



**66th meeting of
the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat
27 September 2017**

Statement on behalf of the EU and its MS

(to be delivered under Agenda Item 3: Executive Director's Briefing)

Mister Chairman, distinguished delegates, Executive Director and representatives of UN-Habitat Secretariat, observers, ladies and gentlemen,

It is my privilege to speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States and to thank the Executive Director, Joan Clos, for his briefing.

Concerning the High-Level Meeting on the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the positioning of UN-Habitat, which took place in New York on 5-6 September, we appreciated the opportunity to respond to the recommendations of the High Level Panel and to exchange views with other Member States and participants in that meeting. While we could not support all of the recommendations of the Panel, we found the meeting very inspiring and a good start for the necessary reform of UN-Habitat. We would appreciate more clarity on the next steps in the process, including on the availability of further documentation to support

the debate well as on the relation of the reform of UN-Habitat with the broader reform of the UN system.

Concerning the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the role of UN-Habitat in this regard, as expressed in our statement during the previous CPR meeting and given the discussion during the 26th meeting of the Governing Council and its outcomes, we would like to reiterate the request that the CPR, through its subcommittee, be kept up to date on the Secretariat's activities on the NUA implementation, reported against respective mandates.

As also recalled in the last meeting, the Governing Council agreed to improve the engagement of UN-Habitat with stakeholders. We would like to hear from the Executive Director about his actions so far and plans to develop the new Stakeholders Engagement Policy.

We would also like to address upfront, as an issue of high priority, the preparations for the ninth World Urban Forum, which will take place in Malaysia in February 2018. We appreciate the efforts by the Secretariat, and the host country, including the briefings provided to the CPR. We would like to reiterate our standing interest to be duly informed and involved in relevant preparations in a more timely and transparent manner, which should use the best expertise available with the Secretariat and Member States. We would also like to be duly informed about and involved in the decision process for the location of WUF-11, including with regard to its timelines.

Lastly, with regard to the financial situation of UN-Habitat, while remaining concerned about the core revenue, and pending the discussion on the reform of UN-Habitat, including its finance, the EU and its Member States stay committed to supporting and collaborating with UN-

Habitat, and we are confident that other countries and regional groups will continue their commitments. I am pleased to refer to the ca 20 million USD, recently awarded to the next phases of the successful projects on Promoting Urban Low Emissions Development Strategies and the Participatory Slum Upgrading.

I thank you