

# **Report of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)**

**Quito  
17-20 October 2016**



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## Chapter I

### Resolutions adopted by the Conference

#### Resolution 1\*

#### New Urban Agenda

*The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

*Having met in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,*

1. *Adopts* the outcome document of the Conference, the New Urban Agenda, which is annexed to the present resolution;
2. *Recommends* to the General Assembly of the United Nations at its seventy-first session that it endorse the New Urban Agenda as adopted by the Conference.

#### Annex

#### New Urban Agenda

#### Quito Declaration on Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements for All

1. We, Heads of State and Government, Ministers and High Representatives, have gathered at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) from 17 to 20 October 2016 in Quito, with the participation of subnational and local governments, parliamentarians, civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities, the private sector, professionals and practitioners, the scientific and academic community, and other relevant stakeholders, to adopt a New Urban Agenda.
2. By 2050, the world's urban population is expected to nearly double, making urbanization one of the twenty-first century's most transformative trends. Populations, economic activities, social and cultural interactions, as well as environmental and humanitarian impacts, are increasingly concentrated in cities, and this poses massive sustainability challenges in terms of housing, infrastructure, basic services, food security, health, education, decent jobs, safety and natural resources, among others.
3. Since the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements in Vancouver, Canada, in 1976 and in Istanbul, Turkey, in 1996, and the adoption of the Millennium Development Goals in 2000, we have seen improvements in the quality of life of millions of urban inhabitants, including slum and informal-settlement dwellers. However, the persistence of multiple forms of poverty, growing inequalities and environmental degradation remain among the major obstacles to sustainable development worldwide, with social and economic exclusion and spatial segregation often an irrefutable reality in cities and human settlements.

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\* Adopted at the 8th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016; for discussion, see chap. VI.

4. We are still far from adequately addressing these and other existing and emerging challenges, and there is a need to take advantage of the opportunities presented by urbanization as an engine of sustained and inclusive economic growth, social and cultural development, and environmental protection, and of its potential contributions to the achievement of transformative and sustainable development.

5. By readdressing the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed, the New Urban Agenda will help to end poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions; reduce inequalities; promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth; achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in order to fully harness their vital contribution to sustainable development; improve human health and well-being; foster resilience; and protect the environment.

6. We take full account of the milestone achievements of the year 2015, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>1</sup> including the Sustainable Development Goals, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>2</sup> the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>3</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,<sup>4</sup> the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024,<sup>5</sup> the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway<sup>6</sup> and the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020.<sup>7</sup> We also take account of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>8</sup> the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the World Summit for Social Development, the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>9</sup> the Beijing Platform for Action,<sup>10</sup> the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the follow-up to these conferences.

7. While recognizing that it did not have an intergovernmental agreed outcome, we take note of the World Humanitarian Summit held in May 2016 in Istanbul.

8. We acknowledge the contributions of national Governments, as well as the contributions of subnational and local governments, in the definition of the New Urban Agenda, and take note of the second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments.

<sup>1</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>3</sup> See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 69/137, annex II.

<sup>6</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

<sup>7</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7)*, chap. II.

<sup>8</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>9</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>10</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

9. The New Urban Agenda reaffirms our global commitment to sustainable urban development as a critical step for realizing sustainable development in an integrated and coordinated manner at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, with the participation of all relevant actors. The implementation of the New Urban Agenda contributes to the implementation and localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in an integrated manner, and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including Goal 11 of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

10. The New Urban Agenda acknowledges that culture and cultural diversity are sources of enrichment for humankind and provide an important contribution to the sustainable development of cities, human settlements and citizens, empowering them to play an active and unique role in development initiatives. The New Urban Agenda further recognizes that culture should be taken into account in the promotion and implementation of new sustainable consumption and production patterns that contribute to the responsible use of resources and address the adverse impact of climate change.

### **Our shared vision**

11. We share a vision of cities for all, referring to the equal use and enjoyment of cities and human settlements, seeking to promote inclusivity and ensure that all inhabitants, of present and future generations, without discrimination of any kind, are able to inhabit and produce just, safe, healthy, accessible, affordable, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements to foster prosperity and quality of life for all. We note the efforts of some national and local governments to enshrine this vision, referred to as “right to the city”, in their legislation, political declarations and charters.

12. We aim to achieve cities and human settlements where all persons are able to enjoy equal rights and opportunities, as well as their fundamental freedoms, guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including full respect for international law. In this regard, the New Urban Agenda is grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>11</sup> international human rights treaties, the Millennium Declaration<sup>12</sup> and the 2005 World Summit Outcome.<sup>13</sup> It is informed by other instruments such as the Declaration on the Right to Development.<sup>14</sup>

13. We envisage cities and human settlements that:

(a) Fulfil their social function, including the social and ecological function of land, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, without discrimination, universal access to safe and affordable drinking water and sanitation, as well as equal access for all to public goods and quality services in areas such as food security and nutrition, health, education, infrastructure, mobility and transportation, energy, air quality and livelihoods;

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<sup>11</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>12</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>14</sup> Resolution 41/128, annex.

(b) Are participatory, promote civic engagement, engender a sense of belonging and ownership among all their inhabitants, prioritize safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces that are friendly for families, enhance social and intergenerational interactions, cultural expressions and political participation, as appropriate, and foster social cohesion, inclusion and safety in peaceful and pluralistic societies, where the needs of all inhabitants are met, recognizing the specific needs of those in vulnerable situations;

(c) Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal rights in all fields and in leadership at all levels of decision-making, by ensuring decent work and equal pay for equal work, or work of equal value, for all women and by preventing and eliminating all forms of discrimination, violence and harassment against women and girls in private and public spaces;

(d) Meet the challenges and opportunities of present and future sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, leveraging urbanization for structural transformation, high productivity, value-added activities and resource efficiency, harnessing local economies and taking note of the contribution of the informal economy while supporting a sustainable transition to the formal economy;

(e) Fulfil their territorial functions across administrative boundaries and act as hubs and drivers for balanced, sustainable and integrated urban and territorial development at all levels;

(f) Promote age- and gender-responsive planning and investment for sustainable, safe and accessible urban mobility for all and resource-efficient transport systems for passengers and freight, effectively linking people, places, goods, services and economic opportunities;

(g) Adopt and implement disaster risk reduction and management, reduce vulnerability, build resilience and responsiveness to natural and human-made hazards and foster mitigation of and adaptation to climate change;

(h) Protect, conserve, restore and promote their ecosystems, water, natural habitats and biodiversity, minimize their environmental impact and change to sustainable consumption and production patterns.

## **Our principles and commitments**

14. To achieve our vision, we resolve to adopt a New Urban Agenda guided by the following interlinked principles:

(a) Leave no one behind, by ending poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including the eradication of extreme poverty, by ensuring equal rights and opportunities, socioeconomic and cultural diversity, and integration in the urban space, by enhancing liveability, education, food security and nutrition, health and well-being, including by ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, by promoting safety and eliminating discrimination and all forms of violence, by ensuring public participation — providing safe and equal access for all, and by providing equal access for all to physical and social infrastructure and basic services, as well as adequate and affordable housing;

(b) Ensure sustainable and inclusive urban economies by leveraging the agglomeration benefits of well-planned urbanization, including high productivity, competitiveness and innovation, by promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, by ensuring the creation of decent jobs and equal access for all to economic and productive resources and opportunities and by preventing land speculation, promoting secure land tenure and managing urban shrinking, where appropriate;

(c) Ensure environmental sustainability by promoting clean energy and sustainable use of land and resources in urban development, by protecting ecosystems and biodiversity, including adopting healthy lifestyles in harmony with nature, by promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, by building urban resilience, by reducing disaster risks and by mitigating and adapting to climate change.

15. We commit ourselves to working towards an urban paradigm shift for a New Urban Agenda that will:

(a) Readdress the way we plan, finance, develop, govern and manage cities and human settlements, recognizing sustainable urban and territorial development as essential to the achievement of sustainable development and prosperity for all;

(b) Recognize the leading role of national Governments, as appropriate, in the definition and implementation of inclusive and effective urban policies and legislation for sustainable urban development, and the equally important contributions of subnational and local governments, as well as civil society and other relevant stakeholders, in a transparent and accountable manner;

(c) Adopt sustainable, people-centred, age- and gender-responsive and integrated approaches to urban and territorial development by implementing policies, strategies, capacity development and actions at all levels, based on fundamental drivers of change, including:

(i) Developing and implementing urban policies at the appropriate level, including in local–national and multi-stakeholder partnerships, building integrated systems of cities and human settlements and promoting cooperation among all levels of government to enable the achievement of sustainable integrated urban development;

(ii) Strengthening urban governance, with sound institutions and mechanisms that empower and include urban stakeholders, as well as appropriate checks and balances, providing predictability and coherence in urban development plans to enable social inclusion, sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and environmental protection;

(iii) Reinvigorating long-term and integrated urban and territorial planning and design in order to optimize the spatial dimension of the urban form and deliver the positive outcomes of urbanization;

(iv) Supporting effective, innovative and sustainable financing frameworks and instruments enabling strengthened municipal finance and local fiscal systems in order to create, sustain and share the value generated by sustainable urban development in an inclusive manner.

## **Call for action**

16. While the specific circumstances of cities of all sizes, towns and villages vary, we affirm that the New Urban Agenda is universal in scope, participatory and people-centred, protects the planet and has a long-term vision, setting out priorities and actions at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels that Governments and other relevant stakeholders in every country can adopt based on their needs.

17. We will work to implement the New Urban Agenda in our own countries and at the regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, and respecting national legislation and practices, as well as policies and priorities.

18. We reaffirm all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, including, *inter alia*, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as set out in principle 7.

19. We acknowledge that in implementing the New Urban Agenda particular attention should be given to addressing the unique and emerging urban development challenges facing all countries, in particular developing countries, including African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries. Special attention should also be given to countries in situations of conflict, as well as countries and territories under foreign occupation, post-conflict countries and countries affected by natural and human-made disasters.

20. We recognize the need to give particular attention to addressing multiple forms of discrimination faced by, *inter alia*, women and girls, children and youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older persons, indigenous peoples and local communities, slum and informal-settlement dwellers, homeless people, workers, smallholder farmers and fishers, refugees, returnees, internally displaced persons and migrants, regardless of their migration status.

21. We urge all national, subnational and local governments, as well as all relevant stakeholders, in line with national policies and legislation, to revitalize, strengthen and create partnerships, enhancing coordination and cooperation to effectively implement the New Urban Agenda and realize our shared vision.

22. We adopt this New Urban Agenda as a collective vision and political commitment to promote and realize sustainable urban development, and as a historic opportunity to leverage the key role of cities and human settlements as drivers of sustainable development in an increasingly urbanized world.

## **Quito implementation plan for the New Urban Agenda**

23. We resolve to implement the New Urban Agenda as a key instrument for enabling national, subnational and local governments and all relevant stakeholders to achieve sustainable urban development.

**Transformative commitments for sustainable urban development**

24. To fully harness the potential of sustainable urban development, we make the following transformative commitments through an urban paradigm shift grounded in the integrated and indivisible dimensions of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental.

**Sustainable urban development for social inclusion and ending poverty**

25. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. We also recognize that growing inequality and the persistence of multiple dimensions of poverty, including the rising number of slum and informal-settlement dwellers, are affecting both developed and developing countries, and that the spatial organization, accessibility and design of urban space, as well as the infrastructure and basic services provision, together with development policies, can promote or hinder social cohesion, equality and inclusion.

26. We commit ourselves to urban and rural development that is people-centred, protects the planet, and is age- and gender-responsive and to the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, facilitating living together, ending all forms of discrimination and violence, and empowering all individuals and communities while enabling their full and meaningful participation. We further commit ourselves to promoting culture and respect for diversity and equality as key elements in the humanization of our cities and human settlements.

27. We reaffirm our pledge that no one will be left behind and commit ourselves to promoting equally the shared opportunities and benefits that urbanization can offer and that enable all inhabitants, whether living in formal or informal settlements, to lead decent, dignified and rewarding lives and to achieve their full human potential.

28. We commit ourselves to ensuring full respect for the human rights of refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, regardless of their migration status, and support their host cities in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances and recognizing that, although the movement of large populations into towns and cities poses a variety of challenges, it can also bring significant social, economic and cultural contributions to urban life. We further commit ourselves to strengthening synergies between international migration and development at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels by ensuring safe, orderly and regular migration through planned and well-managed migration policies, and to supporting local authorities in establishing frameworks that enable the positive contribution of migrants to cities and strengthened urban-rural linkages.

29. We commit ourselves to strengthening the coordination role of national, subnational and local governments, as appropriate, and their collaboration with other public entities and non-governmental organizations in the provision of social and basic services for all, including generating investments in communities that are most vulnerable to disasters and those affected by recurrent and protracted humanitarian crises. We further commit ourselves to promoting adequate services, accommodation and opportunities for decent and productive work for crisis-affected persons in urban settings and to working with local communities and local

governments to identify opportunities for engaging and developing local, durable and dignified solutions while ensuring that aid also flows to affected persons and host communities to prevent regression of their development.

30. We acknowledge the need for Governments and civil society to further support resilient urban services during armed conflicts. We also acknowledge the need to reaffirm full respect for international humanitarian law.

31. We commit ourselves to promoting national, subnational and local housing policies that support the progressive realization of the right to adequate housing for all as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, that address all forms of discrimination and violence and prevent arbitrary forced evictions and that focus on the needs of the homeless, persons in vulnerable situations, low-income groups and persons with disabilities, while enabling the participation and engagement of communities and relevant stakeholders in the planning and implementation of these policies, including supporting the social production of habitat, according to national legislation and standards.

32. We commit ourselves to promoting the development of integrated and age- and gender-responsive housing policies and approaches across all sectors, in particular the employment, education, health-care and social integration sectors, and at all levels of government — policies and approaches that incorporate the provision of adequate, affordable, accessible, resource-efficient, safe, resilient, well-connected and well-located housing, with special attention to the proximity factor and the strengthening of the spatial relationship with the rest of the urban fabric and the surrounding functional areas.

33. We commit ourselves to stimulating the supply of a variety of adequate housing options that are safe, affordable and accessible for members of different income groups of society, taking into consideration the socioeconomic and cultural integration of marginalized communities, homeless persons and those in vulnerable situations and preventing segregation. We will take positive measures to improve the living conditions of homeless people, with a view to facilitating their full participation in society, and to prevent and eliminate homelessness, as well as to combat and eliminate its criminalization.

34. We commit ourselves to promoting equitable and affordable access to sustainable basic physical and social infrastructure for all, without discrimination, including affordable serviced land, housing, modern and renewable energy, safe drinking water and sanitation, safe, nutritious and adequate food, waste disposal, sustainable mobility, health care and family planning, education, culture, and information and communications technologies. We further commit ourselves to ensuring that these services are responsive to the rights and needs of women, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, migrants, indigenous peoples and local communities, as appropriate, and to those of others in vulnerable situations. In this regard, we encourage the elimination of legal, institutional, socioeconomic and physical barriers.

