CHE+} cClimate cChange and other hardships;

E. **Further recognising** that much of the urban expansion takes place in slums and informal settlements because many cities and towns are not prepared for the unprecedented levels of population growth, and infrastructure is not always capable of absorbing the influx; Ad Ref 8 May 2023

F. **Acknowledging** that the global spread of COVID-19 has exacerbated the social, economic, and political challenges, as informal settlements inhabitants are often excluded from wealth, health and socio-economic safety nets and basic service delivery, are reliant on informal economies, live in high density areas with limited security of tenure and often in hazardous environments; Ad Ref 8 May 2023

G. **Acknowledging** the findings of the UN Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022[4] highlighting the Sustainable Development Goal Target 11.1 – reduce the proportion of urban population living in slums – is one of 9 SDG targets having globally regressed in their implementation, thus underlining the need for more concerted efforts to meet the Target by 2030; Ad Ref 8 May 2023

H. **Underlining** the need to accelerate actions to improve slums as one of the most pressing problems of the 21st Century and addressing the needs of one billion people living in slums globally, in the context of 161 countries around the world having more than 30 percent of their urban population living in slums and informal settlements, causing the total number of slum dwellers to continue to grow by nine million people a year since 2000 Ad Ref 8 May 2023

[We hereby:] {USA+}

1. *[**Call for** a Global Action Plan for transforming informal settlements and slums as a multiple-partnership initiative and commitment to accelerate action to effectively face the challenges to [achieving] {CHE+} [achieve the full enjoyment of the right to adequate housing and] {CHE+, USA reserve} [of]{USA+} the Sustainable*

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[1] United Nations (2013) Decision and resolutions adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme at its twenty-fourth session, https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2014/12/Decisions-and-resolution-GC-24th-session.pdf

[2] United Nations (2017) New Urban Agenda, Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 23 December 2016, No. A/RES/71/256, United Nations, New York, https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_71_256.pdf

[3] https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-11-01-01.pdf

[4] https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2022/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2022.pdf

Development Goal 11 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: *"Make cities and other human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable";] {USA reserve}*

2. [Fully intend to utilize] {USA+} [Calls for utilizing] {USA+} the remaining seven years of the Decade of Action [insertion of a footnote] {ARG+} to build the foundation for transformation to meet the needs of 1 billion slum and informal settlements dwellers today and 3 billion in 2050, if no action is taken;

3. **Seek to undertake** the transformation of informal settlements by 2030 as part of a long-term and sustainable plan to transform our neighborhoods and cities into integrated urban settlements that accommodate and support all who inhabit them, thus transforming informal settlements into [beautiful, functional and desirable settlements for all] {CHE+} [functional settlements where people can get access to adequate, safe, and affordable housing and other basic services, including water, education, health and waste management among others]{CHE+, NGA+};

4. [Commit to] {USA+} [Supports] {USA+} the following ten key actions towards scaling slum transformation:

   a. **Multi-level participatory governance:** [Institutionalizing] {MAR+} **[adopting a whole of a government and a whole of society approach to institutionalize] {MAR+}**multi-level participatory governance, integrated frameworks with multi-sector, horizontal and vertical coordination among government spheres [(national and local) [governments] {DZA+} [authorities] {DZA+} {CHE+}, enabling democratic and effective participation of all groups, especially communities and civil society, to ensure that capacities of public sector, private sector and civil society are [fully] leveraged. [to the fullest extent possible] {USA+}. [These structures will have the built-in capacity to change according to changing circumstances of a community and the individuals within the community] {MAR USA IND reserve}. [Strengthen institutions to ensure their accountability towards the local community and the implementation of the SDG 11] {IND reserve}.

   b. **Spatial planning:** Strengthen land management and statutory planning of land, for citywide recognition and integration of informal settlements into the urban fabric, maximizing the availability, use and access to public land for [adequate] {CHE+} housing purposes. Design strategies for balanced densification, including development of the city periphery, to foster rural-urban connections and avoid non-planned and environmentally predatory urban expansion. Bolster urban development in secondary cities [and neighborhoods vulnerable to sudden and slow onset shocks and stresses] {USA+}. Ensure equitable and empowered participation of the [residents] {USA+} [habitats] {USA+} for direct involvement in integrated planning and decision-making, to enable culturally adequate and inclusive design of interventions and solutions, following a people-centered development approach.

   c. **Data:** Improve methodologies of [mapping] {USA+} enumeration exercises to reflect more accurately the reality of informal settlements and households and disaggregate data. Collect data across all settlements, regardless of tenure status or legal regularization, through an integrated approach that goes beyond the isolated settlement level, including transformation costs and affordability as well as impacts of interventions, and dynamics of movements of households after interventions. Ensure data availability at national, [local,] {MAR+} city and settlement level.

