Informal CPR Briefing Session on UN-HABITAT’s preparations for Rio+20

23 May 2012
OVERVIEW

• Background
• UN-HABITAT Preparations
• Informal Negotiations
• Partnerships
• Products and Events
• Issues for Discussion
BACKGROUND

• The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD/Rio+20) will take place on 20-22 June 2012 in Rio.

• GA Resolution 64/263 stipulates that Rio+20 focus on two themes: (a) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (b) the institutional framework for sustainable development.
GC23 RESOLUTION AND DIALOGUE

• UN-Habitat’s 23rd Governing Council adopted Resolution 23/17 on *Sustainable urban development through expanding equitable access to land, housing, basic services and infrastructure,*

• Encourages Governments and Habitat Agenda partners to include the issue of sustainable urban development in their contributions to the preparatory process for Rio+20.

• Report of the one-day **Dialogue on** this theme was sent by the President of the UN-Habitat Governing Council to the Rio+20 Bureau.
PREPARATORY PROCESS

• UN-Habitat has been an integral participant in key aspects of the preparatory process including UNCSD Preparatory Committees and Intersessional Meetings.
• Actively ensured the presence the urban agenda within the EC-ESA Cluster for Social Development and the EMG Issue Management Group on the Green Economy
• Contributed substantively to the Cities Chapter of UNEP’s *Green Economy Report* and the Interagency EMG *Towards a Balanced and Inclusive Green Economy*
• ED participates in regular meetings with the SG and Heads of Agencies
INFORMATION SHARING

• Informal briefings for the CPR:
  – April 2011, on UN-Habitat’s take on the green economy
  – June 2011, for the African Diplomatic Corps, jointly with UNEP
  – 25 January 2012, on UN-Habitat Rio+20 preparations
  – 23 April 2012, written briefing on UN-Habitat preparations
  – 23 May 2012, after latest informal negotiations

• More than 100 UN-Habitat staff members at HQ and in the field regularly receive e-mail updates on Rio+20 as part of an on-going internal information dissemination effort.

• Regular meetings are held with the Senior Management Board.
UN-HABITAT INPUTS

The **UN-HABITAT inputs** to the draft compilation outcome document were submitted on 1 November 2011, aiming to:

- Mainstream sustainable urban development as a key element of sustainable development;
- Identify gaps in the implementation of Agenda 21
- Highlight the importance of national urban policies
- Demonstrate that cities are a lever for the green economy
- Showcase the importance of local level as part of the institutional framework for sustainable development;
- Indicate what UN-HABITAT can contribute; and
- Propose new/reformulated **goal and eight targets** on sustainable urban development.
¶ 20: “essential role of local governments and the need to fully integrate them into all levels of decision making on sustainable development”

¶ 62: “need to integrate sustainable urban development policy as a key component of a national sustainable development policy…”

¶ 72 on the commitment to “promote an integrated and holistic approach to planning and building sustainable cities…”

¶ 97: “establishment of a 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) based on the text of CSD 19.”

¶ 105-110: measuring progress through Sustainable Development Goals

¶ 45-59: GA, ECOSOC, CSD, Sustainable Development Council proposal

¶ 50-58: UNEP, specialized agency on environment proposal, IFIs, UN operational activities on country level
SUSTAINABLE CITIES SDG

Goal
Safe and sustainable cities for all by 2030
*Promoting cities that are characterized by environmental sustainability, social responsibility and economic productivity.*

Targets
1. National Urban Policies
2. Urban Planning and Design
3. Urban Energy
4. Urban Mobility
5. Urban Shelter and Basic Services
6. Urban Job Creation
7. Urban Inclusion and Safety
SDG ISSUES

• **Seven critical issues** for Sustainable Development have been identified by UN-DESA: *Jobs, Energy, Cities, Food, Water, Oceans and Disasters*.