35. We commit ourselves to promoting, at the appropriate level of government, including subnational and local government, increased security of tenure for all, recognizing the plurality of tenure types, and to developing fit-for-purpose and age-, gender- and environment-responsive solutions within the continuum of land and

property rights, with particular attention to security of land tenure for women as key to their empowerment, including through effective administrative systems.

36. We commit ourselves to promoting appropriate measures in cities and human settlements that facilitate access for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment of cities, in particular to public spaces, public transport, housing, education and health facilities, public information and communication (including information and communications technologies and systems) and other facilities and services open or provided to the public, in both urban and rural areas.

37. We commit ourselves to promoting safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces, including streets, sidewalks and cycling lanes, squares, waterfront areas, gardens and parks, that are multifunctional areas for social interaction and inclusion, human health and well-being, economic exchange and cultural expression and dialogue among a wide diversity of people and cultures, and that are designed and managed to ensure human development and build peaceful, inclusive and participatory societies, as well as to promote living together, connectivity and social inclusion.

38. We commit ourselves to the sustainable leveraging of natural and cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible, in cities and human settlements, as appropriate, through integrated urban and territorial policies and adequate investments at the national, subnational and local levels, to safeguard and promote cultural infrastructures and sites, museums, indigenous cultures and languages, as well as traditional knowledge and the arts, highlighting the role that these play in rehabilitating and revitalizing urban areas and in strengthening social participation and the exercise of citizenship.

39. We commit ourselves to promoting a safe, healthy, inclusive and secure environment in cities and human settlements enabling all to live, work and participate in urban life without fear of violence and intimidation, taking into consideration that women and girls, children and youth, and persons in vulnerable situations are often particularly affected. We will also work towards the elimination of harmful practices against women and girls, including child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.

40. We commit ourselves to embracing diversity in cities and human settlements, to strengthening social cohesion, intercultural dialogue and understanding, tolerance, mutual respect, gender equality, innovation, entrepreneurship, inclusion, identity and safety, and the dignity of all people, as well as to fostering liveability and a vibrant urban economy. We also commit ourselves to taking steps to ensure that our local institutions promote pluralism and peaceful coexistence within increasingly heterogeneous and multicultural societies.

41. We commit ourselves to promoting institutional, political, legal and financial mechanisms in cities and human settlements to broaden inclusive platforms, in line with national policies, that allow meaningful participation in decision-making, planning and follow-up processes for all, as well as enhanced civil engagement and co-provision and co-production.

42. We support subnational and local governments, as appropriate, in fulfilling their key role in strengthening the interface among all relevant stakeholders,

offering opportunities for dialogue, including through age- and gender-responsive approaches, and with particular attention to potential contributions from all segments of society, including men and women, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants, regardless of their migration status, without discrimination based on race, religion, ethnicity or socioeconomic status.

### **Sustainable and inclusive urban prosperity and opportunities for all**

43. We recognize that sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, with full and productive employment and decent work for all, is a key element of sustainable urban and territorial development and that cities and human settlements should be places of equal opportunities, allowing people to live healthy, productive, prosperous and fulfilling lives.

44. We recognize that urban form, infrastructure and building design are among the greatest drivers of cost and resource efficiencies, through the benefits of economy of scale and agglomeration and by fostering energy efficiency, renewable energy, resilience, productivity, environmental protection and sustainable growth in the urban economy.

45. We commit ourselves to developing vibrant, sustainable and inclusive urban economies, building on endogenous potential, competitive advantages, cultural heritage and local resources, as well as resource-efficient and resilient infrastructure, promoting sustainable and inclusive industrial development and sustainable consumption and production patterns and fostering an enabling environment for businesses and innovation, as well as livelihoods.

46. We commit ourselves to promoting the role of affordable and sustainable housing and housing finance, including social habitat production, in economic development, and the contribution of the sector to stimulating productivity in other economic sectors, recognizing that housing enhances capital formation, income, employment generation and savings and can contribute to driving sustainable and inclusive economic transformation at the national, subnational and local levels.

47. We commit ourselves to taking appropriate steps to strengthen national, subnational and local institutions to support local economic development, fostering integration, cooperation, coordination and dialogue across levels of government and functional areas and relevant stakeholders.

48. We encourage effective participation and collaboration among all relevant stakeholders, including local governments, the private sector and civil society, women, organizations representing youth, as well as those representing persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, professionals, academic institutions, trade unions, employers' organizations, migrant associations and cultural associations, in order to identify opportunities for urban economic development and identify and address existing and emerging challenges.

49. We commit ourselves to supporting territorial systems that integrate urban and rural functions into the national and subnational spatial frameworks and the systems of cities and human settlements, thus promoting sustainable management and use of natural resources and land, ensuring reliable supply and value chains that connect

urban and rural supply and demand to foster equitable regional development across the urban-rural continuum and fill social, economic and territorial gaps.

50. We commit ourselves to encouraging urban-rural interactions and connectivity by strengthening sustainable transport and mobility, and technology and communications networks and infrastructure, underpinned by planning instruments based on an integrated urban and territorial approach, in order to maximize the potential of these sectors for enhanced productivity, social, economic and territorial cohesion, as well as safety and environmental sustainability. This should include connectivity between cities and their surroundings, peri-urban and rural areas, as well as greater land-sea connections, where appropriate.

51. We commit ourselves to promoting the development of urban spatial frameworks, including urban planning and design instruments that support sustainable management and use of natural resources and land, appropriate compactness and density, polycentrism and mixed uses, through infill or planned urban extension strategies, as applicable, to trigger economies of scale and agglomeration, strengthen food system planning and enhance resource efficiency, urban resilience and environmental sustainability.

52. We encourage spatial development strategies that take into account, as appropriate, the need to guide urban extension, prioritizing urban renewal by planning for the provision of accessible and well-connected infrastructure and services, sustainable population densities and compact design and integration of new neighbourhoods into the urban fabric, preventing urban sprawl and marginalization.

53. We commit ourselves to promoting safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces as drivers of social and economic development, in order to sustainably leverage their potential to generate increased social and economic value, including property value, and to facilitate business and public and private investments and livelihood opportunities for all.

54. We commit ourselves to the generation and use of renewable and affordable energy and sustainable and efficient transport infrastructure and services, where possible, achieving the benefits of connectivity and reducing the financial, environmental and public health costs of inefficient mobility, congestion, air pollution, urban heat island effects and noise. We also commit ourselves to giving particular attention to the energy and transport needs of all people, particularly the poor and those living in informal settlements. We also note that reductions in renewable energy costs give cities and human settlements an effective tool to lower energy supply costs.

55. We commit ourselves to fostering healthy societies by promoting access to adequate, inclusive and quality public services, a clean environment, taking into consideration air quality guidelines, including those elaborated by the World Health Organization, and social infrastructure and facilities, such as health-care services, including universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services to reduce newborn child and maternal mortality.

56. We commit ourselves to increasing economic productivity, as appropriate, by providing the labour force with access to income-earning opportunities, knowledge, skills and educational facilities that contribute to an innovative and competitive

urban economy. We also commit ourselves to increasing economic productivity through the promotion of full and productive employment and decent work and livelihood opportunities in cities and human settlements.

57. We commit ourselves to promoting, as appropriate, full and productive employment, decent work for all and livelihood opportunities in cities and human settlements, with special attention to the needs and potential of women, youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, refugees, and internally displaced persons and migrants, particularly the poorest and those in vulnerable situations, and to promote non-discriminatory access to legal income-earning opportunities.

58. We commit ourselves to promoting an enabling, fair and responsible business environment based on the principles of environmental sustainability and inclusive prosperity, promoting investments, innovations and entrepreneurship. We also commit ourselves to addressing the challenges faced by local business communities by supporting micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives throughout the value chain, in particular businesses and enterprises in the social and solidarity economy, operating in both the formal and informal economies.

59. We commit ourselves to recognizing the contribution of the working poor in the informal economy, particularly women, including unpaid, domestic and migrant workers, to the urban economies, taking into account national circumstances. Their livelihoods, working conditions and income security, legal and social protection, access to skills, assets and other support services, and voice and representation should be enhanced. A progressive transition of workers and economic units to the formal economy will be developed by adopting a balanced approach, combining incentives and compliance measures, while promoting preservation and improvement of existing livelihoods. We will take into account specific national circumstances, legislation, policies, practices and priorities for the transition to the formal economy.

60. We commit ourselves to sustaining and supporting urban economies to transition progressively to higher productivity through high-value-added sectors, by promoting diversification, technological upgrading, research and innovation, including the creation of quality, decent and productive jobs, including through the promotion of cultural and creative industries, sustainable tourism, performing arts and heritage conservation activities, among others.

61. We commit ourselves to harnessing the urban demographic dividend, where applicable, and to promoting access for youth to education, skills development and employment to achieve increased productivity and shared prosperity in cities and human settlements. Girls and boys, young women and young men are key agents of change in creating a better future and when empowered they have great potential to advocate on behalf of themselves and their communities. Ensuring more and better opportunities for their meaningful participation will be essential for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

62. We commit ourselves to addressing the social, economic and spatial implications of ageing populations, where applicable, and harnessing the ageing factor as an opportunity for new decent jobs and sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, while improving the quality of life of the urban population.

**Environmentally sustainable and resilient urban development**

63. We recognize that cities and human settlements face unprecedented threats from unsustainable consumption and production patterns, loss of biodiversity, pressure on ecosystems, pollution, natural and human-made disasters, and climate change and its related risks, undermining the efforts to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions and to achieve sustainable development. Given cities' demographic trends and their central role in the global economy, in the mitigation and adaptation efforts related to climate change, and in the use of resources and ecosystems, the way they are planned, financed, developed, built, governed and managed has a direct impact on sustainability and resilience well beyond urban boundaries.

64. We also recognize that urban centres worldwide, especially in developing countries, often have characteristics that make them and their inhabitants especially vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and other natural and human-made hazards, including earthquakes, extreme weather events, flooding, subsidence, storms, including dust and sand storms, heatwaves, water scarcity, droughts, water and air pollution, vector-borne diseases and sea level rise, which particularly affect coastal areas, delta regions and small island developing States, among others.

65. We commit ourselves to facilitating the sustainable management of natural resources in cities and human settlements in a manner that protects and improves the urban ecosystem and environmental services, reduces greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution and promotes disaster risk reduction and management, by supporting the development of disaster risk reduction strategies and periodical assessments of disaster risk caused by natural and human-made hazards, including standards for risk levels, while fostering sustainable economic development and protecting the well-being and quality of life of all persons through environmentally sound urban and territorial planning, infrastructure and basic services.

66. We commit ourselves to adopting a smart-city approach that makes use of opportunities from digitalization, clean energy and technologies, as well as innovative transport technologies, thus providing options for inhabitants to make more environmentally friendly choices and boost sustainable economic growth and enabling cities to improve their service delivery.

67. We commit ourselves to promoting the creation and maintenance of well-connected and well-distributed networks of open, multipurpose, safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces, to improving the resilience of cities to disasters and climate change, including floods, drought risks and heatwaves; to improving food security and nutrition, physical and mental health, and household and ambient air quality, to reducing noise and promoting attractive and liveable cities, human settlements and urban landscapes and to prioritizing the conservation of endemic species.

68. We commit ourselves to giving particular consideration to urban deltas, coastal areas and other environmentally sensitive areas, highlighting their importance as ecosystems' providers of significant resources for transport, food security, economic prosperity, ecosystem services and resilience. We commit ourselves to integrating appropriate measures into sustainable urban and territorial planning and development.

69. We commit ourselves to preserving and promoting the ecological and social function of land, including coastal areas that support cities and human settlements, and to fostering ecosystem-based solutions to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, so that the ecosystem's regenerative capacity is not exceeded. We also commit ourselves to promoting sustainable land use, combining urban extensions with adequate densities and compactness to prevent and contain urban sprawl, as well as preventing unnecessary land-use change and the loss of productive land and fragile and important ecosystems.

70. We commit ourselves to supporting local provision of goods and basic services and leveraging the proximity of resources, recognizing that heavy reliance on distant sources of energy, water, food and materials can pose sustainability challenges, including vulnerability to service supply disruptions, and that local provision can facilitate inhabitants' access to resources.

71. We commit ourselves to strengthening the sustainable management of resources, including land, water (oceans, seas and fresh water), energy, materials, forests and food, with particular attention to the environmentally sound management and minimization of all waste, hazardous chemicals, including air and short-lived climate pollutants, greenhouse gases and noise, and in a way that considers urban-rural linkages, functional supply and value chains vis-à-vis environmental impact and sustainability and that strives to transition to a circular economy while facilitating ecosystem conservation, regeneration, restoration and resilience in the face of new and emerging challenges.

72. We commit ourselves to long-term urban and territorial planning processes and spatial development practices that incorporate integrated water resources planning and management, considering the urban-rural continuum on the local and territorial scales and including the participation of relevant stakeholders and communities.

73. We commit ourselves to promoting the conservation and sustainable use of water by rehabilitating water resources within the urban, peri-urban and rural areas, reducing and treating wastewater, minimizing water losses, promoting water reuse and increasing water storage, retention and recharge, taking into consideration the water cycle.

74. We commit ourselves to promoting environmentally sound waste management and to substantially reducing waste generation by reducing, reusing and recycling waste, minimizing landfills and converting waste to energy when waste cannot be recycled or when this choice delivers the best environmental outcome. We further commit ourselves to reducing marine pollution through improved waste and wastewater management in coastal areas.

75. We commit ourselves to encouraging national, subnational and local governments, as appropriate, to develop sustainable, renewable and affordable energy and energy-efficient buildings and construction modes and to promoting energy conservation and efficiency, which are essential to enable the reduction of greenhouse gas and black carbon emissions, ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, help create new decent jobs, improve public health and reduce the costs of energy supply.

76. We commit ourselves to making sustainable use of natural resources and focusing on the resource efficiency of raw and construction materials such as

concrete, metals, wood, minerals and land. We commit ourselves to establishing safe material recovery and recycling facilities, promoting the development of sustainable and resilient buildings and prioritizing the use of local, non-toxic and recycled materials and lead-additive-free paints and coatings.

77. We commit ourselves to strengthening the resilience of cities and human settlements, including through the development of quality infrastructure and spatial planning, by adopting and implementing integrated, age- and gender-responsive policies and plans and ecosystem-based approaches in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and by mainstreaming holistic and data-informed disaster risk reduction and management at all levels to reduce vulnerabilities and risk, especially in risk-prone areas of formal and informal settlements, including slums, and to enable households, communities, institutions and services to prepare for, respond to, adapt to and rapidly recover from the effects of hazards, including shocks or latent stresses. We will promote the development of infrastructure that is resilient and resource efficient and will reduce the risks and impact of disasters, including the rehabilitation and upgrading of slums and informal settlements. We will also promote measures for strengthening and retrofitting all risky housing stock, including in slums and informal settlements, to make it resilient to disasters in coordination with local authorities and stakeholders.

78. We commit ourselves to supporting moving from reactive to more proactive risk-based, all-hazards and all-of-society approaches, such as raising public awareness of risks and promoting ex ante investments to prevent risks and build resilience, while also ensuring timely and effective local responses to address the immediate needs of inhabitants affected by natural and human-made disasters and conflicts. This should include the integration of the “build back better” principles into the post-disaster recovery process to integrate resilience-building, environmental and spatial measures, and lessons from past disasters as well as awareness of new risks into future planning.

