



Twenty-fourth session
Nairobi, 15–19 April 2013

Draft resolution on country activities by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

The Governing Council,

Pursuant to its resolution 21/2 of 20 April 2007, which requested the Executive Director to establish, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, clear criteria for the Agency's country level activities following the approval of the UN-Habitat results-based medium-term strategic and institutional plan for the period 2008–2013,

Recalling its resolution 23/12 of 14 April 2011, which re-affirmed the importance of country activities as part of the mandate of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and as a central component of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan and the Programme's enhanced normative and operational framework,

Acknowledging the complementarity and synergy between the operational and normative functions of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, which constitute a major asset and comparative advantage,

Acknowledging the role of the regional offices and Habitat Programme Managers in the country activities in line with resolution 20/15 of 8 April 2005,

Referring to the relevant provisions of the 2005 Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 on system-wide coherence, by which the development partners underlined the principle of national ownership and leadership, took note of the progress made by "delivering as one" countries and reiterated the objective of simplification and harmonization of business practices, rules and procedures to enhance the efficiency, accountability and transparency of the United Nations development system,

Welcoming the efforts made by UN-Habitat in recent years since the approval of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan to take part actively in the United Nations common country assessments and United Nations development assistance frameworks, and also the United Nations country teams, as a component of its strategy to ease the delivery on its normative and operational mandates in further search for sustainability in the human settlements and urban development sectors,

Taking note of the 2008–2013 medium-term strategic and institutional plan, which contributed to the rolling out of a set of key activities in support of the Programme's advocacy and policy advisory services at the country level, including the strengthening of national urban forums and the development of Habitat country programme documents for the purpose of enhancing the inclusion of the urban agenda into national policy and legislation,

Recognizing the positive contribution of well executed, well coordinated, and sufficiently funded country activities to the implementation of the programme of work,

1. *Requests* the Executive Director to ensure that the country activities contribute to the implementation of the strategic plan and programme of work, including UN-Habitat normative work, and are fully coordinated including through regional offices with countries and cities concerned;

2. *Request* the Executive Director to enhance UN-Habitat delivery of country activities, *inter alia*, by strengthening regional and country offices as well as country programme managers, by enhancing their substantive and administrative competences;
 3. *Invites* all Governments to contribute to the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of country activities by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;
 4. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue promoting South-South cooperation, including triangular and city-to-city cooperation;
 5. *Requests* the Executive Director to cooperate with other relevant United Nations programmes and activities at the country level and to take an active part in the United Nations common country assessments and United Nations development assistance frameworks, in addition to UN-Habitat's contribution to the work of United Nations country teams;
 6. *Urges* the Executive Director regularly to assess the impact of the project, programmes and country activities and to harvest cases of best practices and lessons learned from the country level, which should feed back into the global normative work of the Programme with the goal of improving its planning and effectiveness;
 7. *Requests* the Executive Director to report on progress made in country activities, including the implementation of the present resolution, to the Governing Council at its twenty-fifth session.
-