Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates,

I am pleased to brief you on the Secretary-General’s Report A/65/316, entitled: Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). The document is currently being edited and translated into all six United Nations official languages in New York and it will shortly be available at the UN and UN-Habitat websites.

The document highlights the outcome of the 5th Session of the World Urban Forum, the launching of the World Urban Campaign and the Shanghai Expo 2010. It also reports on progress made in the following MTSIP areas: assessment of urbanization trends and advocacy for sustainable urbanization; urban planning, management and governance; land and housing policies; basic urban infrastructure and services; human settlements finance systems; and governance and management of UN-Habitat.

We have received notification that the date for consideration of this report at the 65th session of the General Assembly will be the 1st of November 2010. We will circulate the Executive Director’s statement introducing the report on or around the same date and will keep you abreast of any further developments.

Excellencies,

I would also like to say something on the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Summit, which is to be held from 20 to 22 September 2010 in New York. In its resolution 63/302, the General Assembly decided to convene, in 2010, a High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The High-level Plenary Meeting, or MDG Summit, aims to galvanize commitment, rally support and spur collective action in order to reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. The scope, modalities, format and organization of the High-level Plenary Meeting are specified in GA Resolution 64/184. In operative paragraph 19 of the same resolution, the President of the General Assembly was requested to continue to hold open, inclusive, timely and transparent consultations with all Member States, with a view to reaching the broadest possible agreement on all major issues relating to the High-level Plenary Meeting, including the adoption of a concise and action-oriented outcome to be agreed by Member States.

The Secretariat is pleased to distribute to you the informally agreed text of the draft outcome document, which is ready for adoption at the High-Level Plenary Meeting next week. I particularly wish to draw your attention to paragraph 67.j, which points the way forward with respect to the target on improving the lives of slum dwellers.

Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies and Distinguished Delegates,

UN-Habitat is organizing two side events during the High-level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs. The first event, to be held on 20 September 2010, will be on Localizing the MDGs: The Role of
Local Government and a Review of Goal 7, Target 1. The second event, to be held on 21 September 2010, will be on the *Slum Upgrading and Prevention Initiative for Poverty Reduction in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Countries*. UN-Habitat will also be participating in relevant round-table sessions that will be held during the High-level Plenary Meeting.

Thank you very much for your attention.