79. We commit ourselves to promoting international, national, subnational and local climate action, including climate change adaptation and mitigation, and to supporting the efforts of cities and human settlements, their inhabitants and all local stakeholders as important implementers. We further commit ourselves to supporting building resilience and reducing emissions of greenhouse gases from all relevant sectors. Such measures should be consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.

80. We commit ourselves to supporting the medium- to long-term adaptation planning process, as well as city-level assessments of climate vulnerability and impact, to inform adaptation plans, policies, programmes and actions that build the resilience of urban inhabitants, including through the use of ecosystem-based adaptation.

#### **Effective implementation**

81. We recognize that the realization of the transformative commitments set out in the New Urban Agenda will require enabling policy frameworks at the national,

subnational and local levels, integrated by participatory planning and management of urban spatial development and effective means of implementation, complemented by international cooperation as well as efforts in capacity development, including the sharing of best practices, policies and programmes among Governments at all levels.

82. We invite international and regional organizations and bodies, including those of the United Nations system and multilateral environmental agreements, development partners, international and multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, the private sector and other stakeholders, to enhance coordination of their urban and rural development strategies and programmes to apply an integrated approach to sustainable urbanization, mainstreaming the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

83. In this regard, we emphasize the need to improve United Nations system-wide coordination and coherence in the area of sustainable urban development, within the framework of system-wide strategic planning, implementation and reporting, as stressed in paragraph 88 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

84. We strongly urge States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries.

#### **Building the urban governance structure: establishing a supportive framework**

85. We acknowledge the principles and strategies contained in the International Guidelines on Decentralization and Strengthening of Local Authorities and the International Guidelines on Access to Basic Services for All, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in its resolutions 21/3 of 20 April 2007<sup>15</sup> and 22/8 of 3 April 2009.<sup>16</sup>

86. We will anchor the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda in inclusive, implementable and participatory urban policies, as appropriate, to mainstream sustainable urban and territorial development as part of integrated development strategies and plans, supported, as appropriate, by national, subnational and local institutional and regulatory frameworks, ensuring that they are adequately linked to transparent and accountable finance mechanisms.

87. We will foster stronger coordination and cooperation among national, subnational and local governments, including through multilevel consultation mechanisms and by clearly defining the respective competences, tools and resources for each level of government.

88. We will ensure coherence between goals and measures of sectoral policies, inter alia, rural development, land use, food security and nutrition, management of natural resources, provision of public services, water and sanitation, health, environment, energy, housing and mobility policies, at different levels and scales of

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<sup>15</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/62/8)*, annex I.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/64/8)*, annex I.

political administration, across administrative borders and considering the appropriate functional areas, in order to strengthen integrated approaches to urbanization and implement integrated urban and territorial planning strategies that factor them in.

89. We will take measures to establish legal and policy frameworks, based on the principles of equality and non-discrimination, to enhance the ability of Governments to effectively implement national urban policies, as appropriate, and to empower them as policymakers and decision makers, ensuring appropriate fiscal, political and administrative decentralization based on the principle of subsidiarity.

90. We will, in line with countries' national legislation, support strengthening the capacity of subnational and local governments to implement effective local and metropolitan multilevel governance, across administrative borders, and based on functional territories, ensuring the involvement of subnational and local governments in decision-making and working to provide them with the necessary authority and resources to manage critical urban, metropolitan and territorial concerns. We will promote metropolitan governance that is inclusive and encompasses legal frameworks and reliable financing mechanisms, including sustainable debt management, as applicable. We will take measures to promote women's full and effective participation and equal rights in all fields and in leadership at all levels of decision-making, including in local governments.

91. We will support local governments in determining their own administrative and management structures, in line with national legislation and policies, as appropriate, in order to adapt to local needs. We will encourage appropriate regulatory frameworks and support to local governments in partnering with communities, civil society and the private sector to develop and manage basic services and infrastructure, ensuring that the public interest is preserved and concise goals, responsibilities and accountability mechanisms are clearly defined.

92. We will promote participatory age- and gender-responsive approaches at all stages of the urban and territorial policy and planning processes, from conceptualization to design, budgeting, implementation, evaluation and review, rooted in new forms of direct partnership between Governments at all levels and civil society, including through broad-based and well-resourced permanent mechanisms and platforms for cooperation and consultation open to all, using information and communications technologies and accessible data solutions.

### **Planning and managing urban spatial development**

93. We acknowledge the principles and strategies for urban and territorial planning contained in the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning, approved by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolution 25/6 of 23 April 2015.<sup>17</sup>

94. We will implement integrated planning that aims to balance short-term needs with the long-term desired outcomes of a competitive economy, high quality of life and sustainable environment. We will also strive to build flexibility into our plans in order to adjust to changing social and economic conditions over time. We will

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<sup>17</sup> Ibid., *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/70/8)*, annex.

implement and systematically evaluate these plans, while making efforts to leverage innovations in technology and to produce a better living environment.

95. We will support the implementation of integrated, polycentric and balanced territorial development policies and plans, encouraging cooperation and mutual support among different scales of cities and human settlements, strengthening the role of small and intermediate cities and towns in enhancing food security and nutrition systems, providing access to sustainable, affordable, adequate, resilient and safe housing, infrastructure and services, facilitating effective trade links across the urban-rural continuum and ensuring that small-scale farmers and fishers are linked to local, subnational, national, regional and global value chains and markets. We will also support urban agriculture and farming, as well as responsible, local and sustainable consumption and production, and social interactions, through enabling and accessible networks of local markets and commerce as an option for contributing to sustainability and food security.

96. We will encourage the implementation of sustainable urban and territorial planning, including city-region and metropolitan plans, to encourage synergies and interactions among urban areas of all sizes and their peri-urban and rural surroundings, including those that are cross-border, and we will support the development of sustainable regional infrastructure projects that stimulate sustainable economic productivity, promoting equitable growth of regions across the urban-rural continuum. In this regard, we will promote urban-rural partnerships and inter-municipal cooperation mechanisms based on functional territories and urban areas as effective instruments for performing municipal and metropolitan administrative tasks, delivering public services and promoting both local and regional development.

97. We will promote planned urban extensions and infill, prioritizing renewal, regeneration and retrofitting of urban areas, as appropriate, including the upgrading of slums and informal settlements, providing high-quality buildings and public spaces, promoting integrated and participatory approaches involving all relevant stakeholders and inhabitants and avoiding spatial and socioeconomic segregation and gentrification, while preserving cultural heritage and preventing and containing urban sprawl.

98. We will promote integrated urban and territorial planning, including planned urban extensions based on the principles of equitable, efficient and sustainable use of land and natural resources, compactness, polycentrism, appropriate density and connectivity, and multiple use of space, as well as mixed social and economic uses in built-up areas, in order to prevent urban sprawl, reduce mobility challenges and needs and service delivery costs per capita and harness density and economies of scale and agglomeration, as appropriate.

99. We will support the implementation of urban planning strategies, as appropriate, that facilitate a social mix through the provision of affordable housing options with access to quality basic services and public spaces for all, enhancing safety and security and favouring social and intergenerational interaction and the appreciation of diversity. We will take steps to include appropriate training and support for service delivery professionals and communities in areas affected by urban violence.

100. We will support the provision of well-designed networks of safe, accessible, green and quality streets and other public spaces that are accessible to all and free from crime and violence, including sexual harassment and gender-based violence, considering the human scale, and measures that allow for the best possible commercial use of street-level floors, fostering both formal and informal local markets and commerce, as well as not-for-profit community initiatives, bringing people into public spaces, and promoting walkability and cycling with the goal of improving health and well-being.

101. We will integrate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation considerations and measures into age- and gender-responsive urban and territorial development and planning processes, including greenhouse gas emissions, resilience-based and climate-effective design of spaces, buildings and construction, services and infrastructure, and nature-based solutions. We will promote cooperation and coordination across sectors and build the capacities of local authorities to develop and implement disaster risk reduction and response plans, such as risk assessments concerning the location of current and future public facilities, and to formulate adequate contingency and evacuation procedures.

102. We will strive to improve capacity for urban planning and design and the provision of training for urban planners at the national, subnational and local levels.

103. We will integrate inclusive measures for urban safety and the prevention of crime and violence, including terrorism and violent extremism conducive to terrorism. Such measures will, where appropriate, engage relevant local communities and non-governmental actors in developing urban strategies and initiatives, including taking into account slums and informal settlements as well as vulnerability and cultural factors in the development of policies concerning public security and crime and violence prevention, including by preventing and countering the stigmatization of specific groups as posing inherently greater security threats.

104. We will promote compliance with legal requirements through strong, inclusive management frameworks and accountable institutions that deal with land registration and governance, applying transparent and sustainable management and use of land, property registration and sound financial systems. We will support local governments and relevant stakeholders, through a variety of mechanisms, in developing and using basic land inventory information, such as cadastres, valuation and risk maps, and land and housing price records, to generate the high-quality, timely and reliable data — disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in the national context — needed to assess changes in land values, while ensuring that these data will not be used for discriminatory land-use policies.

105. We will foster the progressive realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living. We will develop and implement housing policies at all levels, incorporating participatory planning and applying the principle of subsidiarity, as appropriate, in order to ensure coherence among national, subnational and local development strategies, land policies and housing supply.

106. We will promote housing policies based on the principles of social inclusion, economic effectiveness and environmental protection. We will support the effective

use of public resources for affordable and sustainable housing, including land in central and consolidated areas of cities with adequate infrastructure, and encourage mixed-income development to promote social inclusion and cohesion.

107. We will encourage the development of policies, tools, mechanisms and financing models that promote access to a wide range of affordable, sustainable housing options, including rental and other tenure options, as well as cooperative solutions such as co-housing, community land trusts and other forms of collective tenure that would address the evolving needs of persons and communities, in order to improve the supply of housing (especially for low-income groups), prevent segregation and arbitrary forced evictions and displacements and provide dignified and adequate reallocation. This will include support to incremental housing and self-build schemes, with special attention to programmes for upgrading slums and informal settlements.

108. We will support the development of housing policies that foster local integrated housing approaches by addressing the strong links between education, employment, housing and health, preventing exclusion and segregation. Furthermore, we commit ourselves to combating homelessness as well as to combating and eliminating its criminalization through dedicated policies and targeted active inclusion strategies, such as comprehensive, inclusive and sustainable housing-first programmes.

109. We will consider increased allocations of financial and human resources, as appropriate, for the upgrading and, to the extent possible, prevention of slums and informal settlements, with strategies that go beyond physical and environmental improvements to ensure that slums and informal settlements are integrated into the social, economic, cultural and political dimensions of cities. These strategies should include, as applicable, access to sustainable, adequate, safe and affordable housing, basic and social services, and safe, inclusive, accessible, green and quality public spaces, and they should promote security of tenure and its regularization, as well as measures for conflict prevention and mediation.

110. We will support efforts to define and reinforce inclusive and transparent monitoring systems for reducing the proportion of people living in slums and informal settlements, taking into account the experiences gained from previous efforts to improve the living conditions of slum and informal-settlement dwellers.

111. We will promote the development of adequate and enforceable regulations in the housing sector, including, as applicable, resilient building codes, standards, development permits, land-use by-laws and ordinances, and planning regulations, combating and preventing speculation, displacement, homelessness and arbitrary forced evictions and ensuring sustainability, quality, affordability, health, safety, accessibility, energy and resource efficiency, and resilience. We will also promote differentiated analysis of housing supply and demand based on high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated data at the national, subnational and local levels, considering specific social, economic, environmental and cultural dimensions.

112. We will promote the implementation of sustainable urban development programmes with housing and people's needs at the centre of the strategy, prioritizing well-located and well-distributed housing schemes in order to avoid peripheral and isolated mass housing developments detached from urban systems,

regardless of the social and economic segment for which they are developed, and providing solutions for the housing needs of low-income groups.

113. We will take measures to improve road safety and integrate it into sustainable mobility and transport infrastructure planning and design. Together with awareness-raising initiatives, we will promote the safe-system approach called for in the Decade of Action for Road Safety, with special attention to the needs of all women and girls, as well as children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities and those in vulnerable situations. We will work to adopt, implement and enforce policies and measures to actively protect and promote pedestrian safety and cycling mobility, with a view to broader health outcomes, particularly the prevention of injuries and non-communicable diseases, and we will work to develop and implement comprehensive legislation and policies on motorcycle safety, given the disproportionately high and increasing numbers of motorcycle deaths and injuries globally, particularly in developing countries. We will promote the safe and healthy journey to school for every child as a priority.

114. We will promote access for all to safe, age- and gender-responsive, affordable, accessible and sustainable urban mobility and land and sea transport systems, enabling meaningful participation in social and economic activities in cities and human settlements, by integrating transport and mobility plans into overall urban and territorial plans and promoting a wide range of transport and mobility options, in particular by supporting:

(a) A significant increase in accessible, safe, efficient, affordable and sustainable infrastructure for public transport, as well as non-motorized options such as walking and cycling, prioritizing them over private motorized transportation;

(b) Equitable “transit-oriented development” that minimizes the displacement, in particular, of the poor, and features affordable, mixed-income housing and a mix of jobs and services;

(c) Better and coordinated transport and land-use planning, which would lead to a reduction of travel and transport needs, enhancing connectivity between urban, peri-urban and rural areas, including waterways, and transport and mobility planning, particularly for small island developing States and coastal cities;

(d) Urban freight planning and logistics concepts that enable efficient access to products and services, minimizing their impact on the environment and on the liveability of the city and maximizing their contribution to sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

115. We will take measures to develop mechanisms and common frameworks at the national, subnational and local levels to evaluate the wider benefits of urban and metropolitan transport schemes, including impacts on the environment, the economy, social cohesion, quality of life, accessibility, road safety, public health and action on climate change, among other things.

116. We will support the development of these mechanisms and frameworks, based on sustainable national urban transport and mobility policies, for sustainable, open and transparent procurement and regulation of transport and mobility services in urban and metropolitan areas, including new technology that enables shared

mobility services. We will support the development of clear, transparent and accountable contractual relationships between local governments and transport and mobility service providers, including on data management, which further protect the public interest and individual privacy and define mutual obligations.

117. We will support better coordination between transport and urban and territorial planning departments, in mutual understanding of planning and policy frameworks, at the national, subnational and local levels, including through sustainable urban and metropolitan transport and mobility plans. We will support subnational and local governments in developing the necessary knowledge and capacity to implement and enforce such plans.

118. We will encourage national, subnational and local governments to develop and expand financing instruments, enabling them to improve their transport and mobility infrastructure and systems, such as mass rapid-transit systems, integrated transport systems, air and rail systems, and safe, sufficient and adequate pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and technology-based innovations in transport and transit systems to reduce congestion and pollution while improving efficiency, connectivity, accessibility, health and quality of life.

119. We will promote adequate investments in protective, accessible and sustainable infrastructure and service provision systems for water, sanitation and hygiene, sewage, solid waste management, urban drainage, reduction of air pollution and storm water management, in order to improve safety in the event of water-related disasters, improve health, ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all, as well as access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, with special attention to the needs and safety of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations. We will seek to ensure that this infrastructure is climate resilient and forms part of integrated urban and territorial development plans, including housing and mobility, among other things, and is implemented in a participatory manner, considering innovative, resource-efficient, accessible, context-specific and culturally sensitive sustainable solutions.

