Agenda Item 9:

Report on the Work of the Subcommittees of the CPR (HSP/CPR/72/9)
REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (CPR).

With respect to the second quarter of the biennium 2018-2019, the Subcommittees of the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) has held five meetings as at Wednesday 13 February. These meetings, all which relate to the Subcommittee on Policy and Programme of Work were:

1. Twenty fourth meeting of the Sub-Committee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussions on the draft Annual Work Programme and Budget, the Theme of the Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum and UN-Habitat Assembly preparations.
2. Twenty fifth meeting of the CPR Sub-Committee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussions on the Annual Work Programme and Budget 2020
3. Twenty sixth meeting of the CPR Sub-Committee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussions on the Annual Work Programme and Budget 2020 and UN Systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities
4. Twenty-seventh meeting of the CPR Sub-Committee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussions on the Theme Paper for the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly
5. Twenty eighth meeting of the CPR Sub-Committee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussions on the Annual Work Programme and Budget 2020, Safer Cities Guidelines and Stakeholders Engagement Policy

A summary of the Subcommittee meetings is provided below:

1. Twenty fourth meeting of the Sub-Committee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussions on the draft Annual Work Programme and Budget, the Theme of the Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum and UN-Habitat Assembly preparations.
   
   Date: Friday, 25 January 2019
   
   Chair: H.E Mr. Fernando Coimbra, CPR Chair and Permanent Representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil to UN-Habitat.
The Subcommittee held initial discussions on the draft annual work programme for the year 2020. It also discussed the preparations for the tenth session of the world urban forum (WUF10), specifically, the theme of the forum. The Subcommittee was also briefed by the CPR Chair on the forthcoming first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

With regard to the discussions on the draft annual work programme and budget, the secretariat outlined the new requirements for preparing the work programme and budget as introduced on 14 November 2018 within the UN secretariat pursuant to in General Assembly Resolution 72/266 of 24 December 2017. In the new format, for example, the work programme and budget would be prepared annually rather than biennial, and results achieved are presented through stories.

It was stated the UN-Habitat Work Programme for 2020 would be aligned with the draft strategic plan for 2020-2025 which had been endorsed by the CPR on 6 December 2018, and which focused on four domains of change. It was stated that the main components of the draft work programme document included i) a description of the policy making organs, ii) executive direction management iii) Programme of work and iv) programme support. The new format specifically included selected success stories that illustrate the change and impact in countries as a result of the work of UN Habitat. A road map for the preparation of the work programme was elaborated and the Subcommittee decided that the next meeting to discuss the work programme would be held on Monday 25th January 2019.

The Subcommittee was also briefed on the initial preparations for the tenth session of the World Urban Forum WUF 10 scheduled to take place in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates in 2020. Specifically, the Secretariat provided a briefing on the proposed theme of WUF 10 which was “Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation”. The Subcommittee deliberated on this theme and approved it without any change.

The Subcommittee was briefed by the Chair of the CPR on the preparations for the first session of the UN-habitat Assembly which was expected to take place at the end of May 2019. Specifically, the Chair shared with the Subcommittee detailed recommendations and guidance emanating from the meeting the Extended CPR Bureau held on 14 January 2019 which included CPR bureau members and representatives and of Chairs of regional Groups. The recommendations and guidance were as follows:
i) **Nature of Preparations for the GC27/UN-Habitat Assembly:** The Bureau recommended that UN-Habitat prepare towards the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly and not towards the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council because GA resolution A/RES/73/239 has abolished the Governing Council.

ii) **Guiding Rules in the interim period of the preparations towards the first sessions UN-Habitat Assembly:** The Bureau recommended that preparations towards the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly be guided by the Rules of Procedure of the Governing Council because the Assembly will only adopt its rules at its first meeting.

iii) **Guiding Rules of Procedure during the First Meeting of The UN-Habitat Assembly:** The Bureau discussed that the Rules of the General Assembly of the United Nations be used as the guiding rules for the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly until the Assembly adopts its own rules of procedure. The Bureau will request the CPR to consider this recommendation at its next meeting in March 2019.

iv) **Presidency of the First Session of the UN-Habitat Assembly:** The Bureau recommended that the Regional Group of Latin America and Caribbean hold the Presidency of the first session of UN-Habitat Assembly. This is based on the rotational nature of the leadership of the Governing Bodies of UN-Habitat where in GRULAC is slated to be the next President of the Governing Council. The Bureau feels that rotations need to continue unhindered. The Bureau recommended that the regional group of GRULAC begin to caucus on the potential candidate for the presidency.

v) **Rules of Procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly:** The Bureau suggested that the draft rules of procedure for the UN-Habitat Assembly be prepared based on the rules of procedure of the United Nations General Assembly taking into account the rules of procedure of the Governing Council. The Bureau further recommends that a CPR Subcommittee be mandated to look at the draft rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly after March 2019.

