

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco
Nairobi



سفارة المملكة المغربية
نيروبي

Statement of the Kingdom of Morocco on Agenda Item 7:

Implementation of the normative and operational activities of UN-Habitat, including reporting on its programmatic activities in 2023 and the implementation of subprogrammes, flagship programmes and technical cooperation activities.

Thank you Mr Chair,

- At the outset, I would like to thank the secretariat for the report on normative and operational activities, including the updates on inclusive communities, thriving cities flagship program, SURGE initiative and urban crisis and response initiatives.
- The Follow up on implementation and operationalisation of these tools should enable us to measure their effectiveness for localizing the sustainable development goals, accelerating the transformation of informal settlements and slums as well as urban regeneration that could contribute to the creation of an adequate housing for the people, to provide a sound urban planning and sustainable infrastructure, as well as resilience against natural disasters and risks.
- Alignment of these tools within the existing 4 subprograms of the strategic plan , with the New Urban Agenda and the SDGS **is certainly commendable but requires to be assessed to measure their efficiency and envisage their extension.** The 4 subprograms should enjoy a broader universal implementation, mainly in developing countries and specifically in Africa and not to be limited to just a few countries.
- Morocco is specifically calling upon UN-Habitat to maintain its focus on delivering projects that have proved to be efficient and made a difference in improving the quality of lives of communities.
- **With regard to the status of the development of the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements in the Gaza Strip, in the State of Palestine,** Morocco would like to thank the secretariat for producing the preliminary report under consideration;
- Despite the limited scope of the preliminary report and its reliance on remote sensing assessments due to the conflict situation on the ground, Morocco appreciates that it has highlighted significant challenges and uncertainties in planning for recovery and reconstruction efforts in Gaza. The proposed scenarios for engagement of UN-Habitat are reflective of the unpredictability of the conflict situation;
- Nonetheless, Morocco invites UN-Habitat to pursue the following up of the situation in the Gaza strip, and to submit a **full-fledged report on the situation** assessing the level of destruction on the ground to allow the planning for recovery and reconstruction of Gaza.