   d. [**Policies:** Review and design enabling, user-friendly and simplified legal, regulatory, planning, investments, and institutional [at national, local and city levels] {MAR+} frameworks, [at local, metropolitan, and national levels,] — {MAR+}, establishing transformation targets with a long-term perspective with mid-term benchmarks, to create, mandate and capacitate institutions for implementation. [This will require the establishment and integration of high-level policy coordination mechanisms for implementation and follow-up monitoring. Mainstream community participation in the formulation, implementation and review of transformative public policies.] { possibility of considering this sentence in para d) on implementation, MAR}

   e. **Comprehensive packages of adequate housing:** Target incremental and progressive provision of habitable, accessible, affordable, and [social]{USA+, MAR+} [resilient] {USA+, MAR+} housing [with]{USA+, MAR+}

[that] {USA+, MAR+}uses ~~of~~ sustainable local materials [and technologies and methods]{USA+, MAR+} that lower the costs[of construction in maintenance] {USA+, MAR+} [; ~~and of available basic services,~~] {USA+, MAR-} in thriving locations characterized by availability of [basic services,] {USA+} education and social ~~facilities~~, integrated and targeted health care services, and safe and accessible public spaces of high quality, connected through inclusive mobility options. Interventions need to target spatial and socioeconomic impacts, creating access to jobs and livelihoods, for which housing will be incorporated within city structures in well-located areas where there are job opportunities and services. Include all relevant groups, build their capacity to participate and localize interventions. The outcomes should build responsiveness [in resilience] {USA+}of all populations [~~groups~~] {USA+} to [climate change and natural] {USA+} disasters, [as well as] {USA+} pandemics [and other public health threats] {USA+}, [~~or climate change for risk reduction~~] [to reduce exposure to minimized harm and ensure equitable recovery form disasters and other] {USA+}[~~and management of~~] {USA+} external shocks and stresses.

f. **Finance:** Establish and adequately resource flexible finance models to respond to the needs of lowest income groups [and communities] {USA+}, accommodating mechanisms for localization and responsiveness. Apply integrated fiscal transfers, enabling slum transformation to go to scale, leveraging multiple partnerships and investments, including from the private sector [, civil society,] {USA+}and communities. Strengthen municipal fiscal health,[for instance public financial management as well as] {USA+} including land-based finance mechanisms and implementation of special vehicles as intermediary instruments especially for smaller municipalities to coordinate and mobilize funds from government, private sector, financial institutions and other partners. Establish accountability frameworks for the resources mobilized towards progressively achieving transformation benchmarks. Encourage funding for collective infrastructure and basic services supportive of housing. [– this coupled with security of tenure unlocks private finances].{USA suggests to move to policy para}

g. **Land:** Recognizing the social function of public and private land through guaranteeing secure tenure and land regularization and increasing the affordable supply of well-located land [,including land protected from climate change, risks and natural hazards,] {USA+} for housing through underutilized and vacant land and buildings. Recognize the continuum of land rights and property rights and ensure safeguards in cases of relocation, which is to be minimized and negotiated, avoiding forced evictions.

h. **Community Resilience and Empowerment:** Produce and create new knowledge based on the local experiences on resilience and community approaches, including [~~tailored~~] {USA+ [place-based] {USA+} adaptation and mitigation measures for multiple [environmental and social] {USA+} risks, establishing platforms to enable horizontal exchange between stakeholders to enhance capacities. Support innovations in identifying potentials of the community in data generation and solution finding in collaboration with the public agencies. Implement actions to strengthen community-based organization. Support and identify key stakeholders within communities and [~~nurture~~] {USA+} [incorporate] {USA+} them through various engagements [in the planning and implementation process] {USA+}. Draw on community capacity and skills for economic development and job creation.

i. **Capacities:** Collaborate with universities and academic actors [as well as NGOs] {USA+} to ensure alignment of curriculum and promote courses for public, social, and private stakeholders, capturing the knowledge from practitioners, communities [, science and technology,] {USA+} and case studies.

j. **Collaboration for implementation:** Initiate open and regular dialogue on all levels of governance, engaging with other ministries from national government, subnational administration, civil society and communities, private sector agents, media and academia to review and specify the central action areas and identify key actions. Commit to co-establish multiple partnership frameworks at different levels (global, regional, national, local) and participate in regional consultations to inform the way forward, expanding and diversifying existing partnerships in consolidated and coordinated structures, and promoting exchanges, accelerating and monitoring the implementation of the Global Action Plan and the SDG11 and regularly revisited during regular international events, such the biannual World Urban Forum. Ad ref 8 May 2023

5. [**Encourage** all member states to [adopt] {MAR+} [contribute to the elaboration of] {MAR+} the Global Action Plan, and the ten [Agreed_ Global Actions] {language to be harmonized, ARG} for accelerating the transformation of informal settlements and slums to 2030;] {USA IDN reserve}

6. **Call upon** [UN-Habitat] {ARG+} [the Executive Director] {ARG+} to continue to place the transformation of slums and informal settlements at the center of its strategic plan and programmes_

7. [**Request** the Executive Director to coordinate an implementation framework and report on progress at the next UN-Habitat Assembly] {USA, MAR reserve}