vi) **Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board:** The Bureau recommended that the draft rules of procedure be prepared by the CPR, through the Subcommittee for consideration by the UN-Habitat Assembly. The Bureau further recommends that the UN-Habitat Assembly should adopt the rules of procedure of the Executive Board alongside establishing the Board.
vii) The Committee of Permanent Representatives under the New Governance Structure: The Bureau noted that the CPR will continue to operate without much change under the new governance structure, with its Bureau having a two-year term as is currently the case. The current Bureau is to complete its term in December 2019.

viii) Agenda for the first Session of the UN-Habitat Assembly 27-31 May 2019: The Bureau and the Executive Director agreed on a proposed provisional Agenda for the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly which takes into account all the items of the provisional Agenda for the twenty-seventh session of the Governing Council as approved by the twenty-sixth session of the Governing Council with supplementary items proposed for consideration by the UN-Habitat Assembly. In this recommendation, the Bureau relied on the Rules of Procedure for the Governing Council, particularly Rule 11 on “supplementary items of the Provisional Agenda” and requested the Executive Director to share the proposed Agenda in due course as required by that Rule. The Bureau also recommended that the CPR reviews the proposed Agenda at its next meeting in March 2019. The proposed Provisional Agenda is as follows:

Proposed Provisional Agenda of the first session of the United Nations Habitat Assembly, 27 – 31 May 2019

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of the President of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure of the UN-Habitat Assembly
4. Adoption of the Agenda.
5. Election of Officers other than the President.
6. Credentials of representatives of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
   (a) Appointment of Members of the Credentials Committee
7. Organization of Work, including the establishment of the UN-Habitat Executive Board and Adoption of the rules of procedure of the Executive Board
8. Election of the Members of the Executive Board.
10. Review of progress in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
12. Dialogue on the special theme for the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly
14. Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
15. Adoption of the report of the session and the report of the first meeting of the Executive Board
16. Other matters.
17. Closure of the session

ix) **Enhancing the appeal and impact of the first Session of the UN-Habitat Assembly 27-31 May 2019:** The Bureau underscored the importance of the impact of the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly terming it crucial for conceptualizing the image of a new UN-Habitat. In this regard the Bureau had the following preliminary suggestions:

a. Promotion of the UN-Habitat Assembly in all continents,
b. Two days of pre-session events for sharing best practices and training to promote UN-Habitat as a Centre of excellence,
c. an interactive dialogue session during the Assembly such as the one during GC26, a Davos style or a dialogue chaired by level representatives.
d. encouraging high level participation, participation of all levels of Government, involving children,
e. An interagency UN-Dialogue session on implementing the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs
f. A City Summit.
g. A need to set a deadline for submitting draft resolutions

x) **First Meeting of the Executive Board including Agenda:** The Bureau recommended the first meeting of the Executive Board be held for one day on the margins of the UN-Habitat Assembly. The Bureau advised that the Executive Director’s “Notification” for the UN-Habitat Assembly should go out with information for the first meeting and the proposed provisional Agenda of the Executive Board as well as a request for regional Groups for nomination of candidates for the Membership of the Executive Board. The Bureau and the Executive Director proposed the Agenda for the first Meeting of the Executive Board to include both organizational and substantive matters as follows:

1. Opening of the Meeting
2. Organizational Matters
a. Adoption of the Agenda for the first meeting of the Executive Board
b. Election of the Bureau of the Executive Board
c. Consideration of the tentative Workplan for 2019-2020 for the Executive Board including its Bureau meetings, frequency of its meetings, items to be regularly considered, dates of its next meeting and approval of the Workplan.

3. Approval of the Annual Work Programme and Budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the year 2020

4. Other Matters.

xi) The CPR Calendar: The 72nd meeting of the CPR to be held in March 2019 at a date as close as possible after 21 March 2019, Secretariat to consult with Conference services on new Date. The 72nd CPR meeting will be important in making decisions preparations towards the UN-Habitat Assembly. The Negotiations on the Draft Rules of Procedure to take place after the meeting in March. The Executive Director to share documentation for the Assembly with the CPR in advance.

In the discussions that ensued the Executive Director assured the Subcommittee that pre-session documents for the UN-Habitat Assembly would be circulated in time in UN languages and encouraged Member States to make suggestions to the CPR in its March meeting regarding side events and preliminary events that may take place close to the Assembly. Member States voiced their willingness to support the recommendations by the Bureau and any pre-session activities. Clarity was sought about the way forward with regards to formal negotiations on the rules of procedure for the Executive Board and the UN-Habitat Assembly as well as elections to the Executive Board and to the Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly.
2. Twenty fifth meeting of the CPR Sub-Committee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussions on the Annual Work Programme and Budget 2020

Date: Monday 28 January 2019

Chair: Honorable Lori Dando, Permanent Representative of the United States of America to UN-Habitat

At the twenty fifth meeting of the Subcommittee, discussions continued on the draft Work Programme and Budget 2020 and laid emphasis on the following:

- The alignment of the Work Programme and Budget with draft 2020-2025 Strategic Plan.
- The separation of the 2018-2019 performance from the proposed 2020 work programme with only summary of the tables on deliverables for 2018 and 2019 being included in the 2020 plan.
- The inclusion of planned results stories for 2020 in the work programme document for 2020 while ensuring geographical balance.
- The link between the Work Programme 2020 and the mandate of UN-Habitat including the Sustainable Development Goals.

