Draft resolution on the governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Submission by the drafting group

The Governing Council,


Recalling also its resolution 22/5 of 3 April 2009, by which it requested the Executive Director and the Committee of Permanent Representatives to undertake jointly an examination of the governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme with a view to identifying and implementing ways to improve the transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness of the functioning of the existing governance structure and to identify options for any other potential relevant changes,

Acknowledging the significance of the prioritization described in the medium-term strategic and institutional plan for improved governance,

Recognizing the potential implications for the governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme of the outcome of the discussions under the theme of “institutional framework for sustainable development” at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, in 2012,

Expressing appreciation for the harmonious working relationship between the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the secretariat in their joint work on the review of the governance structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,

1. Welcomes the documents entitled “quick-wins” and “medium/long-term interventions” endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives,¹

2. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director on the review of the governance structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in which he reported on work carried out until 31 January 2011,² and the review of the governance structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, phase III,³ which was discussed by the joint secretariat and Committee of

¹ HSP/GC/23/2/Add.1 annex
² HSP/GC/23/2/Add.1.
³ HSP/GC/23/INF/7.
Permanent Representatives implementation team and details work carried out after 31 January 2011 on
the identification of options for further governance changes;

3. Also takes note of the range of options presented in the review of the governance
structure of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, phase III, which are illustrative of the
practical possibilities available for consideration;

4. Requests the Executive Director, jointly with the Committee of Permanent
Representatives, to examine further those options (without prejudice to any other emerging options),
their modalities and financial and legal implications, so as to identify, if necessary, a preferred option;

5. Also requests the Executive Director, jointly with the Committee of Permanent
Representatives, in an inclusive, transparent and participatory manner:

(a) To develop a procedure for the examination phase;

(b) To seek consensus on the identified option by member States of the Governing
Council;

(c) To develop an action plan that defines clearly all steps that have to be taken and takes
into account rules and procedures of relevant United Nations bodies so that the financial, legal and
procedural implications are specified;

6. Further requests the Executive Director to report regularly to the Governing Council
through the Bureau of the Governing Council on the progress made;

7. Mandates the Committee of Permanent Representatives to approve, if applicable, the
action plan on behalf of the Governing Council;

8. Requests the Executive Director to present, through the appropriate channels, the
action plan to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, if possible.