Introductory Statement

by

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Briefing to the CPR on the Post 2015 Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Agenda Item 8

HSP/CPR/53/8
Nairobi, 18 June 2014
Briefing to the CPR on the Post-2015 Development Agenda including the Sustainable Development Goals

Introduction by the Executive Director

Excellencies,

I am pleased to introduce the CPR Agenda Item 8 on UN-Habitat’s contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda including the Sustainable Development Goals.

In responding to Governing Council Resolution 24/10, the objective of UN-Habitat’s participation in these processes is to provide adequate information to Governments, United Nations system organizations and other stakeholders on the role of urbanization in sustainable development, with a view to ensuring that sustainable urbanization is reflected in both the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as in the processes leading to these outcomes.

On 19th May, at the Fourteenth Meeting of the Subcommittee on Policy and Programme of Work, members were briefed mainly on recent activities and outcome of UN-Habitat’s engagement to date on the post 2015 discussions.

An important update at that meeting included the contents of the progress report by Co-Chairs of open working group (OWG) on the Sustainable Development Goals. On 2 June the Co-Chairs of the OWG on SDGs issued a document entitled “Introduction and Proposed Goals and Targets on Sustainable Development for the Post 2015 Development Agenda”. This document includes a chapeau and a list of 17 proposed Sustainable Development Goals to be attained by 2030. The proposed goal 11 on “Build inclusive, safe and sustainable cities and human settlements” has 9 targets. The co-chairs of OWG have requested the UN Technical Support Team to explore how the targets under each focus area could be prioritized and refined to enhance the transformative power and measurability of the goals and targets.

The Open Working Group is meeting this week at their 12th Session in New York, where they are reviewing the goals and targets proposed by the Co-chairs, with the aim of reducing the number of goals and targets.

During the Subcommittee meeting we reported also on the Special Session on the Post-2015 Development Agenda at WUF-7 and the Medellin Declaration, which has a section dedicated to Post 2015. We also reported on events and ongoing work of the World Urban Campaign on targets and indicators related to a possible SDG on sustainable cities and human settlements.

The importance of sustainable urbanization in the Post 2015 development Agenda was also highlighted in activities organized by partners, including the Global Task Force on Local and Regional Governments, the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the World...
Cities Summit Mayors Forum; and the Communitas Coalition for Sustainable Cities and Regions.

**Localizing the Post-2015 Development Agenda** is an additional area of active work for UN-Habitat alongside UNDG and UNDP. This consultation will have a global component as well as national consultations in 16 countries.

At the Subcommittee meeting, Members emphasized the **need to see a clear feeding of the Post 2015 discussions into Habitat III** and its preparatory processes. We stand ready to support member states in developing strong linkages between these two processes.

Going forward, the Open Working Group on SDGs is expected to prepare its final report by 18 July to be submitted to the General Assembly in September 2014. This will be one of three reports, the others being the report of the **Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing** and the summary of meetings organized by the **President of the General Assembly**. After the debate in the General Assembly in September 2014, inter-governmental negotiations on the Post 2015 Development Agenda are expected to be concluded by September 2015.

More information on the UN-Habitat’s contribution to the Post-2015 Development Agenda can be found in the “**update report**” that was distributed in preparation for this meeting.

Thank you for your attention.