

24-28 March 2019

Documentation of the Work of the United Nations Development Programme



Conference A

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Committee Staff

Director	Citlali Mora Catlett
Chair	Marcus Sanchez

Agenda

- I. Urbanization and Sustainable Development
- II. Building Climate Change Resilience through Adaption Strategies
- III. Electoral Cycle Support in Post-Conflict Settings

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
UNDP/1/1	Urbanization and Sustainable Development	Adopted by acclamation
UNDP/1/2	Urbanization and Sustainable Development	24 votes in favor, 0 vote against, 3 abstentions
UNDP/1/3	Urbanization and Sustainable Development	Adopted by acclamation
UNDP1/4	Urbanization and Sustainable Development	Adopted by acclamation

Summary Report

The United Nations Development Programme held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. Urbanization and Sustainable Development
- II. Electoral Cycle Support in Post-Conflict Settings
- III. Building Climate Change Resilience through Adaption Strategies

The session was attended by representatives of 27 Member States and one Observer.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda in the order I, III, II, beginning its discussion on the topic "Urbanization and Sustainable Development." After respectful and thoughtful discussion on Monday, the Dais received six working papers covering a wide range of topics including an inclusive sustainable urbanization project, sustainable infrastructure, the UNDP-UNEP Poverty-Environment Initiative, the role of Sustainable Development Goals for urbanization, revegetation strategies, and renewable energy. Tuesday was spent refining the ideas of the body merging from six into four papers. Delegates were able to successfully navigate through moments of debated and spirited disagreement with diplomatic skill.

On Wednesday, four draft resolution were approved by the Dais, two of which had amendments. The committee adopted all four draft resolutions following voting procedure, three of which were adopted with unanimous support. The resolutions reflected the diversity and consensus efforts of the committee through amicable solutions driven by the desire for inclusion.



Code: UNDP/1/1

Committee: United Nations Development Programme

Topic: Urbanization and Sustainable Development

1 *The United Nations Development Programme,*
2
3 *Fully aware* that sustainable urbanization is a global challenge that all Member States face and that better
4 understanding of this issue is essential among all Member States,
5
6 *Having devoted attention* to the inclusive participation from a wide diversity of actors and experts during
7 the preparatory process of Habitat III and wanting to the reinforce this engagement strategy,
8
9 *Understanding* that knowledge sharing, both in continuous and punctual forms, is usually carried out
10 through the medium of databases, conferences, and educational workshops, as is shown by the French
11 Alliance for Cities and Territorial Development (PFVT),
12
13 *Stressing* the importance of collaboration between cities facing similar challenges such as through South-
14 South cooperation, while keeping in mind and working to preserve vital cultural history,
15
16 *Recognizing* the need for sharing best practices for sustainability between Member States, such as full
17 electronic participation, in order to create sustainable business practices, which will be further developed
18 by the Urban Indicators Guidelines,
19
20 *Recalling* the past success of information sharing initiatives such as the World Alliance of Cities Against
21 Poverty (WACAP),
22
23 *Recognizing* that marginalized groups such as women and indigenous populations still face significant
24 barriers, in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 pertaining to “Gender Equality” and SDG 10,
25 in obtaining equitable access to information and knowledge in regard to sustainable urban development,
26
27 *Approving* projects such as modernizing vocational education and training developing learning designs for
28 differentiated education for gifted and talented students in a makerspace setting, such events made
29 possible by forums such as the UN Global Sustainable Transport Conference,
30
31 *Understands* the importance of technology being available to the general population of each Member
32 State, which is in line with SDG 9, “Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure”, which fosters innovation and
33 acts as a first step in ensuring sustainability in urban planning,
34
35 *Emphasizes* the need for the maintained support of programs increasing internet access globally, which is
36 an essential component to SDG 10, “Reducing Inequalities”, and SDG 11, which is “Sustainable Cities
37 and Communities”,
38
39 *Recalling* the imperative of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
40 as outlined in Target 11.3 in SDG 11,
41
42 *Acknowledging* the success of frameworks for regional cooperation such as the Regional Platforms for
43 Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Moscow Urban Forum,
44
45 *Encourages* expanding cooperation between national governments and their domestic businesses in
46 efforts to bolster domestic investment for private-sector businesses through public-private partnerships
47 (PPPs), in line with SDG 17, in order to better support sustainable local development,
48

49 *Recognizing* the important position mayors and any urban decision-makers hold when shaping cities
50 towards resilience, modernity, and inclusivity as well as the emphasizing unequal access to best practices
51 and lessons as discussed by the Global Parliament of Mayors,

