

HabPost

Updates from
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UNHABITAT

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Results from the midterm review meeting of the CPR



Editor's note

Dear Reader,

Last week, the Committee of Permanent Representatives of UN-Habitat — one of our three governing bodies — met for its first open-ended high-level midterm review since the rollout of our new governance structure. Over 300 participants including the President of the United Nations General Assembly, the President of the UN-Habitat Assembly, ministers and ambassadors participated in the meeting. In this issue, we provide a snapshot of what was discussed, the results of the meeting, and other resources for those of you who want to know more.

As we enter the summer months, we also thought we'd share the latest learning opportunities taking place over the summer, notably to discover new languages and refine our data analytics skills — it can always come in handy!

Finally, you may be aware that UN-Habitat launched a Donate button on its main site earlier this year. Today, we want to bring your attention to the current fundraising campaign for those most affected by humanitarian crises in the Arab region. More information and links to the donate page down below. Spread the word!

Happy reading!

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UN-HABITAT IN THE NEWS



UN-Habitat Head Urges Holistic Urban Recovery in Lebanon Visit
(Naharnet)



UN-Habitat Officer Calls on Local Government Minister
(Modern Ghana)



Bahrain, UN-Habitat Cooperation fund for Urban Development Praised
(The Daily Tribune)

ARTICLES CONNECTING TO OUR DOMAINS OF CHANGE



Rosario's urban farming programme wins global resilience award
(Cities Today)



Three strategies to scale city climate action
(Cities Today)



Pandemic a wake-up call for plight of the urban poor
(Arab News)



Displacement, Migration, and Urbanization in the 21st Century
(New Security Beat)



From the bookshelf: Invisible China: how the urban-rural divide threatens China's rise
(Australian Strategic Policy Institute)



Results from the midterm review meeting of the CPR

From 29 June to 1 July, the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) to UN-Habitat held its first open-ended high-level midterm review since our new governance structure came into place. Over 300 participants including the President of the United Nations General Assembly, the President of the UN-Habitat Assembly, ministers and ambassadors participated in the meeting.



The review considered achievements, challenges, gaps, lessons and opportunities from the first 18 months of implementation of our Strategic Plan 2020-2023, a key focus for the review. The Plan was deemed robust and fit-for-purpose, allowing the Programme to respond well to the stress-test imposed by the COVID-19 global pandemic. We highlighted that the integrated implementation of the Strategic Plan was constrained by the uneven funding of the four Domains of Change and the unpredictable, continuous lack of core funding — which impairs our ability to fulfil our mandate as the global normative lead on human settlements.

To rebalance investments and better respond to current and future demands, UN-Habitat proposed to Member States three lenses to recalibrate the Strategic

Plan: i) responding to new vulnerabilities and risks in cities, ii) preparing cities in terms of function and form to address potential risks and hazards, adapting to the future in terms of resilience and climate change, and iii) creating conditions for long-term social and economic city recovery.

The President of the General Assembly commended our efforts to support cities in their response to the global pandemic and urged Member States to fund our Strategic Plan. He also called on global leaders to raise the significance of sustainable urbanization, suggesting that the 2022 High-Level Meeting to assess progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda would be a watershed moment for the international community to reaffirm its commitment to sustainable urbanization.

The meeting was an opportunity to re-engage with Member States on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and localizing the Sustainable Development Goals, and to review progress made in implementing all decisions and resolutions passed by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its first session in May 2019. We also took the opportunity to hold a [Dialogue](#) with Member States and partners on cities and pandemics based on the conclusions and recommendations of the UN-Habitat report [Cities and Pandemics: Towards a more Just, Green and Healthy Future](#).

The next two pages present a summary of discussions and outcomes of the meeting.

1.

Review of the implementation of the Strategic Plan

We presented results achieved so far in the implementation of the Strategic Plan and submitted several proposed outcomes to be considered by Member States:

1. Review of the Strategic Plan as a document which remains relevant and valuable, providing a framework for recovery from the pandemic and a roadmap to achieving the SDGs.
2. Consideration of three proposed lenses on new vulnerabilities, resilience, and sustainable recovery to inform decisions and advise the Executive Board on any needed review of the Strategic Plan and its implementation.
3. Consideration of the need for additional funding, both earmarked and flexible, to support implementation of priority areas identified by the CPR.
4. Support for initiatives to further strengthen an integrated approach for implementing the Strategic Plan and the systems to monitor progress.

More details [here](#).



2.