120. We will work to equip public water and sanitation utilities with the capacity to implement sustainable water management systems, including sustainable maintenance of urban infrastructure services, through capacity development, with the goal of progressively eliminating inequalities and promoting both universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all and adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all.

121. We will ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services by promoting energy efficiency and sustainable renewable energy and supporting subnational and local efforts to apply them in public buildings, infrastructure and facilities, as well as in taking advantage of the direct control, where applicable, by subnational and local governments of local infrastructure and codes, to foster uptake in end-use sectors, such as residential, commercial and industrial buildings, industry, transport, waste and sanitation. We also encourage the adoption of building performance codes and standards, renewable portfolio targets, energy-efficiency labelling, retrofitting of existing buildings, and public procurement policies on energy, among other modalities as appropriate, to achieve energy-efficiency targets. We will also prioritize smart-grid, district energy systems

and community energy plans to improve synergies between renewable energy and energy efficiency.

122. We will support decentralized decision-making on waste disposal to promote universal access to sustainable waste management systems. We will support the promotion of extended producer-responsibility schemes that include waste generators and producers in the financing of urban waste management systems, reduce the hazards and socioeconomic impacts of waste streams and increase recycling rates through better product design.

123. We will promote the integration of food security and the nutritional needs of urban residents, particularly the urban poor, in urban and territorial planning, in order to end hunger and malnutrition. We will promote the coordination of sustainable food security and agriculture policies across urban, peri-urban and rural areas to facilitate the production, storage, transport and marketing of food to consumers in adequate and affordable ways in order to reduce food losses and prevent and reuse food waste. We will further promote the coordination of food policies with energy, water, health, transport and waste policies, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, reduce the use of hazardous chemicals and implement other policies in urban areas to maximize efficiencies and minimize waste.

124. We will include culture as a priority component of urban plans and strategies in the adoption of planning instruments, including master plans, zoning guidelines, building codes, coastal management policies and strategic development policies that safeguard a diverse range of tangible and intangible cultural heritage and landscapes, and will protect them from potential disruptive impacts of urban development.

125. We will support the leveraging of cultural heritage for sustainable urban development and recognize its role in stimulating participation and responsibility. We will promote innovative and sustainable use of architectural monuments and sites, with the intention of value creation, through respectful restoration and adaptation. We will engage indigenous peoples and local communities in the promotion and dissemination of knowledge of tangible and intangible cultural heritage and protection of traditional expressions and languages, including through the use of new technologies and techniques.

#### **Means of implementation**

126. We recognize that the implementation of the New Urban Agenda requires an enabling environment and a wide range of means of implementation, including access to science, technology and innovation and enhanced knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, as well as capacity development and mobilization of financial resources, taking into account the commitment of developed and developing countries and tapping into all available traditional and innovative sources at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels, as well as enhanced international cooperation and partnerships among Governments at all levels, the private sector, civil society, the United Nations system and other actors, based on the principles of equality, non-discrimination, accountability, respect for human rights and solidarity, especially for those who are the poorest and most vulnerable.

127. We reaffirm the commitments on means of implementation included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

128. We will encourage UN-Habitat, other United Nations programmes and agencies, and other relevant stakeholders to generate evidence-based and practical guidance for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the urban dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals, in close collaboration with Member States, local authorities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as well as through the mobilization of experts. We will build on the legacy of the Habitat III conference and the lessons learned from its preparatory process, including the regional and thematic meetings. We note, in this context, the valuable contributions of, inter alia, the World Urban Campaign, the General Assembly of Partners for Habitat III and the Global Land Tool Network.

129. We urge UN-Habitat to continue its work to develop its normative knowledge and provide capacity development and tools to national, subnational and local governments in designing, planning and managing sustainable urban development.

130. We recognize that sustainable urban development, guided by prevailing urban policies and strategies, as appropriate, can benefit from integrated financing frameworks that are supported by an enabling environment at all levels. We acknowledge the importance of ensuring that all financial means of implementation are firmly embedded in coherent policy frameworks and fiscal decentralization processes, where available, and that adequate capacities are developed at all levels.

131. We support context-sensitive approaches to financing urbanization and enhancing financial management capacities at all levels of government through the adoption of specific instruments and mechanisms necessary to achieve sustainable urban development, recognizing that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development.

132. We will mobilize endogenous resources and revenues generated through the capture of benefits of urbanization, as well as the catalysing effects and maximized impact of public and private investments, in order to improve the financial conditions for urban development and open access to additional sources, recognizing that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underpinned by the principle of national ownership, are central to our common pursuit of sustainable urban development, including implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

133. We call upon businesses to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges in urban areas, acknowledging that private business activity, investment and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive growth and job creation, and that private investment, particularly foreign direct investment, along with a stable international financial system, are essential elements of development efforts.

134. We will support appropriate policies and capacities that enable subnational and local governments to register and expand their potential revenue base, for example through multipurpose cadastres, local taxes, fees and service charges, in line with national policies, while ensuring that women and girls, children and youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, and poor households are not disproportionately affected.

135. We will promote sound and transparent systems for financial transfers from national Governments to subnational and local governments based on the latter's needs, priorities, functions, mandates and performance-based incentives, as appropriate, in order to provide them with adequate, timely and predictable resources and enhance their ability to raise revenue and manage expenditures.

136. We will support the development of vertical and horizontal models of distribution of financial resources to decrease inequalities across subnational territories, within urban centres and between urban and rural areas, as well as to promote integrated and balanced territorial development. In this regard, we emphasize the importance of improving the transparency of data on spending and resource allocation as a tool for assessing progress towards equity and spatial integration.

137. We will promote best practices to capture and share the increase in land and property value generated as a result of urban development processes, infrastructure projects and public investments. Measures such as gains-related fiscal policies could be put in place, as appropriate, to prevent its solely private capture, as well as land and real estate speculation. We will reinforce the link between fiscal systems and urban planning, as well as urban management tools, including land market regulations. We will work to ensure that efforts to generate land-based finance do not result in unsustainable land use and consumption.

138. We will support subnational and local governments in their efforts to implement transparent and accountable expenditure control instruments for assessing the necessity and impact of local investment and projects, based on legislative control and public participation, as appropriate, in support of open and fair tendering processes, procurement mechanisms and reliable budget execution, as well as preventive anti-corruption measures to promote integrity, accountability, effective management and access to public property and land, in line with national policies.

139. We will support the creation of robust legal and regulatory frameworks for sustainable national and municipal borrowing, on the basis of sustainable debt management, supported by adequate revenues and capacities, by means of local creditworthiness as well as expanded sustainable municipal debt markets when appropriate. We will consider the establishment of appropriate financial intermediaries for urban financing, such as regional, national, subnational and local development funds or development banks, including pooled financing mechanisms, which can catalyse public and private, national and international financing. We will work to promote risk mitigation mechanisms such as the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, while managing currency risk, to reduce the cost of capital and to stimulate the private sector and households to participate in sustainable urban development and resilience-building efforts, including access to risk transfer mechanisms.

140. We will support the development of appropriate and affordable housing finance products and encourage the participation of a diverse range of multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks and development finance institutions, cooperation agencies, private sector lenders and investors, cooperatives, moneylenders and microfinance banks to invest in affordable and incremental housing in all its forms.

141. We will also consider establishing urban and territorial transport infrastructure and service funds at the national level, based on a variety of funding sources ranging from public grants to contributions from other public entities and the private sector, ensuring coordination among actors and interventions as well as accountability.

142. We invite international multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, development finance institutions and cooperation agencies to provide financial support, including through innovative financial mechanisms, to programmes and projects for implementing the New Urban Agenda, particularly in developing countries.

143. We support access to different multilateral funds, including the Green Climate Fund, the Global Environment Facility, the Adaptation Fund and the Climate Investment Funds, among others, to secure resources for climate change adaptation and mitigation plans, policies, programmes and actions for subnational and local governments, within the framework of agreed procedures. We will collaborate with subnational and local financial institutions, as appropriate, to develop climate finance infrastructure solutions and to create appropriate mechanisms for identifying catalytic financial instruments, consistent with any national framework in place to ensure fiscal and debt sustainability at all levels of government.

144. We will explore and develop feasible solutions to climate and disaster risks in cities and human settlements, including by collaborating with insurance and reinsurance institutions and other relevant actors with regard to investments in urban and metropolitan infrastructure, buildings and other urban assets, as well as for local populations to secure their shelter and economic needs.

145. We support the use of international public finance, including official development assistance, among other things, to catalyse additional resource mobilization from all available sources, public and private, for sustainable urban and territorial development. This may include the mitigation of risks for potential investors, in recognition of the fact that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources.

146. We will expand opportunities for North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation, as well as subnational, decentralized and city-to-city cooperation, as appropriate, to contribute to sustainable urban development, developing capacities and fostering exchanges of urban solutions and mutual learning at all levels and by all relevant actors.

147. We will promote capacity development as a multifaceted approach that addresses the ability of multiple stakeholders and institutions at all levels of governance and combines the individual, societal and institutional capacity to formulate, implement, enhance, manage, monitor and evaluate public policies for sustainable urban development.

148. We will promote the strengthening of the capacity of national, subnational and local governments, including local government associations, as appropriate, to work with women and girls, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, and those in vulnerable

situations, as well as with civil society, academia and research institutions in shaping organizational and institutional governance processes, enabling them to participate effectively in decision-making about urban and territorial development.

149. We will support local government associations as promoters and providers of capacity development, recognizing and strengthening, as appropriate, both their involvement in national consultations on urban policies and development priorities and their cooperation with subnational and local governments, along with civil society, the private sector, professionals, academia and research institutions, and their existing networks, to deliver on capacity development programmes. This should be done by means of peer-to-peer learning, subject matter-related partnerships and collaborative actions, such as inter-municipal cooperation, on a global, regional, national, subnational and local scale, including the establishment of practitioners' networks and science-policy interface practices.

150. We underscore the need for enhanced cooperation and knowledge exchange on science, technology and innovation to benefit sustainable urban development, in full coherence, coordination and synergy with the processes of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism established under the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and launched under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

151. We will promote capacity development programmes to help subnational and local governments in financial planning and management, anchored in institutional coordination at all levels, including environmental sensitivity and anti-corruption measures, embracing transparent and independent oversight, accounting, procurement, reporting, auditing and monitoring processes, among others, and to review subnational and national performance and compliance, with particular attention to age- and gender-responsive budgeting and the improvement and digitalization of accounting processes and records, in order to promote results-based approaches and build medium- to long-term administrative and technical capacity.

152. We will promote capacity development programmes on the use of legal land-based revenue and financing tools, as well as on real estate market functioning for policymakers and local public officials, focusing on the legal and economic foundations of value capture, including the quantification, capturing and distribution of land value increments.

153. We will promote the systematic use of multi-stakeholder partnerships in urban development processes, as appropriate, establishing clear and transparent policies, financial and administrative frameworks and procedures, as well as planning guidelines for multi-stakeholder partnerships.

154. We recognize the significant contribution of voluntary collaborative initiatives, partnerships and coalitions that plan to initiate and enhance the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, highlighting best practices and innovative solutions, including by promoting co-production networks between subnational entities, local governments and other relevant stakeholders.

155. We will promote capacity development initiatives to empower and strengthen the skills and abilities of women and girls, children and youth, older persons and persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as persons in vulnerable situations, for shaping governance processes, engaging in dialogue, and promoting and protecting human rights and anti-discrimination, to

ensure their effective participation in urban and territorial development decision-making.

156. We will promote the development of national information and communications technology policies and e-government strategies, as well as citizen-centric digital governance tools, tapping into technological innovations, including capacity development programmes, in order to make information and communications technologies accessible to the public, including women and girls, children and youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and persons in vulnerable situations, to enable them to develop and exercise civic responsibility, broadening participation and fostering responsible governance, as well as increasing efficiency. The use of digital platforms and tools, including geospatial information systems, will be encouraged to improve long-term integrated urban and territorial planning and design, land administration and management, and access to urban and metropolitan services.

157. We will support science, research and innovation, including a focus on social, technological, digital and nature-based innovation, robust science-policy interfaces in urban and territorial planning and policy formulation and institutionalized mechanisms for sharing and exchanging information, knowledge and expertise, including the collection, analysis, standardization and dissemination of geographically based, community-collected, high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national, subnational and local contexts.

158. We will strengthen data and statistical capacities at the national, subnational and local levels to effectively monitor progress achieved in the implementation of sustainable urban development policies and strategies, and to inform decision-making and appropriate reviews. Data collection procedures for the implementation of, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda should primarily be based on official national, subnational and local data sources, and other sources as appropriate, and be open, transparent and consistent with the purpose of respecting privacy rights and all human rights obligations and commitments. Progress towards a global people-based definition of cities and human settlements may support this work.

159. We will support the role and enhanced capacity of national, subnational and local governments in data collection, mapping, analysis and dissemination and in promoting evidence-based governance, building on a shared knowledge base using both globally comparable as well as locally generated data, including through censuses, household surveys, population registers, community-based monitoring processes and other relevant sources, disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national, subnational and local contexts.

160. We will foster the creation, promotion and enhancement of open, user-friendly and participatory data platforms using technological and social tools available to transfer and share knowledge among national, subnational and local governments and relevant stakeholders, including non-State actors and people, to enhance effective urban planning and management, efficiency and transparency through e-governance, approaches assisted by information and communications technologies, and geospatial information management.

### **Follow-up and review**

161. We will carry out a periodic follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, ensuring coherence at the national, regional and global levels, in order to track progress, assess impact and ensure the Agenda's effective and timely implementation, accountability to our citizens and transparency, in an inclusive manner.

162. We encourage voluntary, country-led, open, inclusive, multilevel, participatory and transparent follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda. The process should take into account contributions of national, subnational and local levels of government and be supplemented by contributions from the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations, major groups and relevant stakeholders, and should be a continuous process aimed at creating and reinforcing partnerships among all relevant stakeholders and fostering exchanges of urban solutions and mutual learning.

163. We acknowledge the importance of local governments as active partners in the follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda at all levels, and encourage them to develop, jointly with national and subnational governments, as appropriate, implementable follow-up and review mechanisms at the local level, including through relevant associations and appropriate platforms. We will consider strengthening, where appropriate, their capacity to contribute in this respect.

164. We stress that the follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda must have effective linkages with the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to ensure coordination and coherence in their implementation.

165. We reaffirm the role and expertise of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, as a focal point for sustainable urbanization and human settlements, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities, recognizing the linkages between sustainable urbanization and, inter alia, sustainable development, disaster risk reduction and climate change.

166. We invite the General Assembly to request the Secretary-General, with voluntary inputs from countries and relevant regional and international organizations, to report on the progress of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda every four years, with the first report to be submitted during the seventy-second session of the Assembly.