52
53 *Affirms* the invaluable work done by regional organizations such as the Association of Southeast Asian
54 Nations (ASEAN) Cooperative Business Forum for Member States, as they contribute to essential
55 information sharing, that ultimately improves the quality of life for all persons,

56
57 *Aware* of the complexity of providing efficient means of infrastructural project feasibility, and recognizing
58 that there are local issues towards implementing viable and feasible infrastructural development projects
59 as presented in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Strategic Plan 2018-2021 adopted
60 in UNDP resolution 2017/38 (2017),

61
62 *Recognizes* the United Nations Human Settlements Programme's (UN-Habitat) work towards national
63 urban policy databases within its four principles: feasibility, diagnosis, formulation, monitoring, and
64 evaluation, according to General Assembly resolution 71/256 (2016) on "New Urban Agenda", with an
65 emphasis on both points 156 and 158,

- 66
67 1. *Recommends* the creation of a constantly updated international online platform listing best practices
68 in the sphere of urban development to support local actors around the world in sustainable urban
69 planning titled the "Urbanization Partnerships Database" with the following attributes, that can allow it
70 to be:
71
- 72 a. Assigned to UN-Habitat and co-managed by the UNDP, and recommending that their existing
73 budgets be used in order to maintain the database;
 - 74
75 b. Operated with the support of UN-Habitat's regional and national offices, with the financial
76 support of any and all willing Member States, as well as any private entities willing to
77 supplement funding and maintenance for the database;
 - 78
79 c. Hosted on the existing UN-Habitat server infrastructure;
 - 80
81 d. Aimed at operating at a global level, where:
82
 - 83 i. National governments and non-governmental actors can collaborate with UNDP to
84 facilitate knowledge-sharing in proven best practices in the field of urban planning
85 policy;
 - 86 ii. UNDP Member States encourage non-governmental actors to have good faith
87 practices with Member States, and UNDP encourages that non-governmental actors
88 utilize UNDP funding transparent through actions and reports to both Member States
89 they operate within, as well as UNDP as a body;
 - 90 iii. Governments and local authorities have full authority to use and access the database
91 within their own borders and prioritize the access to said database in regard to their
92 own citizens;
 - 93
94 e. Making certain that the database is available in at least in the six official languages of the
95 United Nations to make it accessible for all;
 - 96
97 f. Divide the database into specific areas related to different fields in best practices, including
98 technology application, according to the Member States' desires and needs:
99
 - 100 i. Remaining dedicated to smart transport development that will ease traffic and make
101 public transportation more accessible for rural areas while following the
102 recommendations of the UN Global Sustainable Transport Conferences;
 - 103 ii. Being committed to finding smart waste disposal management that should be aimed
104 to be automatic to reduce waste's environmental impact;

- 105 iii. Searching for more eco-friendly and diversified energy systems, which consider the
106 local specifics and make their urban planning more resilient to shocks such as natural
107 disasters or sudden fuel price hikes;
- 108 iv. Including any relevant field of technology that can help facilitate sustainability and
109 build resilient cities;
- 110 v. Making best efforts to preserve cultural history, especially architecture harmony,
111 despite rapid urbanization;
- 112
- 113 2. *Recommends* the implementation of an online educational partnerships platform program that
114 focuses on professional training for specialized fields in the disciplines of urbanization and
115 sustainable development including water and waste management, urban planning, sustainable
116 energy systems, disaster resiliency, among others, organized and overseen by UN-Habitat,
117 partnering with global educational institutions as part of the Urbanization Partnerships Database,
118 through:
- 119
- 120 a. Publishing existing opportunities for educational development and professional training to
121 increase access to said programs to otherwise unknowing candidates;
- 122
- 123 b. Fostering exchange programs between people in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and
124 universities offering urbanization and sustainable development programs of study, to
125 generate a larger pool of educated professionals to lead urbanization and sustainable
126 development projects in LDCs;
- 127
- 128 c. Providing an easily accessible platform for universities around the globe to share information
129 and technology in regard to their urbanization and sustainable development curriculum to
130 promote the spread of best practices in the education fields of these disciplines;
- 131
- 132 d. Creating internships and professional development partnerships between graduate students
133 and LDCs to encourage urbanization and sustainable development projects in LDCs while
134 also providing valuable experience to young professionals in these disciplines;
- 135
- 136 e. Proposing the inclusion, a repertoire of on-demand online courses created by a panel of
137 experts, officials, and administrators assembled by UN-Habitat, administered and updated by
138 UN-Habitat's regional and local offices, aimed at administrators and officials involved with
139 urban development projects in local areas, and with the goal of leveraging digital resources to
140 offer free and streamlined practical know-how;
- 141
- 142 3. *Requests* UNDP to implement conferences on improving life in cities by holding a regional annual
143 forum connecting local urban-policy makers, mayors, researchers, and representatives of the private
144 sector, in order to:
- 145
- 146 a. Bring together those involved in sustainable urbanization efforts in the cities of their
147 respective regional UNDP offices starting November 2019 with additional voluntary support
148 from local bodies such as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and ASEAN;
- 149
- 150 b. Utilize funding from UNDP sources, as well as non-governmental and private organizations;
- 151
- 152 c. Exchange information, experiences, and approaches in regard to dealing with shared issues
153 connected to urbanization;
- 154
- 155 d. Report results to the annual WACAP forum to interconnect the respective regions;
- 156
- 157 e. Give representatives of the private sector the chance to present their innovative and
158 sustainable projects to tackle urban challenges by contributing to the financing of the
159 conference;
- 160

