

STATEMENT GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA

Dear Dr. Clos, Secretary-General of Habitat III

Honorable representatives of the Bureau for this First Preparatory Committee

Honorable Ministers, Heads of Delegations and representatives from different organizations and institutions

The Government of Angola is very pleased to be here in this First Preparatory Committee of this historic Third Conference of the United Nations System known as Habitat III

Let me please convey the warm regards from his Excellency the President of the Republic of Angola José Eduardo dos Santos.

After the end of the long-lasting armed conflict in Angola that persisted for more than 30 years, bringing with him widespread destruction of the country's infrastructure, housing, urban premises and the urban fabric, my Government has embarked in a path of sustainable urban development.

For those that were in my country during the conflict and have the opportunity to come now will find a complete different place. Cities are developing the needed roads, bridges, houses and basic services to bring quality of life to the Angolan citizens. My Government is also developing a very aggressive Programme to upgrade the living conditions of the most deprived inhabitants, living in slums, called in our country as *Museques*.

Habitat III Conference is coming in a very timely historic moment when the world is preparing to adopt a new international development agenda for the next 20 years.

The final preparations of the Post 2015 Development Agenda are clearly considering cities and urbanization as an important goal to be included in this strategic policy documents for the 21st Century.

The Government Angola is completely committed to sustainable urban development. We know that there are a lot of challenges that our cities are facing, but we also know that well-planned urbanization brings a great opportunity to achieve sustainable urban development that is a fundamental precondition for realizing sustainable development at large.

This first Preparatory Committee is the beginning of a process leading towards the great global summit to be held in 2016. I want to express the full support of my Government for this Preparatory Conference, but also to Habitat III.

We are convinced that Habitat III will be a great opportunity to adopt a New Urban Agenda; my government is ready to support this journey that will conclude with a positive outcome for the world's humanity.

I thank all of you for your attention