In the discussions that ensued Member States supported the format of the document and the direction it was taking stating it was comprehensive and forward-looking. The Subcommittee decided that its next meeting would be held on 30 January 2019 to continue with discussions on the Annual Work Programme and Budget 2020 and also discuss the draft UN Systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities.

3. Twenty sixth meeting of the CPR Subcommittee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussions on the Annual Work Programme and Budget 2020 and UN Systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities

Date: Wednesday 30 January 2019

Chair: H.E. Ms. Elizabeth Inés Taylor Jay, Permanent Representative, Permanent Representative of Colombia to UN-Habitat

The Subcommittee took up discussions on the draft on System Wide Guidelines on Safer Cities which had been advanced towards the end of 2018. In this regard, the
Subcommittee reviewed the draft Guidelines and raised the following issues to be addressed:

i) The draft Guidelines must not give any impression that they apply to only urban settlements, leaving aside rural areas, which are very important.

ii) The need to make sure the draft Guidelines compliment the New Urban Agenda.

iii) The Guidelines application should not only be the responsibility of local authorities. National context needs to be taken into consideration.

iv) The Guidelines need to provide clarity on the connection between crime reduction and displacement of population.

The Subcommittee also continued with in-depth discussions on the draft Work Programme and Budget 2020. In the discussions, a budget break down for the proposed budget for 2020 which was estimated at USD 246.9 M based on minimal growth budget with zero growth on core budget was provided by the Secretariat as follows;

- Foundation General purpose- USD 13.2M
- Regular Budget - USD 9.8 M
- Foundation Special Purpose - USD 63.5M
- Technical cooperation - USD 147.4M
- Programme - USD 13.2M
- Total = USD 246.9 M

The Secretariat stated that the estimate budget was to be submitted to Budget Office in New York on 15 February 2019. The Subcommittee decide that the next meeting on the Budget for 2020 would be 13 February 2019.

4. Twenty seventh meeting of the CPR Sub-Committee on Policy and Programme of Work: Discussions on the Theme Paper for the first session of the UN-Habitat Assembly
   Date:  Monday 4 February 2019
   Chair:  H.E Ms. Agrina Mussa, Permanent Representative of The Republic of Malawi to UN-Habitat
The Subcommittee meeting begun with the Chair recalling discussions that took place on 29 September 2018 and 30 November 2018 on the theme of the upcoming UN-Habitat Assembly as proposed by the Executive Director. It was stated that the CPR had endorsed the theme of the UN-Habitat Assembly on 6 December 2018 as follows;

- Theme: “innovation for better quality of life in cities and communities”
- Sub-theme: “accelerated implementation of the new urban agenda towards achievement of the SDGs”

On this basis the Secretariat shared with the Subcommittee the annotated outline of the theme paper which formed a basis for the Subcommittee discussions and enrichment of the paper. Some of the suggestions given were to include terminologies such as “human settlements” and “sustainable communities” in the paper. The Subcommittee had no objection for the secretariat to move to develop the paper fully taking into account the suggestions made at the meeting.

Under the agenda item on any other business, Members States requested the secretariat to combine several agenda items into one Subcommittee meeting for future Subcommittee meetings.

5. Twenty eighth meeting of the CPR Subcommittee on the Annual Work Programme and Budget 2020, UN Systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities and draft Stakeholders Engagement Policy

Date: Wednesday 13 February 2019

Chair: Honourable Lori Dando, Permanent Representative of the United States of America to UN-Habitat

The Subcommittee at its twenty eighth meeting discussed the Annual Work Programme and Budget 2020, UN Systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities and draft Stakeholders Engagement Policy

With regard to the Agenda item on the UN Systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities, the Subcommittee welcomed the final draft of the Guidelines appreciating the principles like inclusion of all inhabitants, adequate financial investments, community-based approach, as well as highlights on respective national levels roles. While clearing the draft for further action as pre-session document before the UN-Habitat Assembly, the Secretariat was asked to ensure a clear a language on the role for UN Habitat in the implementation of the Guidelines.
With regard to the Stakeholder Engagement Policy, the Chair briefed the Subcommittee on the work of the small working group/friends of the Chair on the draft policy. In the discussions it was agreed that the small working group continue with its informal consultations before the Subcommittee further considers the draft policy.

With regards to the discussions on the Zero Draft for Annual Budget for 2020; the following issues we raised;

i) Clear timelines for approval of the document including with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) and the Executive Board.
ii) The control of the regular budget portion by the General Assembly and therefore the need to include in the 2020 Budget illustration of extra budgetary allocations
iii) The need to include information on 2018 budget allocations for easy comparison with approved 2019,2020 budgets.
iv) The possibility to consider renaming the foundation general/special purpose funds to something more appealing to donors

The Subcommittee agreed that the Secretariat can forward the draft Work Programme and Budget 2020 to New York for further approvals given that the CPR had mandated the Subcommittee to finalize the discussions and also taking into consideration the strict timelines in the approval process for the document. It was understood however the Executive Board may consider further consultations on the document for its approval.