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

Note by the secretariat

The annex to the present note sets out a draft resolution on country activities by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme. It is presented as submitted by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, without formal editing.
Annex

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 20/15 of 8 April 2005 which re-affirmed that the complementarity and synergy between its operational and normative functions constitute a major asset and comparative advantage of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and acknowledged the role of UN-Habitat Regional Offices and Habitat Programme Managers,

Recalling also its resolution 22/9 of 3 April 2009 which requested the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to strengthen its regional presence with a view to enhancing South-South cooperation in the implementation of its work programme,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010 on system-wide coherence which emphasized the principle of national ownership and leadership, took note of the progress made by “delivering as one” countries and re-iterated 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,

Taking also note of General Assembly resolution 65/165 of 24 November 2010 on the strengthening of UN-Habitat which noted the efforts of UN-Habitat in helping programme countries to mainstream the Habitat Agenda in their respective development frameworks,

[addition: Mindful of the Peer Review Report on the MTSIP (HSP/CPR/38/9) which recommended, that UN-Habitat should, inter alia, consider a new organizational structure, allocate more core resources to Regional Offices, improve coordination at global, regional and country levels, and document systematically country level achievements],

Welcoming the 2011 Country Activities Report of UN-Habitat which reflects the expansion of UN-Habitat portfolio to the benefit of developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

1. Acknowledges the importance of country activities in the mandate of UN-Habitat and as a central component of the Medium-Term Strategic and Institutional Plan (MTSIP) and its Enhanced Normative and Operational Framework (ENOF);

2. Requests the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to mobilize and devote more core resources to the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of country activities aligned with the MTSIP focus areas and contributing to post-disaster and post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction in affected countries;

3. Also requests the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to strengthen inter-divisional coordination and to enhance inter-divisional collaboration in the definition and development of country activities;


5. Requests the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to improve the dissemination of lessons learnt from country activities and to ensure that these lessons feed into the global normative work of the agency;

6. Also requests the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to regularly update its country programme documents in collaboration with concerned governments and United Nations country teams and to support the organization of National Urban Forums as instruments of policy
debates and awareness-raising [addition: and as platforms for the preparation of the sessions of the World Urban Forum (WUF)];

7. Further requests the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to develop its [Thailand - addition: sub-regional,] regional and inter-regional programmes as a mechanism to promote South-South cooperation [addition:, including triangular cooperation,] through exchange of experts, best practices and policy options;

8. Invites the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to give due consideration in its forthcoming organizational review to the need for increased decentralisation and delegation of authority in order to enhance the efficiency and impact of country activities;

9. Calls upon all governments in a position to do so to contribute financially to the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of UN-Habitat country activities;

10. Requests the Executive Director to report on progress made in promoting country activities [Thailand – addition: including the implementation of this resolution] to the Governing Council at its twenty-fourth session.