

Embassy of the Kingdom of Morocco  
Nairobi



سفارة المملكة المغربية  
نيروبي

### Statement of the Kingdom of Morocco on Agenda item 9

#### Implementation of resolutions adopted by the United Nations Habitat Assembly

Thank you Mr Chair,

- Morocco would like to appreciate the update on the follow up of the implementation of the UN-Habitat Assembly Resolutions.
- Such exercise contributes to track progress on the equal implementation of all resolutions and allows to **identify difficulties including lack of funding** to explore ways and possibilities to overcome them. It certainly serves the principle of **transparency** that is guiding the organisation with regard to its worldwide activities, and the **oversight mandate** entrusted with the Executive Board.
- On **Resolution 1/3 on Enhancing capacity-building** for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Morocco welcomes the steps taken by UN-HABITAT **to adopt innovative approaches to address capacity building gaps** in support to governments to facilitate national implementation of the new urban agenda. Moreover, Morocco is seeking clarification from the secretariat on the scope of the capacity building tools described in the report and in the presentation, and if those tools cover the issues of **national reporting and development of efficient urban policies**;
- Morocco also welcomes the progress in the implementation of **Resolution 2/1 on international guidelines on people-centred smart cities** and welcomes the constitution and composition of the Expert Group which will certainly bring a rich perspective to the future guidelines for smart cities.
- Morocco is manifesting a great interest in building smart cities. Such acute interest is growing steadily among public authorities and private players looking for smart solutions that will enable the development of smart cities to the benefit of their populations. Morocco is convinced that smart cities can contribute greatly to the achievement of sustainable development, particularly when **smart urban planning and smart investment** that are focused on technology, innovation, digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence can better transform cities and make them more **resilient, sustainable and inclusive**.
- The Kingdom of Morocco, who believes that **African cities need smarter planning strategies** in order to address urban challenges and seize opportunities, will be looking forward to the conclusions of the work of the expert group and to the regional and global consultations that will follow.
- In this regard, I would like to seize this opportunity to inform about the launch, last April 2024, in Morocco of the **Centre for Territorial Innovation and Intelligent Urban Performance, in**

collaboration with UN-Habitat, which aims to address these challenges from a global perspective.

- **On the implementation of Resolution 2/5 related to Enhancing the interlinkage** between urbanization and climate change resilience which bears the SURGE initiative, the Kingdom of Morocco is looking forward to the discussions that will lead to the selection of one of the 3 options proposed by the secretariat. Morocco views SURGE initiative as a useful tool that will strengthen further the implementation of sub program 3 on strengthened climate action and improved Urban Environment;
- **On the resolution 2/8 on Urban planning and sustainable infrastructure**, Morocco recognises the efforts that have been pursued by UNHABITAT to implement this resolution including action plan and the road map to 2025. The main request of this resolution, which Morocco had the privilege to facilitate, is to **Develop a global technical digital platform** for urbanization and infrastructure development that harnesses, existing tools and knowledge bases, to serve as a resource of flexible and adaptable tools for holistic urban planning and sustainable infrastructure. Morocco underlines the importance of **identifying the necessary resources to accelerate implementation of this important resolution** that relates to the four domains of change of the strategic plan to respond efficiently to the needs of member states.
- **Finally on resolution 2/9 on the Creation of a human settlements resilience framework for early warning, foresight, risk reduction, crisis response, and post-crisis recovery and reconstruction**, Morocco also appreciates the efforts made in the implementation of this important resolution that addresses one of the main pillar of sustainability, which is resilience for human settlements, particularly the initiated dialogue with the World Meteorological Organization, with a view to collaborating on the Early Warnings for All initiative.
- Issues of disaster foresight, prevention, risk reduction, urban crisis management and recovery framework can be meaningfully managed through a coordinated platform of partners to enable anticipation of all these risks. Morocco encourages the secretariat in its efforts to establish a fund that will facilitate the rapid deployment of UN-Habitat in response to urban crises and emergencies.
- Finally, Mr Chair, Morocco **supports the setting up of the tracking system on the implementation of all UN-Habitat Resolutions**, which will serve the monitoring by member States of the organisation's activities, and contribute to make **its work more visible and credible**.
- **I thank you.**