

**Statement**

**by the delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt  
for the First Session of the UN-Habitat Executive Board 2024  
6-8 May 2024**

**Nairobi, 6 May 2024.**

**Check against delivery.**

Honourable Ahmed Musa Dangiwa, Chair of the Executive Board,  
Acting Executive Director,

At the outset, Egypt would like to join previous speakers in conveying condolences to the people and the Government of the Republic of Kenya on the loss of lives and damages caused by the severe weather conditions resulting from Climate Change.

Mr. Chair

Egypt aligns itself with the statements of G77 and China and the African Group.

I would like to thank the outgoing Chair H.E. Ambassador Silvio Albuquerque of Brazil on leading the Executive Board through the past turbulent times amidst the challenges facing multilateral system. Egypt also wholeheartedly welcomes your Chairship, and is confident that you will smoothly guide the conduct of our work.

In addition, my delegation would like to thank the AED leadership of the Programme for carrying its activities in the same positive direction it has been heading in the past 6 years. In this vein, I want to stress the need for the continuation of discussions on developing the Strategic Plan for the period 2026-2029 to encompass the priorities of developing countries, where the Programme's mandate and assistance are fundamental.

Moreover, we emphasize the necessity of the implementation of resolutions and decisions adopted by the UN-Habitat Governing bodies on equal footing, given that all are of priority to Member States, especially those tackling areas of concern to the developing countries.

Egypt takes note of both reports on "the staffing of the UN-Habitat" and on "recruitment, equitable geographical distribution and gender parity", and requests further efforts to ensure larger representation of developing countries in the Secretariat, other than the General Service Posts.

Egypt also takes note of the ongoing consultations on drafting the Stakeholders Engagement Policy, and calls for their early conclusion.

Furthermore, Egypt would like to thank H.E Ambassador Pedro Leon Cortés Ruiz of Colombia for stepping up to chair the Ad-Hoc Working Group on Programmatic, Budgetary and Administrative Matters and trust that he will lead the finalization of the documents in a timely manner.

As the host of the Regional Office for Arab States, Egypt emphasizes that recent tragedies in many parts of the world, including North Africa, remind us of the urgency to further empower the Programme in the field of Climate Action, better planning and capacity-building to support urban resilience. Accordingly, Egypt calls for the full operationalization of different Climate Action initiatives that are of significance to the Programme's mandate, including the SURGe initiative.

Egypt takes note of the preliminary report on "Status of the development of the efforts to reconstruct the human settlements in the Gaza Strip", and requests a comprehensive up-to-date field report to be presented to the next session, as stipulated in decision (2023/5) of the previous session.

Finally, Egypt is continuing coordination with the Secretariat to ensure a successful WUF12 in Cairo, next November. I wish to seize this opportunity to reiterate Egypt's commitment to provide an accessible inclusive forum. I would also like to congratulate the Azerbaijan on hosting the WUF13. We will work together to build on the fruitful outcomes of previous WUFs, from Cairo to Baku.

I thank you.