- 161 f. Enable online-participation via an urbanization partnership database (UPD);
162
- 163 4. *Invites* Member States to create and implement educational workshops with the following settings:
164
- 165 a. Financing coming from UNDP budget first and then the additional needed funding will be
166 given from willing Member States' budgets with the support of donations coming from 156
167 private funds that are overseen by Member States' ministries of education or equivalents;
168
- 169 b. Personnel assigned by Member States' ministries of education or relevant equivalents,
170 assisted by volunteers from willing non-governmental actors, including but not limited to
171 teachers, university professors, and administrators chosen for their background in education
172 and urban planning policy;
173
- 174 c. Centered on providing an understanding to all citizens in Member States on the guidelines of
175 living sustainably and what that entails for the people and the state overall, implemented by
176 willing non-governmental actors;
177
- 178 5. *Advocates* UNDP to work with more educational organizations to build a dynamic connection
179 between rural and urban areas during the process of urbanization through advocating for all Member
180 States to reach out to more scholars and volunteers to offer education assistance, while remaining
181 alarmed by the inequality among education in rural and urban areas internationally, and noting that it
182 is essential to bring awareness to the issues regarding education to all Member States;
183
- 184 6. *Further suggests* the creation of public consultations in the form of citizen assemblies to promote the
185 inclusion of citizens in the new sustainable urban planning of their cities, and thus, collect the public's
186 opinion on the needs of their cities and allow them to debate on the appropriate ideal to elaborate for
187 a sustainable development, where:
188
- 189 a. The assemblies should be set up by each city, in the location and disposition of their choice,
190 as long as the setup facilitates a climate for debate;
191
- 192 b. Each city should have the responsibility of the organization and the financing of the
193 assemblies at the discretion of each Member State's resources;
194
- 195 c. The results of the assemblies should be taken in consideration for future urban planning of
196 the city;
197
- 198 7. *Recommends* the expansion of the World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty's global forum to create a
199 local forum named the inclusive sustainable urbanization project (ISUP) that will supervise and
200 support the sustainable urbanization of second sized cities to fight against poverty, which:
201
- 202 a. Should elect 20 cities per year and organize local scale debates in each of the elected cities,
203 inviting and allowing different actors to come and share projects to resolve local sustainable
204 challenges;
205
- 206 b. Help to gather different actors such as universities, specialists, political representatives,
207 schools, and laborers to develop innovative projects resolving sustainability challenges within
208 a city, identifying specific measurable goals and allowing them to share their views, and to
209 develop an inclusive approach to urbanization;
210
- 211 c. Organize a vote to choose the most feasible and effective projects, and to support financially
212 the implementation of these projects during the specified time required to complete the
213 project;
214
- 215 d. Improve the elected projects and help the community to learn about the challenges they
216 faced during and after the implementation, verifying if goals have been achieved by the

- 217 project and using the result of the projects for WACAP, Urbanization Partnership database to
218 share the result of the project in order to allow other cities to learn about what has been done
219 to deal with one or another sustainability problem;
220
- 221 8. *Emphasizes* the inclusion of marginalized groups, especially women and indigenous populations in
222 obtaining equitable access to technology information in order to better ensure their capacity in
223 supporting sustainable development;
224
- 225 9. *Encourages* local governments and communities, under the supervision of UN-Habitat's National
226 Urban Policy program, wishing to undertake infrastructural project to improve economic growth by
227 hiring regional contractors:
228
- 229 a. Involving local non-governmental actors in the process to use local knowledge and resources
230 through consultation;
231
- 232 b. Ensuring that the information is made available to regionally qualified local contractors by
233 public announcement and advertisement;
234
- 235 10. *Recommends* that UNDP in partnership with UN-Habitat provides biannual consultancy in UN-Habitat
236 local offices in regard to the feasibility of infrastructural projects and accountability of third parties in
237 charge through monitoring, and:
238
- 239 a. Making clear and precise targets for Member States;
240
- 241 b. Creating an infrastructural analysis plan to make projects and objectives better
242 understandable for Member States;
243
- 244 11. *Further recommends* strengthening the capacity of regional, national, and local stakeholders to
245 access and share technology, including, but not limited to, the fields of sustainable development and
246 urbanization;
247
- 248 12. *Draws* the attention of all Member States and those with observer status within UNDP to engage
249 seriously with regional bodies in meaningful conversation with the ultimate goal of strengthening
250 advocacy work within their local communities;
251
- 252 13. *Recommends* the use of the meaningful indicators included in UN-Habitat's Urban Indicators
253 Guideline on urban projects to enable effective communication on common goals.