Progress in implementing the New Urban Agenda

We provided an update on three items relating to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, namely, a status update on the quadrennial report of the Secretary-General on the progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, a presentation on the implementation of the ministerial declaration adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its first session in 2019, and information on the High-Level meeting to assess progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

More details [here](#).



3.

Resolutions and decisions by the UN-Habitat Assembly

We highlighted progress made to date in implementing the resolutions and decisions adopted during the first UN-Habitat Assembly:

- Resolution 1/2 on UN Systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements
- Resolution 1/3 on Enhancing capacity-building for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Resolution 1/4 on Achieving gender equality through the work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to support inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements
- Resolution 1/5 on Enhancing urban-rural linkages for sustainable urbanization and human settlements
- Decision 1/3 on Arrangements for the transition towards the new governance structure of UN-Habitat

More details [here](#).



4.

Alignment of the planning cycles of UN-Habitat with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review process

We provided an update on the progress made to align the UN-Habitat Planning Cycles with the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR), noting that the Executive Board and its Ad-Hoc Working Group on Programmatic, Budgetary and Administrative Matters is currently reviewing two scenarios to align UN-Habitat planning cycles with the QCPR. In the first scenario, the UN-Habitat Assembly would retain the Strategic Plan 2020-2023, as is, adopt an interim two-year Strategic Plan for the period 2024-2025, and then adopt a full, four-year Strategic Plan 2026-2029. Under the second scenario, the UN-Habitat Assembly would extend the Strategic Plan 2020-2023 to a period of six years covering 2020-2025 and meet in 2025 to adopt the next four-year UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2026-2029.

More details [here](#).



5.

WORLD
URBAN
FORUM

Preparations for the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum

We presented the preparations for the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum (WUF11) that will take place from 26 to 30 June 2022 in Katowice, Poland under the theme *Transforming our cities for a better urban future*.

More details [here](#).

6.



Recommendations

Following discussions and negotiations among Member States, five formal outcomes of the midterm review came to light:

- i. Recommendation 2021/1: Implementation of the resolutions adopted by the UN-Habitat Assembly at its first session
- ii. Recommendation 2021/2: Implementation of Resolution 1/1 on the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan for the period 2020-2023
- iii. Recommendation 2021/3: Secretary-General's Quadrennial Report on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda, the High-level meeting of the General Assembly to assess progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, and the eleventh session of the World Urban Forum
- iv. Recommendation 2021/4: Dates and Agenda of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and the dates and agenda for the next Open-Ended CPR meeting
- v. Decision 2021/5: Election of officers of the Bureau of the Committee of Permanent Representatives for the term 2021-2023

Find the details of each of the five recommendations and decisions by the CPR [here](#).

7.



New Bureau of the CPR 2021-2023

As part of Decision 2021/5, Member States elected the following members, nominated by their respective regional groups, to the new Bureau of the CPR for the period 2021-2023:

- Chair: Pakistan (Asia-Pacific States)
- Vice-Chair: Tanzania (African States)
- Vice-Chair: Colombia (Latin American and Caribbean States)

The position of the Vice-Chair representing Western European and other States and the position of Rapporteur representing the regional group of Eastern European States remain vacant with possible election to take place as soon as possible.



Want to know more?

[First Daily Journal](#)

[Second Daily Journal](#)

[Third Daily Journal](#)

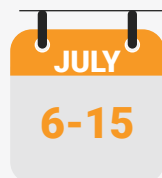
[Website story](#)

[Other resources including presentations by the Secretariat and statements by stakeholders](#)

Upcoming events and corporate calendar

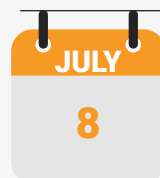


Other organizers



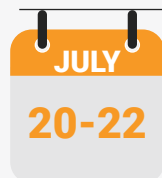
High-Level Political Forum 2021 under the Auspices of ECOSOC

The high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) is the core United Nations platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The meeting of the HLPF in 2021 will be held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council. This includes the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum from Tuesday, 13 July, to Thursday, 15 July 2021 as part of the high-level segment of the Council. The theme will be "Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development". The HLPF in 2021 will discuss Sustainable Development Goals 1 on no poverty, 2 on zero hunger, 3 on good health and well-being, 8 on decent work and economic growth, 10 on reduced inequalities, 12 on responsible consumption and production, 13 on climate action, 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and 17 on partnerships in depth. The Forum will also consider the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals. [More information](#)