167. The report will provide a qualitative and quantitative analysis of the progress made in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and internationally agreed goals and targets relevant to sustainable urbanization and human settlements. The analysis will be based on the activities of national, subnational and local governments, UN-Habitat, other relevant entities of the United Nations system, relevant stakeholders in support of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the reports of the UN-Habitat Governing Council. The report should incorporate, to the extent possible, the inputs of multilateral organizations and processes where appropriate, civil society, the private sector and academia. It should build on existing platforms and processes such as the World Urban Forum convened by UN-Habitat. The report should avoid duplication and respond to local,

subnational and national circumstances and legislation, capacities, needs and priorities.

168. The preparation of the report will be coordinated by UN-Habitat in close collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, ensuring an inclusive United Nations system-wide coordination process. The report will be submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.<sup>18</sup> The report will also feed into the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly, with a view to ensuring coherence, coordination and collaborative linkages with the follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

169. We will continue to strengthen mobilization efforts through partnerships, advocacy and awareness-raising activities relating to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda using existing initiatives such as World Habitat Day and World Cities Day, and will consider establishing new initiatives to mobilize and generate support from civil society, citizens and relevant stakeholders. We note the importance of continuing to engage in the follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda with subnational and local government associations represented at the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments.

170. We reaffirm General Assembly resolutions 51/177 of 16 December 1996, 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 67/216, 68/239 and 69/226, as well as other relevant resolutions of the Assembly, including resolutions 31/109 of 16 December 1976 and 32/162 of 19 December 1977. We reiterate the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of UN-Habitat.

171. We underline the importance of UN-Habitat, given its role within the United Nations system as a focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements, including in the implementation, follow-up to and review of the New Urban Agenda, in collaboration with other United Nations system entities.

172. In the light of the New Urban Agenda and with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of UN-Habitat, we request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly during its seventy-first session an evidence-based and independent assessment of UN-Habitat. The result of the assessment will be a report containing recommendations to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and oversight of UN-Habitat, and in this regard it should analyse:

- (a) The normative and operational mandate of UN-Habitat;
- (b) The governance structure of UN-Habitat, for more effective, accountable and transparent decision-making, considering alternatives, including universalization of the membership of its Governing Council;
- (c) The work of UN-Habitat with national, subnational and local governments and with relevant stakeholders in order to tap the full potential of partnerships;

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<sup>18</sup> The report is intended to replace the report of the Secretary-General to the Economic and Social Council on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda. It is also intended to be part of, and not additional to, the report of the Secretary-General requested by the General Assembly in its resolution under the relevant agenda item.

(d) The financial capability of UN-Habitat.

173. We decide to hold a two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, to be convened by the President of the General Assembly during the seventy-first session, to discuss the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the positioning of UN-Habitat in this regard. The meeting will discuss, inter alia, best practices, success stories and the measures contained in the report. A Chair's summary of the meeting will serve as an input to the Second Committee during the seventy-second session for its consideration of action to be taken in the light of the recommendations contained in the independent assessment in its annual resolution under the relevant agenda item.

174. We encourage the General Assembly to consider holding the next United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat IV) in 2036 within a renewed political commitment to assessing and consolidating progress on the New Urban Agenda.

175. We request the Secretary-General, in his quadrennial report to be presented in 2026 pursuant to paragraph 166 above, to take stock of the progress made and challenges faced in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda since its adoption and to identify further steps to address them.

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**Resolution 2\***  
**Expression of thanks to the people and the Government of Ecuador**

*The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

*Having met* in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, at the invitation of the Government of Ecuador,

1. *Expresses its deep appreciation* to His Excellency Rafael Correa, Constitutional President of the Republic of Ecuador, for his outstanding contribution, as President of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), to the successful outcome of the Conference;
2. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to the Government of Ecuador for having made it possible for the Conference to be held in Ecuador and for the excellent facilities, staff and services so graciously placed at its disposal;
3. *Requests* the Government of Ecuador to convey to the people of Ecuador and to the city of Quito the gratitude of the Conference for the hospitality and warm welcome extended to the participants.

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\* Adopted at the 8th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016; for the discussion, see chap. VII.

**Resolution 3\***  
**Credentials of representatives to the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development**

*The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

*Having considered* the report of the Credentials Committee and the recommendation contained therein,<sup>1</sup>

*Approves* the report of the Credentials Committee.

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\* Adopted at the 8th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016; for the discussion, see chap. V.

<sup>1</sup> A/CONF.226/8, para. 15.

## Chapter II

### Organization of work and other organizational matters

#### A. Date and venue of the Conference

1. The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) was held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 67/216 of 21 December 2012, 68/239 of 27 December 2013, 69/226 of 19 December 2014 and 70/210 of 22 December 2015. During that period, the Conference held eight plenary meetings and six round tables.

#### B. Attendance

2. The following 167 States were represented at the Conference: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, the Holy See, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, the State of Palestine, the Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

3. The following intergovernmental organizations and other entities were represented by observers: African Development Bank; African Union; Andean Development Corporation; Asian Development Bank; Inter-American Development Bank; International Centre for Migration Policy Development; International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC); International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; International Renewable Energy Agency; International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources; Islamic Development Bank; Latin American Parliament; League of Arab States; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD); Organization of the Petroleum Exporting

Countries Fund for International Development; Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; Organization of Islamic Cooperation; Union for the Mediterranean; and University for Peace.

4. The following specialized agencies and related organizations were represented: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); International Labour Organization (ILO); International Organization for Migration (IOM); International Telecommunication Union (ITU); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; World Bank; World Health Organization; and World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

5. The following United Nations organs were represented: Convention on Biological Diversity; Economic Commission for Africa; Economic Commission for Europe (ECE); Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia; International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); United Nations Capital Development Fund; United Nations Centre for Regional Development; Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat; United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women); United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; United Nations Global Compact; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR); United Nations Children's Fund; United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service; United Nations Office at Geneva; United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction; United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS); United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation; United Nations Office at Nairobi; United Nations Office at Vienna; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); United Nations Population Fund; Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS); United Nations Volunteers; United Nations University; World Food Programme (WFP); and World Trade Organization.

6. A large number of non-governmental organizations attended the Conference.

7. The list of participants will be issued as document A/CONF.226/INF/2.

### **C. Opening of the Conference**

8. The Conference was opened on 17 October 2016 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his capacity as Temporary President in accordance with rule 17 of the provisional rules of procedure.

9. At the formal opening, during the 1st plenary meeting, on 17 October, statements were made by the President of the Conference, Rafael Correa; the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon; the President of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, Peter Thomson; the Secretary-

General of the Conference, Joan Clos; the Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Quito (representing local authorities), Mauricio Esteban Rodas Espinel; and the Vice-President of the International Society of City and Regional Planners and Vice-President of the General Assembly of Partners (representing major groups and other stakeholders), Shipra Narang Suri. The Conference was informed that the President of the Economic and Social Council was not able to attend the Conference and hence could not deliver a statement at the opening.

#### **D. Election of the President and other officers of the Conference**

10. At its 1st and 7th plenary meetings, on 17 and 20 October 2016, the Conference elected its officers.

##### **President of the Conference**

11. The Constitutional President of Ecuador, Rafael Correa, was elected President of the Conference by acclamation.

##### **Vice-Presidents**

12. The following Vice-Presidents were elected by acclamation:

African States: Kenya, Nigeria and Senegal  
Asia-Pacific States: the Philippines and the State of Palestine  
Eastern European States: Czechia, Estonia and the Russian Federation  
Latin American and Caribbean States: Argentina  
Western European and other States: Finland, France and Germany.

##### **Vice-President ex officio**

13. Ecuador was elected ex officio Vice-President of the Conference by acclamation.

##### **Rapporteur-General**

14. Mamadou Mbodj (Senegal) was elected Rapporteur-General of the Conference by acclamation.

#### **E. Adoption of the rules of procedure**

15. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 17 October 2016, the Conference adopted its rules of procedure (A/CONF.226/2, annex).

#### **F. Adoption of the agenda**

16. Also at its 1st plenary meeting, the Conference adopted the agenda (A/CONF.226/1):

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President.

3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Election of officers other than the President.
6. Organization of work, including the establishment of subsidiary bodies, and other organizational matters.
7. Credentials of representatives:
  - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
  - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
8. General debate.
9. Round-table sessions.
10. Adoption of the final outcome of the Conference.
11. Adoption of the report of the Conference.
12. Closure of the Conference.

#### **G. Organization of work, including the establishment of subsidiary bodies, and other organizational matters**

17. At its 1st plenary meeting, the Conference approved the organization of work as contained in the note by the secretariat on organizational and procedural matters (A/CONF.226/3).

18. At its 8th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016, the Conference was reminded that agenda items 5 and 6, which had been considered at previous meetings, still remained open. There being no other matters to be considered under the two items, the Conference decided to conclude its consideration of agenda items 5 and 6.

#### **H. Credentials of representatives to the Conference**

19. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 October 2016, the Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure, appointed the following States as members of the Credentials Committee, on the basis of the composition of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session and taking into account the unavailability of three States: Austria, China, Malawi, Mexico, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, South Africa and the United States of America.

#### **I. Documentation**

20. The list of documents before the Conference is contained in the annex to the present report.

## Chapter III

### General debate

21. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 17 October 2016, under agenda item 8, General debate, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) heard addresses by the President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro Moros (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); the Vice-President of the Council of State of Cuba, Salvador Valdes Mesa; the Vice-President and Chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council of the Philippines, Maria Leonor Robredo; and the Prime Minister of Lesotho, Pakalitha Bethuel Mosisili.

22. Also at the same meeting, the Conference heard statements by the Deputy Prime Minister of Swaziland, Paul Dlamini; the representative of Thailand (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China; following a statement made by the President of the Conference); the Minister for Economy, Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic, Isidoro Santana (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States); the Commissioner for Regional and Urban Policy of the European Union, Corina Cretu; and the Minister for Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development of Mexico, Rosario Robles.

23. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 October 2016, the Conference heard statements by the Minister for Human Settlement of South Africa, Lindiwe Sisulu; the Minister for Urban Development and Housing of Afghanistan, Sadat Mansoor Naderi; the Minister for Urban Development of Albania, Eglantina Gjermeni; the Minister for Internal Affairs of Argentina, Rogelio Frigerio; the Minister for Mobility, Public Works, Youth and Culture of Belgium, Pascal Smet; the Minister for Housing of Bahrain, Basim Bin Yacob Al Hamer; the Minister for Roads and Urban Development of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Abbas Ahmad Akhoundi; the Minister for Municipalities and Rural Affairs of Saudi Arabia, Abdullatif Al-Alshaikh; the Minister for Public Works and Housing of Jordan, Sami Halaseh; the Minister for Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria, Lilyana Pavlova; the Minister for Housing and Sustainable Habitat of France, Emmanuelle Cosse; the Minister for Housing and Urban-Rural Development of China, Chen Zhenggao; the Minister for Environment, Natural Resources and Physical Development of the Sudan, Hassan Hilal; the Minister for Regional Development of Czechia, Karla Šlechtová; the Minister for Housing and Digital Development of Sweden, Peter Eriksson; the Minister for Development Planning and Statistics of Qatar, Saleh bin Mohammad Al-Nabit; the Minister for Housing and Human Settlements of Costa Rica, Rosendo Pujol Mesalles; the Minister for Housing and Urban Planning of Chile, Paulina Saball; the State Secretary for Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia, Lukáš Parížek; the Executive Director of UNOPS, Grete Faremo; and the Vice-Minister for Housing and Urban Development of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Bony Morales.

24. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 October 2016, the Conference heard statements by the Minister for Families, Children and Social Development of Canada, Jean-Yves Duclos; the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development of the United States, Julián Castro; the Minister for Public Works and Housing of Indonesia, Mochamad Basuki Hadimuljono; the Minister for Local Government and Housing of Zambia, Vincent Mwale; the Minister for Sustainable Development and Infrastructure of Luxembourg, Francois Bausch; the Minister for Housing, Lands

and Rural Development of Barbados, Denis Kellman; the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Regional Development Authorities of Kenya, Judi Wakhungu; the Minister for Internal Affairs of Kiribati, Atarake Nataara; the Minister for Housing, Urbanism and the City of Algeria, Abdelmadjid Tebboune; the Minister for Urban Development of Nepal, Arjun Narasingha; the Minister for Urban Renewal, Housing and Living Environment of Senegal, Diene Farba Sarr; the Minister for Housing, Cities and Territories of Colombia, Elsa Noguera; the Minister Executive Secretary for the National Secretariat for Housing and Habitat of Paraguay, María Soledad Núñez Méndez; the Minister for Housing and Urban Development of Burkina Faso, Maurice Dieudonné Bonanet; the Minister for Power, Works and Housing of Nigeria, Babatunde Raji Fashola; the Minister for Construction of Myanmar, Win Khaing; the Minister for Housing and Urban Development of Angola, Branca do Espírito Santo; the Minister for Public Administration of Estonia, Arto Aas; the Minister for Equipment, Housing and Spatial Planning of Tunisia, Mohamed Salah Arfaoui; the Special Envoy of the Prime Minister to the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) and Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of National Development of Singapore, Desmond Lee; the Vice-Minister for Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, Hirofumi Hanaoka; and the Vice-Minister for Housing of Sri Lanka, Indika Bandaranayake.

25. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 18 October 2016, the Conference heard statements by the Minister for Housing of Uruguay, Eneida de León; the Minister for Housing and Urban Development of Cameroon, Jean-Claude Mbwentchou; the Minister for Housing, Town Planning and Spatial Planning of Mauritania, Amal Maouloud; the Minister for Territorial Development, Urban Planning and Housing of Chad, David Houdeingar Ngarimaden; the Vice-Minister for Construction, Housing and Utilities of the Russian Federation, Andrey Chibis; the Secretary of State of Spatial Planning and Nature Conservation of Portugal, Célia Ramos; the Vice-Minister for Communications, Infrastructure and Housing of Guatemala, Carlos Estuardo Barillas Estrada; the Vice-Minister for Public Works and Highways of Yemen, Maeen Abdul Malik; the Vice-Minister for Environment and Urbanization of Turkey, Mehmet Ceylan; the State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Tone Skogen; the Vice-Minister for Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea, Kim Kyung-hwan; the State Secretary, Director of the Federal Office of Housing of Switzerland, Ernst Hauri; the Minister of State for Housing of Uganda, Chris Baryomunsi; the State Secretary, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration of Romania, Cezar-Radu Soare; the Vice-Minister for Local Government, Housing and Environment of Fiji, Lorna Eden; the State Secretary to the Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of Germany, Gunther Adler; the representative of the World Bank; the Deputy Director General for Investment and Private Sector Projects of Kuwait, Hadeel Binnaji; and the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and Lebanon.

26. At its 5th plenary meeting, on 19 October 2016, the Conference heard statements by the Minister for Agriculture and the Environment of Finland, Kimmo Tiilikainen; the Vice-Minister for Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation of India, Nandita Chatterjee; the Vice-Minister for Construction and Physical Planning of Croatia, Igor Čizmek; the representatives of Spain, Austria, Papua New Guinea,

Seychelles, El Salvador and Madagascar; the Minister for Construction and Housing of Israel, Yoav Galant; and the representatives of Brazil, the Netherlands, Timor-Leste, Malaysia, the United Republic of Tanzania, Togo, Morocco, Slovenia (also on behalf of the Human Security Network), Italy, Azerbaijan, Australia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan and Zimbabwe.

