Resolution 24/: Strengthening UN-Habitat’s Work on Urban Basic Services with a Focus on Urban Mobility, Energy and Drainage

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 22/8 of 3 April 2009 on the Guidelines on Access to Basic Services for all and the subsequent resolution 23/12 of 15 April 2011 on the coordinated implementation of the guidelines on access to basic services for all and the guidelines on decentralization and strengthening of local authorities,

Recalling its resolution 23/17 of 15 April 2011 titled “Sustainable urban development through expanding equitable access to land, housing, basic services and infrastructure”, by which it encouraged Governments and Habitat Agenda partners to promote public transport and mass transit systems, non-motorized transport and the provision of equitable space for pedestrians and cyclists, along with improvements in road systems and urban connectivity,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 65/151 of 20 December 2010, by which it designated 2012 the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All and mindful of the subsequent launch of the UN Secretary General’s initiative on “Sustainable Energy for All”, and its objectives to provide universal energy access, to double the rate of global energy efficiency improvement, and to double the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix,

Recalling further the General Assembly resolution 67/215 of 21 December 2012 titled “Promoting New and Renewable Sources of Energy”, which stresses the need to increase the share of new and renewable sources of energy in the global mix as an important contribution to ensuring universal access to sustainable modern energy services, also declaring the period 2014-2024 the “United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All”, and underscoring the importance of energy issues for sustainable development and for the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda,

Recalling further General Assembly Resolution 64/292 of 28 July 2010 recognising the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights,

Reaffirming support for the “The Future We Want”, the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012, and recognizing the importance of the continuing follow-up dialogue on the formulation of sustainable development goals (SDGs) and the elaboration of the Post-2015 development agenda for accelerating the implementation of UN-Habitat’s agenda on sustainable urbanisation,

Recognising the significance of equitable and adequate access to urban basic services as a foundation for sustainable urbanisation and therefore to overall social and economic development,
Recognising the positive effects of well managed urban basic services in creating local employment and in increasing urban productivity.

Recognising the need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound mobility and energy services and resources for sustainable development,

Recognising that transportation and mobility are central to sustainable development as stated in the Rio+20 outcome document, and cognizant of UN Secretary General’s Five Year Action Plan which accords priority to Urban Transport,

Concerned that equitable access to urban energy, mobility, water, sanitation and waste management services and poor drainage conditions remain as major challenges for many people, especially the urban poor in developing countries,

1. Calls upon the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to transform the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund into an “Urban Basic Services Trust Fund”, to secure and pool funding from multiple donors in support of the implementation of the agency’s work programme,

2. Calls upon the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to maintain efforts on urban water and sanitation because while the Millennium Development Goal Target for water has been met at the global level, the number of urban dwellers without access to safe drinking water has actually increased and because the sanitation target is lagging behind.

3. Calls upon the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to expand its activities in sustainable urban energy, mobility and drainage,

4. Also Calls upon Member States to galvanize efforts to make universal access to sustainable and modern energy services a priority,

5. Calls upon Member States to focus on achieving universal coverage of cities with sustainable drainage systems as one of the most relevant urban services related to city resilience and protection against flooding and increased risks due to climate change,

6. Further calls upon Member States to step-up efforts to improve urban mobility to ensure better access to goods and services and to reduce traffic accidents and air pollution through improved urban planning, better public transport and facilities for non-motorised transport including walking and cycling.

7. Further calls upon the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to raise global awareness and strongly focus on urban energy, mobility and drainage as key elements of urban basic services in preparation for the upcoming Habitat III conference,

8. Invites Governments and other development partners to support the Urban Basic Services Trust Fund of United Nations Human Settlements Programme,
9. *Requests* the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.