Destination Cities: Accelerating Urban Tourism and Economies

In 2019, tourism accounted for more than 10 per cent of global GDP. However, the COVID-19 pandemic caused major disruptions for the global tourism industry. Travel restrictions between and within countries and hesitation among would-be travellers hurt the local economies of tourist destinations worldwide, causing a more than 60 per cent drop in revenue and employment. An estimated 120 million people globally have lost their jobs in tourism, disproportionately affecting women, young people, and small entrepreneurs, as they account for 80 per cent of the global tourism sector. As the pandemic eases and national governments are welcoming back tourism, how can cities leverage innovative technologies and informative data to make their tourism industries stronger than ever? This virtual event, convened by the Technology and Entrepreneurship Center at Harvard, in collaboration with City Possible, will discuss strategies for bringing back tourism in a sustainable way that produces inclusive prosperity for great destinations. [More information](#)



7th International Conference on Connected Smart Cities

The International Conference on Connected Smart Cities (CSC 2021) aims to provide a cutting-edge and premier annual forum on smart cities. It aims to bring in leading scholars from multiple disciplines (including information systems, computer science, telecommunication engineering, urban studies, and business and economics) to share their ideas, knowledge and latest research findings related to the main issues concerning the whole ecosystem (e.g. M2M infrastructure, cloud platforms, big data analytics, mobile applications, citizen needs, user engagement, and new business/economic models) of future smart cities. The conference also aims at discussing the social, behavioural, technical, economic, and environmental impacts of the introduction of smart city applications and services. [More information](#)



Vacancies

Role
Programme
Management
Officer, Human
Settlements, P4
Duty Station
Nairobi, Kenya
Deadline
16 July 2021
[Apply here](#)

Role
Chief of Donor
Relations
& Strategic
Resource
Partnership Unit,
P5
Duty Station
Nairobi, Kenya
Deadline
17 July 2021
[Apply here](#)

Role
Programme
Manager (UNV)
Duty Station
Erbil, Iraq
Deadline
21 July 2021
[Apply here](#)

Role
Administrative
Assistant, G5
Duty Station
Nairobi, Kenya
Deadline
20 July 2021
[Apply here](#)

Role
Team Assistant,
G4
Duty Station
Nairobi, Kenya
Deadline
22 July 2021
[Apply here](#)



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Role
Associate
Administrative
Officer, P2
Duty Station
Panama City,
Panama
Deadline
30 July 2021
[Apply here](#)

Role
Programme
Management
Officer (Project
Post), NOC
Duty Station
Ouagadougou,
Burkina Faso
Deadline
13 July 2021
[Apply here](#)

Role
Administrative
Assistant, G5
Duty Station
Nairobi, Kenya
Deadline
28 July 2021
[Apply here](#)

Learning

Summer Language Programme

Enrollments to the Summer Language Programme are open!

Information on available programmes and their enrollment deadlines is available [here](#).

For any question, email unon-hrms-languageprogramme@un.org or Catherine Githui at catherine.githiu@un.org.



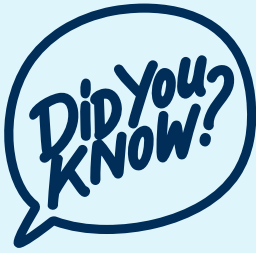
Data Analytics

This summer, take your data analytics skills to the next level.

Data Analytics training, with sessions for **beginners**, **intermediate** and **advanced** users, will take place from 19-28 July.

Enroll to any or all sessions here by 15 July COB.





UN-Habitat launches “Rebuilding Lives Together” online appeal for Arab States

UN-Habitat has launched an online humanitarian appeal to raise funds for people and communities most affected by humanitarian crises in the Arab region with the support of the Programme’s Regional Goodwill Ambassador, Her Royal Highness Princess Lamia Al Saud of Saudi Arabia.

The Arab region faces multiple and complex crises including conflicts and natural disasters. These have led to mass displacement, disease outbreaks and the destruction of housing, health care facilities and infrastructure. The region is host to **55.7 million people who need humanitarian assistance** of whom 26 million have been forcibly displaced. Some **74 million people in the region** are at an increased risk of contracting

COVID-19 due to lack of access to handwashing facilities.

The political unrest and protracted emergencies in countries such as Syria and Yemen, the violence and instability in Palestine and Iraq and the deteriorating situation in Libya and Lebanon have affected the lives of millions of people in the region.

The donations will help provide clean water, sanitation, adequate shelter, rebuild critical infrastructure, and provide services to vulnerable communities hit by humanitarian crises. To donate and/or share the word please go to <https://unhabitat.org/donate/>.

Help us rebuild lives

DONATE NOW

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



Participate!

Want your story featured? Submit your ideas or reach out to us at unhabitat-habpost@un.org.

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