

**DRAFT (28 February 2013)**

**Resolution 24/3: Inclusive National and Local Housing Strategies to achieve the Global Housing Strategy Paradigm Shift**

The Governing Council,

*Recalling* the Global Housing Strategy Framework Document and UN-Habitat report on resolution 23/16 submitted to the 24<sup>th</sup> session of UN-Habitat Governing Council,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution adopting the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000<sup>1</sup>, and paragraph 65 of the Habitat Agenda, which encourages the periodic evaluation and revision, as necessary, of enabling housing policies with a view of creating a framework for efficient and effective housing delivery systems,

*Recognizing* the inefficient delivery of housing that has not met the demand in many countries witnessed by large numbers of vacant housing units, some cases the establishment of isolated “ghost towns”, as a result of output-based housing policies and strategies where experience has shown that supply does not meet demand; resulting in the need for a paradigm shift to results-based housing policies and strategies that recognize that urban planning is a prerequisite to integrate housing with other urban uses such as economic basic urban services, recreation and other.

*Recalling* the targets set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>2</sup> (2000) and the Declaration of Cities in the New Millennium (2001) of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020,

*Taking note* of the reports of the fifth and sixth sessions of the World Urban Forum, highlighting the large number of events related to housing and slum upgrading demonstrating a sustained demand for UN-Habitat to respond to housing and slum upgrading issues,

*Taking note* of the Rabat Declaration of the International Conference on “Making Slums History: a worldwide challenge for 2020”, November 2012, where 25 members states committed to “halving the proportion of people living in slums between 2015 and 2030, to be part of the overall formulation of the new Sustainable Development Goals and of the Habitat III Conference preparatory process”,

*Recognising* that achievements towards the implementation of the MDG7 have been made by improving the living conditions of more than 220 million slum dwellers surpassing the target of 100 million; there has been in the meanwhile an additional 360 million slum dwellers added to the urban population globally; this therefore calls for a new approach to slum upgrading and prevention,

*Recognising* that slum upgrading must be undertaken as part of a broader framework of national urban and housing policies, underpinned by appropriate urban planning as an important tool to prevent the formulation of new slums and acknowledging that slums are no stand-alone phenomenon, and are linked to the urban poverty and inequalities, lack of mixed use urban planning and adequate land and housing options, .

*Recognising* efforts made by Governments implementing large scale inclusive housing programmes for diversifying access to adequate housing for all as well as by Governments implementing the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme for African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries.

*Acknowledging* that sustainable, adequate, rights-based and inclusive housing policies and strategies are instrumental in addressing the challenge of slums and sustainable urban development as well as contributing to stimulating urban economic development and job creation,

*Recognizing* the progress UN-Habitat has made to date in developing the Global Housing Strategy framework document and in widely disseminating the concept and engaging in discussions with more than 600,000, national and city housing officials, professionals, academics, civil society and the private through innovative social media and advocating for the principles and methodology to more than in various international conferences and workshops,

*Acknowledging* the role and responsibility of national governments, local authorities, communities, and Habitat Agenda Partners to have a voice in the global dialogue on housing and slum upgrading towards realising a global paradigm shift in thinking and practice in housing policy and serviced land delivery within the new charter for urban planning by strengthening the linkages between urban planning, neighbourhood development and housing, including slum upgrading and prevention,

---

<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 43/181 of 20 December 1988.

<sup>2</sup> General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000.

1. *Requests* UN-Habitat to pursue the expected outcomes of the Global Housing Strategy proposing a paradigm shift, where needed, including the integration of housing with other urban uses; encouraging pro-poor performance of markets; promoting systemic reforms to enable wider access to adequate housing solutions; strengthening linkages between housing, the economy, employment and poverty reduction; using sustainable building and neighbourhood designs; and contributing to improving the living conditions of slum dwellers,
2. *Requests* UN-Habitat to achieve the expected outcomes of the Global Housing Strategy by developing normative material as well as supporting requests from Member States to address the current drawbacks in housing delivery by utilizing urban planning as an entry point to housing, ensuring that housing is delivered as part of mixed urban uses, as well as achieving appropriate density, the integration of social groups and improved mobility,
3. *Requests* UN-Habitat to document good practices from countries that are already applying the principles of the Global Housing Strategy, develop guidelines and evaluation frameworks to support policy makers in developing appropriate housing and slum upgrading policies that are results based, gender responsive, rights based and that ensure that adequate quality and quantities of housing that is accessible to all is produced by a variety of actors;
4. *Requests*, UN-Habitat to ensure that the Global Housing Strategy will contribute to the Habitat III preparatory process from the housing and slum upgrading and prevention perspective,
5. *Requests*, member states to set their own slum reduction targets along the lines of the Rabat Declaration to halve the number of slum dwellers between 2015 and 2030,
6. *Invites* central and local governments to engage with UN-Habitat in global and regional platforms, including the Global Housing Strategy Network, to share evidence based knowledge, experiences and effective innovative practices in housing and slum upgrading that demonstrate the new paradigm,
7. *Invites* UN-Habitat to support central and local governments and key Habitat Agenda Partners and their urban coordination mechanisms in formulating, implementing, monitoring and evaluating inclusive National and Local Housing Strategies, as well as mobilizing resources,
8. *Encourages* Governments and Habitat Agenda Partners to empower all citizens, particularly women and youth, through inclusive wide-based participatory processes to effectively contribute to the development and implementation of housing and slum upgrading strategies as well as action plans leading to security of tenure,
9. *Invites* member states to support UN-Habitat in meeting the increasing demand from Governments through research, fostering exchanges of best practices, and capacity development pre-investment programmes,
10. *Invites* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to report to the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Governing Council on progress made in the implementation of the Global Housing Strategy.

***Feedback provided during the session of 20 March included:***

*Spain: Thanking that concerns of clarifying the nature of Paradigm shift in op. para. 1 as well as elaborating the role of UN-Habitat have been well captured in paras. 2 and 3. Also mentioned that they are awaiting feedback from capital.*

*France: mentioned that it was difficult to understand where the changes are coming from as the para changes were not tagged with source of comment for change*

*Chair (USA): responded that these changes were requested by several speakers and there was a need to rewrite the resolution the way it was rewritten and advised that we accept all the changes and consider this now as the zero draft*

*EU: mentioned that in general silence from some countries does not mean acceptance, countries are awaiting responses from capitals and EU was still agreeing on a position.*