• Latest Proposal supported by Colombia, UAE and Peru entitled *Sustainable and Resilient Cities* with targets, *inter alia*:
  – Integrated Urban Planning
  – Sustainable Basic Services
  – Resource Efficiency
NEGOTIATIONS (1/3)

- On 10 January 2012 The Co-Chairs of the UNCSD Bureau presented the **zero draft of the outcome document** entitled “The Future We Want”.
- 29 February: Member states comment on Sections III, IV and V
- 19-23 March: Informal Negotiations on the draft
- 26-27 March: 3rd Intersessional Meeting
- 30 April – 4 May: Informal Negotiations on the draft
- 29 May – 2 June: Continued Negotiations in NY
- 13-15 June: 3rd (Final) Preparatory Committee in Rio
NEGOTIATIONS (2/3)

- Zero draft has expanded from 20 to 400 pages; majority bracketed
- ‘Final’ Informal Informal Negotiations (23 April-4 May) achieved few clarifications or compromises
- Key issues of green economy unresolved
- Divisions persist over institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD), especially UNEP and CSD status; progress on SDGs
- Additional round of negotiations 29 May-2 June
NEGOTIATIONS (3/3)

• Rio+20 Bureau Co-Chairs’ Text proposes language seeking consensus
• Cities section (¶ 72) increased from one to 20+ paragraphs, now reduced to 4 in Co-Chairs’ Text
• Lack of consensus but very high interest in urban issues
• *Group of Friends of Sustainable Cities* and UN-Habitat’s CPR remain influential in remaining negotiations
PARTNERSHIPS (1/3)

- The New York-based missions of Sweden and Singapore are co-chairing the Group of Friends of Sustainable Cities, involving 20+ other Permanent Missions.
- Proposed E-Platform on Sustainable Cities would function as a meta-resource for existing disparate resources and carry forward urban agenda from Rio+20.
- UN-Habitat’s New York Office regularly communicates with and attends the meetings of the Group of Friends.
- DED gave a presentation in the latest meeting on 21 May. 
  Attended by USA, Chile, Australia, Saudi Arabia, Nepal, Qatar, UAE, Bangladesh, Brazil, Gabon, Egypt, Hungary, Mexico, Germany, Angola, Iraq, Tuvalu, Costa Rica, Canada, Chad, Turkey, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Finland, Spain, Japan, Poland, Cuba, Timor Leste, EU, Monaco, France, Columbia and Oman, UN-Habitat, UNEP, UNESCO etc.
Collaboration with **ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability**:

- ICLEI is the focal point organization for the UNCSD Major Group on Local Authorities.
- UN-Habitat will be participating in parts of ICLEI’s **Global Town Hall** (13-22 June) and **World Congress** (14-18 June, in Belo Horizonte).
- Fora for debate and discussion of issues related to sustainable cities/local authorities
- UN-Habitat supported ICLEI’s **Survey of Local Sustainability 2012**, which analyzes trends related to local sustainability initiatives and will be launched at Rio+20.
PARTNERSHIPS (3/3)

• UN-Habitat will be on the steering committee of UNEP’s *Global Initiative for Resource-Efficient Cities*, to be launched at Rio+20 on 18 June

• UN-Habitat is contributing to the **Benchmarking (indicator)** exercise on Sustainable Urban Development promoted by the Ford Foundation

• Ongoing discussions about Rio+20 Voluntary Commitments from Member States, UN entities and Major Groups
SECRETARY-GENERAL’S MEETING

The Future Local and Regional Governments We Want
New York, 23 April

• UCLG with UN-Habitat, Cities Alliance, UNACLA, Metropolis, C40, ICLEI, nrg4SD and the Ford Foundation supported the Joint Messages of Local and Sub-national Governments

• Eight recommendations for:
  New multi-level governance architecture
  Sustainable Cities SDG
  Fostering territorial cohesion
  Strengthening role of culture in sustainable development
  Developing legal mechanisms for local and sub-national governments
  Developing financial mechanisms for same
  Promoting local and regional governments as hubs of green growth
  Using Rio+20 to reinvigorate the urban agenda and initiate Habitat III
SECRETARY-GENERAL’S MEETING

http://www.cities-localgovernments.org/news.asp?idNews=b5a66bb62c565cfe6259fb319a837120xb0ef8ccbac1c04803e2ed866f5e4df8d&Page=1&Src=Cities and Regions together towards Rio+20
Launch of Urban Patterns for a Green Economy Quick Guides with inspiring examples of urban configuration for urban practitioners