27. At its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 October 2016, the Conference heard statements by the Minister for Land Management, Water and Sanitation Services of Botswana, Prince Maele; the representatives of the Holy See, Cyprus, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Belarus, Ethiopia, Malawi, ICRC, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and UNDP; the Executive Secretary of ECE, Christian Friis Bach (on behalf of the five United Nations regional commissions); the Executive Director of UNEP, Erik Solheim; the representatives of FAO, UNHCR, IFAD, UNODC, UNAIDS and the United Nations Capital Development Fund; the Vice-Minister for International Affairs of Liberia, Stephen Neufville; and the representative of UNIDO.

28. At the same meeting, the Conference also heard statements by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations: the International Alliance of Women (on behalf of the women major group); Children and Youth International and Pax Romana (on behalf of the children and youth major group); AARP (on behalf of older persons); and Public Services International (on behalf of the workers and trade unions major group).

29. At its 7th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016, the Conference heard statements by the Minister for Housing and Human Settlements of Honduras, Sergio Amaya; and the representatives of Bangladesh, ILO, the United Nations Global Compact, the League of Arab States, ITU, UN-Habitat, the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, WMO and UNHCR; the Executive Director of UNITAR, Nikhil Seth; and the representative of UN-Women.

30. At the same meeting, the Conference also heard statements by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations: the Huairou Commission (on behalf of the farmers and small forest landowners major group); World Vision International; Compass Housing Services; the Colegio Nacional de Jurisprudencia Urbanística; the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy; Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing and Shack/Slum Dwellers International (joint statement); the Cities Alliance; the United Cities and Local Governments (on behalf of the local authorities major group); the European Cyclists Federation; the World Wide Fund for Nature; the Habitat International Coalition; the Centre européen de recherche et de prospective politique; Caritas Internationalis; the Korean Council for Local Agenda 21; the International Development Information Organization; Plan International; the Ax:son Johnson Foundation; the Witten Tenants Organization; the University of Melbourne; the Polis Institute; ActionAid International; the International Union of Architects; and TECHO.

### **Summary of the plenary meetings**

31. The summary of the plenary meetings, to be included in the report in accordance with paragraph 22 of the annex to decision 4/2016 adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its third session, held in Surabaya, Indonesia, from 25 to 27 July 2016, will be provided in a document to be issued later.

## Chapter IV

### Report of the round tables

#### A. Leave no one behind: urban inclusion and prosperity (round table 1)

32. On 17 October 2016, the Co-Chair of high-level round table 1, the Minister for Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development of Mexico, Rosario Robles Berlanga, opened the round table and made a statement. The round table was co-chaired by the Minister for Families, Children and Social Development of Canada, Jean-Yves Duclos, who also made a statement. An introductory statement was delivered by the President of the General Assembly, Peter Thomson.

33. The round table was moderated by the Vice-President of the Ford Foundation, Xavier de Souza Briggs, who also made a statement, and presentations were made by the following panellists: the Minister for Housing and Sustainable Habitat of France, Emmanuelle Cosse; the Mayor of Barcelona, Spain, Ada Colau; the Senior Vice-President for the 2030 Development Agenda, United Nations Relations, and Partnerships of the World Bank Group, Mahmoud Mohieldin; and the Executive President of the Development Bank of Latin America, Enrique García.

34. In the ensuing interactive discussion, the moderator and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the following participating States: Argentina, Turkey, Poland, the United States, Thailand, Germany and the Philippines.

35. The representatives of the following observers, relevant entities of the United Nations system and other accredited intergovernmental organizations also participated in the discussion: IOM, OECD, UNDP, ICAO, WFP, UN-Women and ICRC.

36. The Co-Chairs made closing statements and declared high-level round table 1 closed.

#### B. Ecological, climate-resilient and disaster-responsive cities (round table 2)

37. On 18 October 2016, the Co-Chair of high-level round table 2, the Secretary of State at the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure of Luxembourg, Camille Gira, opened the round table and made a statement. The round table was co-chaired by the Vice-President and Chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council of the Philippines, Maria Leonor Robredo, who also made a statement.

38. The round table was moderated by the Global Director of the Ross Centre for Sustainable Cities of the World Resources Institute, Aniruddha Dasgupta, who also made a statement, and presentations were made by the following panellists: the State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Tone Skogen; the Mayor of Montreal, Canada, Denis Coderre; and the Special Envoy for International Water Affairs of the Netherlands, Henk Ovink.

39. In the ensuing interactive discussion, the moderator and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the following participating States: Switzerland, the Philippines, the United States, Cuba, Portugal, Turkey, Germany, Tajikistan, Uruguay, Colombia and Finland.

40. The representatives of the following observers, relevant entities of the United Nations system and other accredited intergovernmental organizations also participated in the discussion: UNOPS; UNEP; the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies; the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction; and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

41. One of the Co-Chairs, Mr. Gira, made a closing statement and declared high-level round table 2 closed.

### **C. Adequate and affordable housing (round table 3)**

42. On 18 October 2016, the Co-Chair of high-level round table 3, the Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Regional Development Authorities of Kenya, Judi Wakhungu, opened the round table. The round table was co-chaired by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development of the United States, Julián Castro, who made a statement.

43. The round table was moderated by the Chief Executive Officer of Habitat for Humanity, Jonathan Reckford, who also made a statement, and presentations were made by the following panellists: the Minister for Regional Development of Czechia, Karla Šlechtová; the Minister for Housing and Urban Planning of Chile, Paulina Saball; the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context, in UNHCR, Leilani Farha; and the National Secretary of Housing of Brazil, Maria Henriqueta Arantes.

44. In the ensuing interactive discussion, the moderator and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the following participating States: Colombia, the Netherlands, Canada, Singapore, Costa Rica, Switzerland, Turkey, the Holy See, Barbados, Botswana, Morocco and Egypt.

45. The representatives of the following relevant entities of the United Nations system also participated in the discussion: ECE, ILO and UN-Habitat.

46. The Huairou Commission, a representative of the major groups and other relevant stakeholders, made a statement.

47. The moderator made a statement and, on behalf of the Co-Chairs, declared high-level round table 3 closed.

#### **D. Integrated strategic planning and management (round table 4)**

48. On 19 October 2016, the Chair of high-level round table 4, the Minister for Housing and Digital Development of Sweden, Peter Eriksson, opened the round table and made a statement.

49. The round table was moderated by Eugenie Birch, Professor of Urban Education and Research at the University of Pennsylvania and President of the General Assembly of Partners, who also made a statement, and presentations were made by the following panellists: the Minister for Agriculture and the Environment of Finland, Kimmo Tiilikainen; the Deputy Minister for Planning of Colombia, Manuel Fernando Castro; the Chief Executive Officer of the Housing Development Agency of South Africa, Pascal Maloi; and the President of Seberang Perai Municipal Council of Malaysia, Dato' Maimunah Mohd Sharif.

50. In the ensuing interactive discussion, the moderator and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the following participating States: Turkey, Switzerland, the United States, Senegal, Barbados, Croatia, Ecuador and Madagascar.

51. UN-Habitat, a relevant entity of the United Nations system, also participated in the discussion.

52. The representatives of the following major groups and other relevant stakeholders made statements: World Enabled, the Huairou Commission and the Cities Alliance.

53. The Chair declared the high-level round table closed.

#### **E. Implementing the New Urban Agenda at all levels and with all actors (round table 5)**

54. On 19 October 2016, the Chair of high-level round table 5, the Vice-President of Argentina, Gabriela Michetti, opened the round table and made a statement.

55. The round table was moderated by Edgar Pieterse, the South African Research Chair in Urban Policy and Director of the African Centre for Cities, who also made a statement, and presentations were made by the following panellists: the Commissioner for Regional Policy of the European Union; the President of United Cities and Local Governments, Parks Tau; the Minister for Construction and Housing of Israel, Yoav Galant; and the Minister Executive Secretary for the National Secretariat for Housing and Habitat of Paraguay, María Soledad Núñez Méndez.

56. In the ensuing interactive discussion, the moderator and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the following participating States: Germany, the United States, Cuba, Slovakia, Sierra Leone, Turkey, Colombia, Ecuador, Argentina and Benin.

57. The representatives of the following observers, relevant entities of the United Nations system and other accredited intergovernmental organizations also participated in the discussion: ICRC, OHCHR, UNIDO and UN-Habitat.

58. Shack/Slum Dwellers International, a representative of the major groups and other relevant stakeholders, made a statement.

59. The Chair declared high-level round table 5 closed.

## **F. Financing sustainable urban development (round table 6)**

60. On 20 October 2016, the Co-Chair of high-level round table 6, the Minister for Regional Development and Public Works of Bulgaria, Lilyana Pavlova, opened the round table and made a statement. The round table was co-chaired by the Minister for Housing, Lands and Rural Development of Barbados, Denis Kellman, who also made a statement.

61. The round table was moderated by the President of the National Financial Corporation of Ecuador, María Soledad Barrera, who also made a statement, and presentations were made by the following panellists: the Mayor of Quito Mauricio Rodas; the Minister for Urban Renewal, Housing and Living Environment, Diéne Farba Sarr; the Secretary of State, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration of Romania, Cezar-Radu Soare; and the Minister for Housing, Cities and Territories of Colombia, Elsa Noguera.

62. In the ensuing interactive discussion, the moderator and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the following participating States: the United Republic of Tanzania, Germany, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Turkey, Costa Rica, the Comoros, Haiti, Barbados, the Philippines, Guinea-Bissau and Ecuador.

63. The representative of the United Nations Capital Development Fund, a relevant entity of the United Nations system, also participated in the discussion.

64. The Mayor of Belo Horizonte, Brazil, Marcio Lacerda, a representative of local authorities, made a statement.

65. The Co-Chairs made closing statements and declared high-level round table 6 closed.

### **Summaries of the high-level round tables**

66. At the 8th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016, summaries of each of the high-level round tables were presented by the Co-Chair of round table 1, Mr. Duclos; the Co-Chair of round table 2, Mr. Gira; the representative of Kenya on behalf of the Co-Chair of round table 3, Ms. Wakhungu; the representative of Sweden on behalf of the Chair of round table 4, Mr. Eriksson; the Chair of round table 5, Ms. Michetti; and the Co-Chair of round table 6, Ms. Pavlova.

67. In accordance with paragraph 6 of the annex to decision 3/2016 and paragraph 22 of the annex to decision 4/2016 adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its third session, the following summary is provided.

#### *Leave no one behind: urban inclusion and prosperity*

68. During round table 1, participants delivered the key messages set out below.

69. In accordance with the commitment to leave no one behind made by Member States under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, national and local governments have a responsibility to make the reduction of inequality a top priority.

70. It is essential that governments adopt a people-centred approach to urbanization and develop national laws and other approaches to ensure that all citizens, including those who are underrepresented or marginalized, participate in decision-making and are able to enjoy the same rights and access basic public goods and services.

71. Diversity, equity and inclusion should be key priorities of the New Urban Agenda. National governments must demonstrate leadership by mobilizing government agencies, the private sector and civil society groups to ensure that all citizens, including members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community, who were not included in the New Urban Agenda, are treated fairly and are given an opportunity to reach their full potential.

72. In order to build cities that leave no one behind, it is necessary to develop policies that create incentives for local authorities to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, compact and sustainable; to improve local governance; to ensure better coordination among and develop accountability structures for governments at all levels; and to strengthen the role of local governments in urban development and land management.

73. The progressive notion of a “right to the city” should be further defined and a minimum level of political commitment to upholding such a right in the context of the New Urban Agenda should be articulated.

74. The New Urban Agenda provides a comprehensive framework to ensure inclusive, safe, sustainable and resilient cities and access by all citizens to social protections and public services, but achieving those goals will require the involvement of all stakeholders, including at the local level, to share experiences and innovations and create opportunities for partnerships.

75. Without timely urban policy interventions, there is a risk that poverty, inequality and environmental degradation will increase.

76. In order to build inclusive cities, it is essential to develop and implement laws and regulations on urban planning, including instruments to combat excessive urban land speculation, to prevent the privatization of cities, to promote employment for all, to build socially mixed districts, to take in refugees in a sustainable manner, to uphold the rights of all citizens to cities and to participation in decision-making, and to adopt policies to give access to social housing to the most marginalized populations, such as policies on low-interest mortgage rates and access to credit for low-income families.

77. In the current economy, where knowledge and employment opportunities are often available only online, leaving no one behind requires that, in addition to housing and other public goods and services, all citizens have access to the Internet.

78. It must be recognized that the main problem of cities is not poverty but an unequal distribution of wealth and unequal power relations, and that such inequality affects all citizens because it weakens the democratic process and makes cities

insecure, vulnerable and unattractive to investment. Inequality and a lack of social cohesion in cities could also create social tensions, instability and even violence.

79. To address inequalities in cities, in addition to emergency measures to help the most vulnerable, local authorities must take measures to tackle the root causes of inequality, for instance by adopting neighbourhood plans to empower and promote innovation and economic activities in vulnerable neighbourhoods; by incorporating clauses in public contracts and public-private partnerships to ensure that private sector partners respect labour rights and environmental protection norms and avoid tax havens; and by promoting economic diversification and sustainable economic activities compatible with social inclusion. It is also crucial that city leaders abandon short-term planning and adopt a long-term vision for their cities and ensure the participation of citizens in decision-making. National governments must adopt inclusive immigration policies, engage with cities as equal partners, provide funding to cities as primary actors in urban development and help cities to mobilize resources to ensure that they have adequate funds to fulfill their responsibilities.

80. Sources of funding for cities could include transfers from national governments, internal resources, concessional or official development assistance and funds from international, regional and national financial institutions, including through project co-financing. Mechanisms to improve transparency in both public and private projects must be created in order to prevent corruption.

81. Cities must not rely on concessional or official development assistance or on a single financial institution, as such assistance and funding are insufficient. Resources can be mobilized through good policies and effective institutions, better land management and urban development, and the development of sustainable growth and infrastructure projects that promise to contribute to sustainable socioeconomic development and to the eradication of poverty.

82. To reduce inequality, governments must put in place wealth redistribution policies, such as policies that freeze taxes for low- and middle-income families while raising them for high-income families.

83. Evidence shows that “formal”, as opposed to “informal”, urbanization, achieved through urban planning and design, is essential to achieving sustainable development and inclusive growth in all countries.

84. Cities are increasingly vulnerable to natural disasters, and the effects of climate change are being felt most acutely by the urban poor, including the 881 million people who live in informal settlements and other high-risk locations; therefore, to leave no one behind requires building more resilient cities across the globe. It is also important that local governments develop and scale up flexible, shock-responsive urban safety nets that can achieve “zero hunger” in cities.

85. Many cities have been or are being destroyed due to conflict and violence, and international financial institutions must team up with urban authorities and municipal governments to provide safety nets to people affected by war to ensure they do not fall further behind because of armed conflict.

86. It is crucial that cities ensure sustainable mobility and connectivity and provide access to public transport to all citizens to enable them to access jobs, schools and businesses. There are examples of connectivity projects that are

expected to translate into a significant increase in workforce productivity, a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and improved social inclusion.

87. A sufficient level of sustained economic growth would facilitate making and maintaining gains in poverty reduction and achieving sustainable urban development.

88. The management of migration in cities must include a comprehensive framework to establish a link between migrants and cities in the New Urban Agenda. Migrants are key to economic growth in cities and there is evidence that those countries that have friendly immigration policies are more likely to do well in the long term than those that do not. In developing such a framework, governments could consider the Migration Governance Framework developed by IOM.

89. The characteristics of urban poverty differ from those of rural poverty, so there is a need to change the way urban poverty is measured and eradicated to ensure that no one is left behind.

90. The New Urban Agenda should help implement the “gender equality compact” of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in cities, since the two Agendas recognize that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are both an enabler and an outcome of sustainable urban development. The gender-responsive implementation of the New Urban Agenda will require raising local actor awareness and ownership of the “gender equality compact”; adopting policies and legal reforms to institute gender equality; mainstreaming gender equality in all aspects of urban development; establishing local institutions to promote gender equality; ensuring engagement of the private sector with women organizations; and prioritizing city investments in gender equality as social investments with high returns.

*Ecological, climate-resilient and disaster-responsive cities*

91. During round table 2, participants delivered the key messages set out below.

92. Cities are and must be seen as indispensable and equal partners of national governments in building resilient cities and in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Urban resilience means that people, institutions and systems in cities are able to bounce back from, and adapt to, acute and chronic shocks and stresses such as natural disasters and the impacts of climate change.

93. The Paris Agreement will require a decarbonization of the world economy that will not be possible without transformative action in cities, which generate 70 per cent of the world’s greenhouse gas emissions. Such transformative action must include a transition to renewable sources of energy, which will require a decentralization of energy production and the development and deployment of technological innovations to produce electricity from solar, wind and biomass energy sources; the development and expansion of sustainable public transport systems and non-motorized transport such as bicycles; improvements in road safety and traffic management; and the adoption of measures to ensure that new buildings are energy efficient and to improve the energy efficiency of existing buildings.

94. It is essential that all countries incorporate disaster- and climate-risk-reduction policies into urban planning processes and that urban plans be used to make cities resilient. Integrated planning and integrated approaches to infrastructure development will be crucial to building resilience and to protecting the most vulnerable populations in the face of uncertainty.

95. Governments must promote the participation of all stakeholders, including those citizens and businesses that are susceptible to disasters and climate change impacts, in urban planning, among other things, to mobilize private resources for climate change mitigation and adaptation. It is also crucial that governments operate in a transparent manner and prevent corruption in the development and execution of urban plans.

96. It is very important to promote citizen education and participation in disaster prevention and mitigation, and to develop regional approaches connecting cities with rural areas, as the latter often provide water, energy, food and other services to the former.

97. Although natural disasters in 2015 led to massive economic and human life losses, only 0.4 per cent of official development assistance was spent on disaster preparedness in 2014. There is a pressing need to make greater investments in disaster preparedness, mitigation and resilience, for instance by building resilient infrastructure and by developing minimum safety standards for public buildings and structures.

98. Governments must be informed about risks to make informed and smart choices on where to build and which solutions should be used, including inexpensive, low-technology solutions. They must also make interventions to ensure the resilience of urban infrastructure, which is expected to receive massive public and private sector investments over the next two decades.

99. Disaster risk reduction requires improved knowledge to identify high-risk areas to inform territorial planning. It is important to strengthen the capacity of national governments to identify natural disaster and climate risks in cities and to help local authorities implement targeted measures to protect the poorest and most vulnerable populations from such risks.

100. Achieving resilient cities will require the development of scalable solutions, so it is important that governments promote innovation and test and implement innovative solutions developed by the private sector.

101. It is essential that national and local governments, civil society organizations, businesses, academia and innovators across the world work together as partners in building resilience in cities; all levels of government, including finance ministries, must be involved in making cities resilient in the face of disasters and climate change.

102. Local governments must develop green cities not only to tackle climate change but also to improve the quality of life of their populations by making cities compact, tackling air pollution, embracing circular economies and production systems, adopting life-cycle approaches to urban planning and service delivery, implementing green public procurement policies, accelerating and enabling innovation to meet environmental and social needs and exchanging best practices with one another.

Steps must be taken to ensure that increased density, which helps governments deliver public services more efficiently, does not facilitate the spread of infectious diseases.

103. In order to build urban resilience, governments must shift from reactive to proactive, risk-based approaches, build inclusive partnerships that empower grassroots communities and thereby foster environmental stewardship and mobilize resources from all sources to implement climate mitigation and adaptation projects.

104. Making urban and peri-urban areas resilient will require the development of green infrastructure, such as green corridors, to mitigate the effects of floods, increase biodiversity in urban areas and provide recreation and leisure to citizens.

105. Biodiversity and healthy ecosystems play an essential role in achieving sustainable and resilient cities by helping cities adapt to climate change and prevent disasters, especially in coastal areas, and by contributing to food security. Urban planning must therefore integrate biodiversity and ecosystems as key elements of urban resilience and sustainability, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

106. There is a need to revisit the idea that resilience is a luxury that only the rich can afford, since evidence suggests that investing in disaster preparedness and resilience has various economic benefits and that the cost of resilience-building is always lower than that of reconstruction.

107. While not all disasters are connected to climate change, over the previous two decades the vast majority of disasters have been weather-related, entailing significant economic and human costs, and climate change will increase the frequency and severity of such disasters.

108. Most of the world's disasters are water-related and have negative impacts on society in areas such as health and education. Therefore, urban plans must also address water-related risks and governments must use regulatory and financial mechanisms to promote innovation in that area.

109. Disasters and climate change have a disproportionate effect on the poor, so a major challenge will be to help the poor become resilient and rely on their own knowledge and resources to the largest extent possible, including through partnerships, coalitions and capacity-building.

110. People-centred disaster risk reduction must be a priority of all countries and emphasis should be placed on housing, urban planning, monitoring, early warning systems and adaptation to climate change.

111. Small island developing States and least-developed countries, which are disproportionately affected by disasters and the impacts of climate change and have the least capacity to respond to them, should be given special consideration, including through the provision of resources and technical and institutional support in the context of multi-stakeholder partnerships.

112. Many cities in the Middle East, Europe and the Americas are absorbing large volumes of migrants fleeing complex and protracted conflicts, so new solutions must be developed to ensure the integration of migrants in those cities so that they too are resilient.

113. States and cities must do more to manage international responses to major disasters, including by adopting laws and procedures on disaster preparedness that help avoid unnecessary delays, expenses and coordination problems during disaster response. Urban authorities must encourage and support volunteers as first responders and major contributors to disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery.

114. While those countries that regularly experience disasters tend to be the most successful in incorporating disaster risk reduction into their planning processes, it is important that they prepare for all disasters and not only those they have experienced in the past.

115. Consumption patterns must be re-examined and links must be built among the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement and the New Urban Agenda.

*Adequate and affordable housing*

116. During round table 3, participants delivered the key messages set out below.

117. Ensuring that low-income families and individuals have access to appropriate housing is a challenge for both developed and developing countries.

118. Where people live often determines where they work and study, their health and the kinds of opportunities they have. Ensuring that all citizens have access to adequate housing is a moral responsibility of local governments and one of the best ways to ensure that cities are more equitable and economically competitive.

119. Urban decision-makers must place housing at the centre of urban development and focus their attention on the plight of the millions of urban poor and slum dwellers that do not have an adequate home.

120. Providing adequate housing for all will require strong political will, extensive public policy and planning interventions and public financial investments at the national and local levels.

121. To enable cities to cope with projected growth and increased demand for housing, it will be necessary to adopt multisectoral approaches involving governments, the private sector and civil society; however, governments must play a leading role in any actions undertaken under such approaches.

122. The right to housing is a human right and all governments must engage in efforts to ensure that this right is upheld and that the needs of those who are most vulnerable, including the disabled, the poor, refugees, migrants and children, are prioritized.

123. It is necessary to define what is meant by “adequate” and “affordable” housing and, if the right to housing is a human right, to determine whether a paradigm shift is needed to ensure that all citizens have access to housing.

124. In their efforts to provide adequate and affordable housing to all, it is important that governments create and strengthen partnerships with grassroots organizations dedicated to those goals, such as slum dweller organizations, and recognize them as equal partners.

125. In promoting access to affordable and adequate housing, it is important that governments and other stakeholders adopt policies to ensure that such housing is sustainable and to promote investments in sustainable housing skills development and training in the construction sector.

126. There is an opportunity to implement the New Urban Agenda through a human rights-based framework. Key components of such a framework include the adoption of laws to ensure that the right to housing is legally protected and applied, including by giving marginalized groups access to justice and effective legal remedies; making institutional reforms to ensure that national and local authorities implement their obligations with regard to the right to housing and address homelessness and a lack of adequate housing as potential violations of that right, which could mean, for instance, that forced evictions and relocations would be implemented only in exceptional circumstances and with the meaningful participation of those affected; and the adoption of housing strategies by all levels of government that recognize the right to adequate housing and incorporate accountability mechanisms and provisions to ensure rights holders can claim their rights and engage in decision-making processes that affect them, and have clear goals and timelines to progressively realize the right to housing, including monitoring and review mechanisms.

127. The enormous challenges that cities continue to face, despite interventions such as housing policies and increased social and public housing expenditures, suggest that there is a need for a paradigm shift in how housing is viewed in order to end homelessness and ensure access to adequate housing by all citizens. Such a paradigm shift could involve the adoption of a rights-based approach to housing, and the adoption of qualitatively different housing policies that are truly inclusive and reflect a commitment by governments to leave no one behind.

128. Participants discussed measures taken in their countries to promote adequate and affordable housing to all citizens. The measures discussed included:

(a) The provision of direct financing to affordable housing and affordable rental construction projects;

(b) The use of community development grants and home reinvestments to enable public housing authorities to access private financing to rehabilitate and preserve existing affordable housing;

(c) The use of fiscal and other incentives such as low-income tax credits to support affordable rental housing construction;

(d) The use of mechanisms to enable low- and middle-income families to access financing to improve their homes or to buy a home;

(e) The adoption of measures to give people secure land tenure and prevent forced evictions;

(f) The use of public-private partnerships, including housing cooperatives, to promote affordable housing and the construction of buildings intended for rent;

(g) The use of participatory housing approaches to ensure that social and public housing units meet the needs of their beneficiaries;

(h) The adoption of policies to promote sustainable housing and the use of green designs and materials;

- (i) The adoption of requirements regarding the upgrading and maintenance of public housing units;
- (j) The adoption of regional approaches to help cities in the same region share best practices and develop tools that any city in similar circumstances could use;
- (k) The adoption of measures to enforce national laws on equal access to housing.

*Integrated strategic planning and management*

129. During round table 4, participants delivered the key messages set out below.

130. Long-term, integrated strategic planning, in which issues such as housing, land use, transportation, health and food systems are considered in an integrated way, is essential to addressing the challenges of urbanization and to making cities engines of sustainable development. Integrated planning also requires consideration of the linkages between rural and urban areas and cooperation and dialogue among all relevant stakeholders.

131. There is a need to rethink current approaches to strategic planning, for instance by engaging with all relevant stakeholders in all stages of the planning process and by incorporating their concerns into strategic plans. All segments of society should participate in strategic planning, and a people-centred approach focused on the right to the city should be adopted. Decision-making processes should integrate local knowledge, including that held by farmers.

132. Integrated urban planning and management can help governments address major problems observed in cities, such as urban sprawl, reduced land-use efficiency, declining density and increased informality. It can also help make cities more inclusive by creating organized and connected urban spaces that promote economic activities and facilitate access to jobs, education and services, especially for the most vulnerable.

133. Planning practices and outputs must be made more relevant to local contexts and promote sustainable urban patterns that support mixed-use development, better connectivity, sufficient public spaces and social inclusion.

134. There is a need to move away from sectoral planning approaches and adopt territorial and spatial approaches to ensure that government departments do not operate in silos and that the rural-urban continuum is considered in urban planning and in decision-making on public spending.

135. The Sustainable Development Goals should be fully incorporated into urban strategic plans, and the primary objective of such plans should be to improve the quality of life of all citizens. Key objectives for integrated strategic planning should be the provision of affordable housing to all citizens to reduce segregation and conflict, among other things; the development of sustainable transport systems that do not rely on fossil fuels to help mitigate climate change; the use of modern digital technologies to make cities smarter; and the empowerment of women.

136. It is critical that cities promote innovation and creativity, including by engaging with young entrepreneurs, who often develop innovative tools such as

mobile device and online applications that can help improve urban planning and management.

137. Good governance is a prerequisite of sustainable urban development and local authorities must manage city affairs in an accountable and transparent manner.

138. While persons with disabilities make up 15 per cent of the world's population, and any person could become disabled at any time, cities have not been planned for such persons. The New Urban Agenda must therefore lead to actions to eliminate barriers that limit the ability of persons with disabilities to fulfill their potential. Two such actions should include assessing whether specific cities are promoting disability-inclusive urban development and, on the basis of such assessments, developing recommendations to make those cities more inclusive.

139. It is important that monitoring systems and urban databases be developed to measure progress achieved in the implementation of urban strategic plans, and that such information be shared with the public. Data generation should be given priority and statistics departments should be strengthened, especially in developing countries, to enable governments to monitor the implementation of strategic plans.

140. High-level national government agencies, such as the offices of Heads of State, should be responsible for coordinating strategic planning processes, and government agencies should develop strong partnerships and hold one another accountable for their performance.

141. It is important that governments adopt a multilevel governance approach to planning in order to ensure coherence and complementarity among national, municipal, subnational and local development plans and planning instruments.

142. Partnerships between cities should be developed to enable cities to share best practices and success stories and to promote capacity-building for the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 11 and the New Urban Agenda.

143. It is also important that efforts be undertaken to build the capacities of local governments and other stakeholders in the field of planning. Tools and guidance developed by UN-Habitat to develop the capacities of urban leaders and planners could be used in that regard.

144. Participants discussed measures taken by their countries in the field of strategic planning in advancing the New Urban Agenda. Measures discussed included:

(a) The devolution of responsibilities and resources from national to subnational authorities, including responsibilities with regard to planning, to enable the latter to better respond to the needs of people;

(b) The development of regional policies to ensure the best use of resources in both cities and rural areas and avoid inefficient and unsustainable land use patterns and infrastructure;

(c) The signing of agreements between national governments and major cities in which the former make transport infrastructure investments and the latter promise to increase urban density and build more public housing;

(d) The development of integrated housing policies that address the links between employment, housing and health and the housing needs of specific populations, such as the elderly and people with disabilities;

(e) The adoption of territorial and land-use planning, instead of sectoral planning, to tackle inequalities between rural and urban areas and between regions through more strategic public spending;

(f) The incorporation in urban plans of strategic goals such as the promotion of circular economies, sustainable food systems, low-carbon transport, the reuse of valuable materials and the promotion of bioproducts;

(g) The development of integrated regional community and economic development plans linking city centres with surrounding towns and counties to prompt all partners to identify common interests and to invest in metropolitan prosperity.