• Working with Nature
• Leveraging Density
• Optimizing Infrastructure
• Clustering for Competitiveness
RIO+20 SCHEDULE

• 13-15 June: 3rd Preparatory Committee
• 13-22 June: Side Events and Learning Events (including UN-Habitat’s National Urban Policies and Tools and Methodologies, respectively
• 16-19 June: Sustainable Development Dialogues, including half day on Sustainable Cities and Innovation (heavy civil society participation; UN-Habitat recommended speakers and will attend)
• 20-22 June: UNCSD Summit, with High-Level Round Tables (including w UN-Habitat ED)
EVENTS (1/6)

High-Level Side Event w Government of Norway
National Urban Policies and the Urban Future
Thursday 21 June, 11-12:30

• Panelists will discuss the role of national urban policies in helping cities tackle sprawl, segregation and unemployment

• Moderator from BBC World News

• Panelists include the President of Rwanda, Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chief Minister of Delhi, CEOs of Virgin Group and Veolia Environnement, and a professor from the London School of Economics
EVENTS (2/6)

Sustainable Development Learning Event w RMIT
Tools and Methodologies to Build Sustainable Cities
Thursday 21 June, 15-18:00
• UN-Habitat ED to open this event, led by the Director of the Global Compact Cities Programme and UN-Habitat’s head of capacity building
• Overview of LA21 and participatory planning approaches
• Practical tools and methods for urban problem solving
• Brainstorming on needs and areas for further research
EVENTS (3/6)

Urban Summit w Local Government Organizations

*Cities Today and in the Future*

Monday 18 June (8:30-14:30)

• Hosted by the Mayor of Rio de Janeiro
• Leaders of UCLG (Mayor of Istanbul), Metropolis (President of Ile de France), ICLEI (Vice Mayor of Vancouver), C40 (Mayor of New York), to attend
• Recommendations of local and metropolitan governments to be disseminated
• Press conference and launch of *I’m a City Changer* Campaign (with City of Rio joining)
EVENTS (4/6)

Global Compact Corporate Sustainability Forum Event
Building Partnerships for Urban Futures: Leveraging Strengths and Driving Change through Shared Values
Sunday 17 June (11-12:30)
• UN-Habitat’s World Urban Campaign and ISDR
• Role of partnerships for scaling up and impact
• WUC partners will share approaches and experiences
EVENTS (5/6)

UN Permanent Forum on Youth with Government of Brazil
High Level Governmental Panel
Monday 18 June

• Partner governments will support a UN Permanent Forum on Youth
• Youth representatives will give recommendations on how they will participate and contribute to decision-making in this Forum
• Recommendations will feed into final Rio+20 discussions
EVENTS (6/6)

More than 50 others with UN-Habitat participation
• High Level Round Table with ED and Heads of State
• Chief Executive Board Side Event with ED and SG
• Sustainable Cities and Innovation Dialogue; DED and 2,000+ civil society participants from around the world (UN-Habitat coordinated inputs from five agencies in preparation)
• UN Water Day High Level Water Panel with ED
• Contributions to many other side events including those organized by the Federal Government of Brazil, State of Rio de Janeiro, Municipality of Rio de Janeiro, Government of France, Government of Sweden and agencies like UNEP, UN-DESA, ISDR, ICLEI and C40.
ADVOCACY (1/2)

• UN-Habitat leading the **mini-campaign on Sustainable Cities** and Advocacy, Outreach and Communications Unit (AOC) will present an abstract of the “State of the World Cities 2012-2013”

• Rio+20 logo on all World Urban Forum e-Dialogues

• GA President organized a discussion on resilient cities

• ED interviewed on sustainable cities for pre-Rio+20 issue of Planet B Magazine
ADVOCACY (2/2)

• Official UN-Habitat Rio+20 exhibition in Athlete’s Park
• Public exhibition *Postcards from the Future* on Copacabana w City of Rio and the Local Authorities Associations,
• Launch of *I’m a City Changer* awareness campaign
ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

• Further promotion of events on sustainable cities
• Further engagement with member states on the draft outcome text.
• Potential voluntary commitments
• Linkages between Rio+20, UN-Habitat Governance Review and Habitat III
• Any other issues