145. Participants also discussed challenges associated with strategic planning experienced by their countries, which included:

(a) Achieving a balance between urban and rural areas;

(b) Translating national and state plans into actionable plans that can have meaningful local impacts;

(c) The need for cities to determine available resources and future needs and to obtain the support of other levels of government and private stakeholders to implement urban strategic plans;

(d) The need for cities to increase their revenues and reduce expenditures without sacrificing the quality of the services provided;

(e) The need to obtain data to monitor the outcomes of urban plans in order to assess and make the necessary adjustments to such plans;

(f) The need to obtain financial resources to fund the urban planning process itself.

*Implementing the New Urban Agenda at all levels and with all actors*

146. During round table 5, participants delivered the key messages set out below.

147. The successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda will be essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives of the Paris Agreement on climate change. Implementation will require that all countries review their laws and institutions and create national platforms to enable democratic participation and horizontal collaboration among stakeholders to effect changes on the ground. In addition to national urban platforms, it is important to create platforms that foster and enable city-to-city sharing of experiences and best practices.

148. If the New Urban Agenda is to succeed, all relevant stakeholders, including grassroots urban organizations, must be recognized as full partners. Implementation will require that partnerships be built among all levels of government, civil society organizations, intergovernmental and multilateral organizations, businesses and academia, among other actors.

149. National governments must engage with cities and local authorities as equal partners, including in the design and implementation of national policies, and give cities the means and expertise required by them to fulfil their responsibilities and thereby achieve key national objectives. There is evidence in some regions that countries benefit when national governments establish their priorities in consultation with cities, since cities have valuable knowledge and expertise and can help national governments develop approaches tailored to the needs of citizens and thereby achieve more impactful results. Because they are closer to citizens, cities can also help foster trust in government institutions and in the political process, provided that they operate in a transparent, accountable and effective manner.

150. In their implementation of the New Urban Agenda, it is critical that governments place people at the centre and adopt a rights-based approach to implementation, focusing on combating structural poverty and on ensuring that human rights are upheld and respected as key priorities.

151. The adoption of a people-centred, human rights-based approach to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda should bring about a deep cultural commitment because it would be premised on upholding human rights, engaging all city dwellers without discrimination as partners and agents of change in public policy dialogues and adopting transparent, participatory and accountable systems.

152. The implementation of the New Urban Agenda will require new kinds of partnerships that enable stakeholders to connect with each other on a continual basis. In particular, it is essential that international stakeholders recognize subnational governments as partners and actively engage with local and subnational authorities in consultative and decision-making processes, and that new mechanisms be developed to build open channels of communication between national governments and local and subnational authorities at the global level.

153. Implementing the New Urban Agenda will also require promoting a strategic territorial approach as the backbone of urban policies; transforming the concepts of “cities for all” and “right to cities” into concrete actions; increasing investments in local democracy to strengthen the effectiveness of local governments; developing clear commitments related to the universal provision of public services and the protection of the commons (i.e., shared natural resources); helping regions in dire need of resources implement the Agenda; ensuring cooperation and coordination among all levels of government to support cities in their implementation of the Agenda; and ensuring coordination among cities in the same regions to strengthen the links between urban and rural areas, promote polycentric urbanization and minimize social and economic imbalances within regions.

154. The implementation of the New Urban Agenda, which emphasizes social inclusion, equal rights and participation and the provision of services to all citizens, will require more balanced and equitable territorial development, taking on the challenge of providing universal access to decent housing, improving investments and territorial planning and promoting social inclusion in all territories.

155. National governments should drive and implement local actions in partnership with cities and with the participation of citizens, who are most invested in the development of their own neighbourhoods. Mechanisms should be developed to

enable citizens not only to participate in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda but also to hold governments accountable for it.

156. There is a need to consider the special circumstances of small island developing States, which have limited resources and are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, and to provide capacity-building and financial and technical support to those countries, as well as to developing countries and countries affected by war or armed conflict.

157. The implementation of the New Urban Agenda should go hand in hand with that of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and involve the development of action plans with specific actions, strategies and budgets to be implemented at the local level, the development of a policy framework defining levels of intervention and a definition of priorities.

158. There should be a strong follow-up mechanism for the New Urban Agenda linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The proposed mechanism should be voluntary and should be coordinated by the United Nations system.

159. Participants discussed measures taken by their countries and regions to implement the New Urban Agenda. Measures discussed included:

(a) The establishment of national urban committees and multi-stakeholder processes to develop practical guiding principles for urban development;

(b) The development of territorial plans premised on the active participation of local governments in the implementation of the Agenda;

(c) The development of people-centred national road maps and strategies involving public participation in urban development, infrastructure investments, increased responsibilities for municipalities and the provision of technical and financial support to local authorities;

(d) The use of different regional platforms and institutions to identify common challenges and develop regional commitments and plans of action regarding issues such as urban planning and design, governance and institution-building, funding, the inclusion of migrants, affordable housing and urban poverty;

(e) The launching of initiatives and bilateral, regional and global projects to support sustainable urban development in cities in developing countries and other countries.

#### *Financing sustainable urban development*

160. During round table 6, participants delivered the key messages set out below.

161. Local governments will be at the forefront of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and must therefore receive the necessary support to fulfil their responsibilities. Such support should include: greater coordination between national and subnational governments and a transfer of competencies and funds from national to local authorities; investments in infrastructure and in strengthening the institutional capacity of local authorities to implement the agenda; and the facilitation of access by local governments to international and national direct financing, including through regulatory reforms and the development of credit default guarantees with the support of international development partners.

162. Financing the New Urban Agenda will require the use of innovative mechanisms in addition to traditional mechanisms. Multilateral banks, regional banks, local financing and international cooperation will all be required to finance the implementation of the Agenda, but local governments must also generate their own resources, including through taxation, land use, the use of unutilized public spaces to generate new revenues and the setting up of public-private partnerships.

163. Public-private partnerships could play a major role in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, in particular in financing large infrastructure projects, but there is a need to improve regulatory frameworks on such partnerships to maximize their potential contribution. UN-Habitat and other intergovernmental organizations could provide guidance to States and local authorities in that regard.

164. Mobilizing resources to implement the New Urban Agenda will require that national governments develop proper policies; build the institutional capacities of local authorities, including in tax collection, financial management, budgeting and procurement; and invest in strategic urban infrastructure projects. National governments should also adopt national and/or subnational strategies to identify territorial development priorities and develop tailored approaches and flexible financial mechanisms to support cities.

165. For their part, local and subnational authorities should engage with national governments to ensure that they invest in strategic urban projects; improve their transparency and efficiency in order to build trust in capital markets and obtain credit from both national and international financial institutions; improve their tax regulations and intensify their tax collection efforts and invest the resources collected in an adequate and transparent manner to build citizen commitment to taxation; and use tools such as general benefit assessments to make investments that will add value to city properties and land.

166. Both national and local authorities could use territorial and land management plans to build citizen trust and draw private investments into such plans, for instance by incorporating requirements regarding minimum areas that should be dedicated to building parks and other attractive public spaces in cities.

167. In order to attract donors and foreign and local investors, governments must focus on ensuring macroeconomic stability, combating corruption at all levels and promoting good governance, good financial management and transparency.

168. Local authorities must ensure public participation in city affairs and develop a vision of their cities in urban plans and sustainable urbanization projects and activities, and there should be strong public participation in the management and administration of urban funds in order to ensure that projects are transparent, sustainable and attractive to investors and donors. It is also important that intangible resources, such as time, know-how and expertise, be recognized as part of the means of implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

169. Excellent cooperation should be achieved among different national agencies to support local authorities and among public, private and civil society stakeholders to ensure the efficient implementation of projects.

170. The situation of least developed countries, small island developing States and other countries facing major challenges should be given special consideration, and

financial and technical assistance should be provided to those countries and their local authorities to support their efforts to implement the New Urban Agenda and access funding from a variety of sources, including internal sources such as property taxes.

171. Stakeholders should consult the Conference's Mexico City declaration on localizing finance for inclusive change, which lists a range of options to finance the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

172. Participants identified a number of financial mechanisms and sources of revenue for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Sources of funding identified included:

- (a) The taxation of real estate property;
- (b) The creation of regional and subregional funds to tackle common challenges;
- (c) The use of unutilized public spaces and lands;
- (d) The setting up of social and other public-private partnerships;
- (e) The development of sustainable urban development projects that would help implement, and therefore could receive funding or co-financing under, the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction;
- (f) A reduction of military spending.

173. Participants also suggested a number of projects and activities that should be financed as a priority under the New Urban Agenda. Such projects and activities included:

- (a) Large-scale infrastructure projects such as sustainable transport and sanitation systems;
- (b) Investments in transportation, drinking water and other basic services for cities and metropolitan areas;
- (c) The institutional strengthening of local authorities;
- (d) Activities related to food production in and around cities;
- (e) Activities aimed at supporting not only major cities but middle-sized and small cities;
- (f) The creation of rural-urban funds to deepen linkages between rural and urban areas to reinforce the development of both.

## Chapter V

### Report of the Credentials Committee

174. Rule 4 of the rules of procedure of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development provides that:

“A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its seventy-first session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.”

175. Three of the members of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly at its seventy-first session were not available to serve on the Credentials Committee of the Conference. Therefore, in line with past practice, the President of the Conference, at the 2nd plenary meeting of the Conference, held on 17 October 2016, proposed to the Conference that three States, namely Austria, Mexico and South Africa, from the same regional groups as the members who were not available be appointed to the three vacant seats.

176. At the same meeting, the Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure, appointed a Credentials Committee consisting of the following States: Austria, China, Malawi, Mexico, Paraguay, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, South Africa and the United States.

177. The Credentials Committee held one meeting on 19 October 2016.

178. The Committee unanimously elected the Director of Housing, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development of Malawi, Veronica Chidothe, as its Chair.

179. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the secretariat of the Conference dated 18 October 2016 concerning the credentials of representatives of States and the European Union to the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development. A representative of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat made a statement relating to the memorandum by the secretariat of the Conference.

180. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum, formal credentials of representatives to the Conference in the form required by rule 3 of the rules of procedure of the Conference had been submitted to the secretariat of the Conference, as at the time of the meeting of the Credentials Committee, by the European Union and the following 46 States: Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, El Salvador, France, Greece, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Myanmar, Namibia, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Switzerland, Turkey, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Holy See.

181. As indicated in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, information concerning the appointment of representatives of States to the Conference had been communicated to the secretariat of the Conference, as at the time of the meeting of the Credentials

Committee, by means of a facsimile communication from the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs, or by means of a letter or note verbale from the ministry, embassy or mission concerned, by the following 100 States: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and State of Palestine.

182. As indicated in paragraph 3 of the memorandum, the secretariat of the Conference had not received formal credentials or the information mentioned in paragraph 2 of the memorandum from the following 51 States invited to participate in the Conference: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Congo, Cook Islands, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Dominica, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Grenada, Guyana, Iceland, Ireland, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Liechtenstein, Marshall Islands, Mali, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Panama, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Somalia, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

183. The Chair recommended that the Committee accept the credentials of the representatives of all States and the European Union listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the above-mentioned memorandum, on the understanding that formal credentials for representatives of the States referred to in paragraph 180 of the present report as well as States referred to in paragraph 181, where applicable, would be communicated to the secretariat of the Conference as soon as possible.

184. The Committee adopted the following draft resolution without a vote:

*“The Credentials Committee,*

*Having examined the credentials of the representatives to the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development,*

*Accepts the credentials of the representatives of the States and of the European Union referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the memorandum of the secretariat.”*

185. The Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the Conference the adoption of a draft resolution approving the report of the Committee.

**Action taken by the Conference**

186. At its 8th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016, the Conference considered the report of the Credentials Committee (A/CONF.226/8), as introduced by the Chair of the Committee, who also informed the Conference that since the formal meeting of the Committee, credentials in due form had been received from Estonia, Honduras, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mexico, Senegal, Sweden and the United States.

187. The Conference adopted the draft resolution recommended by the Credentials Committee in its report and accepted the additional credentials mentioned by the Chair of the Credentials Committee (for the text, see chap. I, resolution 3).

## Chapter VI

### **Adoption of the final outcome of the Conference**

188. At its 8th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016, the Conference had before it a draft resolution entitled “Outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III): New Urban Agenda”, submitted by the President of the Conference (A/CONF.226/L.1). The New Urban Agenda was before the Conference in document A/CONF.226/4.

189. At the same meeting, the Conference adopted draft resolution A/CONF.226/L.1, thereby adopting the New Urban Agenda contained in document A/CONF.226/4, and recommended that the General Assembly endorse the New Urban Agenda (for the text, see chap. I, resolution 1).

190. Also at the same meeting, statements after adoption were made by the Vice-President of Argentina and the representative of Chile.

## **Chapter VII**

### **Adoption of the report of the Conference**

191. At the 8th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016, the representative of Thailand, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Expression of thanks to the people and Government of Ecuador” (A/CONF.226/L.2).

192. At the same meeting, the Conference adopted the draft resolution (for the text, see chap. I, resolution 2).

193. Also at the same meeting, the Conference adopted the draft report (A/CONF.226/L.3), as introduced by the Rapporteur-General, and authorized the Rapporteur-General to finalize the report.

## **Chapter VIII**

### **Closure of the Conference**

194. At its 8th plenary meeting, on 20 October 2016, with the consent of the Conference, statements were made by the Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Quito, Mauricio Esteban Rodas Espinel (representing local authorities) and Professor of Urban Education and Research at the University of Pennsylvania and President of the General Assembly of Partners, Eugenie Birch (representing civil society organizations).

195. Also at the same meeting, closing statements were made by the Secretary-General of the Conference and the President of the Conference.

196. At the same meeting, the President of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) declared the Conference closed.

## Annex

### List of documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
A/CONF.226/1	4	Provisional agenda
A/CONF.226/2	3	Note by the secretariat transmitting the provisional rules of procedure of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)
A/CONF.226/3	6	Note by the secretariat transmitting organizational and procedural matters
A/CONF.226/4	10	Note by the secretariat transmitting the draft outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III): note by the secretariat
A/CONF.226/5	8	Note by the secretariat transmitting the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) regional report for Africa: transformational housing and sustainable urban development in Africa
A/CONF.226/6	8	Note by the secretariat transmitting the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) regional report for Western Asia: towards inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable Western Asia cities
A/CONF.226/7	8	Note by the secretariat transmitting the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) regional report for Latin America and the Caribbean: sustainable cities with equality
A/CONF.226/8	7 (b)	Report of the Credentials Committee
A/CONF.226/9	11	Letter dated 28 September 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)
A/CONF.226/10	8	Note by the secretariat transmitting the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) regional report for Europe and Northern America: towards a city-focused, people-centred and integrated approach to the New Urban Agenda
A/CONF.226/11	8	Note by the secretariat transmitting the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) regional report for Asia and the Pacific: transformative urbanization for a resilient Asia-Pacific

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
A/CONF.226/L.1	10	Draft resolution on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III): New Urban Agenda
A/CONF.226/L.2	11	Draft resolution on expression of thanks to the people and Government of Ecuador
A/CONF.226/L.3	11	Draft report of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)
A/CONF.226/INF/1	6	Note by the secretariat transmitting information for participants
A/CONF.226/INF/2		List of delegations

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