Code: UNDP/1/2

Committee: United Nations Development Programme

Topic: Urbanization and Sustainable Development

1 *The United Nations Development Programme,*
2
3 *Guided by the ideals set forth in the Charter of the United Nations specifically Article II which emphasizes*
4 *the importance of individual state sovereignty within international solutions,*
5
6 *Aware of the World Health Organization's (WHO) report titled Sustainable Cities Health at the Heart of*
7 *Urban Development (2017), which highlights the importance of social considerations within urbanization*
8 *as well as the need for a more people-centered approach to decrease poverty when working to achieve*
9 *sustainable development as promoted in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1,*
10
11 *Noting with concern that the Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) report titled Climate Smart*
12 *Agriculture (2019) has stated that the rapid growth of cities in the developing world is placing massive*
13 *demands on urban food supply systems, which obstruct the realization of SDG 2,*
14
15 *Mindful of social considerations of urbanization as well as the need for more initiatives paying particular*
16 *attention to health issues, as it is highlighted in documents like WHO resolution (AFR/RC66/15) "African*
17 *Public Health Emergency Fund: The Way Forward" (2016) and in SDG 3,*
18
19 *Emphasizing the importance of education to the urban development process and to achieving SDG 4*
20 *both practically and as a driver for capacity building, especially in the global south, to build up their cities*
21 *in a reliable way, as also mentioned in the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization's*
22 *(UNESCO) report named Education and Urban Development: Alliance for a Sustainable Future 2004,*
23
24 *Re-emphasizing the importance of women in all stages of the urban development and encouraging*
25 *Member States to support the role of women in government and civil society, recalling the goals set forth*
26 *in United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) Convention*
27 *on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (1981) and the UN-Women*
28 *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women "Beijing+30" (2015), from the Fourth World*
29 *Conference on Women, and SDG 5,*
30
31 *Acknowledges the necessity to improve living conditions and expand access to basic needs to those*
32 *living in poor urban environments with an emphasis on public health, sanitation management, and, water*
33 *management in accordance with the WHO article titled Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (2019) and SDG 6,*
34
35 *Recognizing that according to the United Nations Sustainable Development's platform article titled*
36 *Access to Energy for Development SDG Action 665 (2015) the increased use of renewable energy is*
37 *essential for resilient and sustainable urbanization, as well as achieving SDG 7,*
38
39 *Deeply conscious of the desire states and communities have to build capacity and increase*
40 *developmental independence whenever possible as displayed by General Assembly resolution 69/313*
41 *(2015) on "Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for*
42 *Development" (Addis Ababa Action Agenda) and SDG 8, and reduce the need for foreign investment*
43 *dependency, and that without that capacity-building information sharing alone is not enough,*
44
45 *Bearing in mind that SDG 9 and the Secretary General's Envoy on Youth emphasized at the Economic*
46 *Commission for Africa in 2017 the importance of youth as an engine of development for cities,*
47
48 *Acknowledges that there are international economic decisions that disproportionately affect the*
49 *developing world especially given the structure of some international financial institutions and how it*

50 prevents developing states from gaining funding for pressing urbanization projects without incurring
51 unsustainable debt that further exacerbates the economic inequality that is outlined in SDG 10,
52

53 *Recognizing* the importance of the General Assembly's resolution A/RES/66/288 (2012) on "The Future
54 We Want" that emphasizes the need for enhanced capacity building and the strengthening of local
55 communities to achieve sustainable development,
56

57 *Confident in the need* to base urbanization transportation strategies in compliance with the reduction of
58 the air pollutant PM2.5 and to not exceed the WHO's interim air particulate standards of 35µg/m³ to
59 achieve SDG 12,
60

61 *Convinced that* climate change remains one of the most multi-faceted developmental challenges,
62 according to the United Nations Statistics Division's (UNSD) report Climate Change Statistics (2018) and
63 the necessity of actions as promoted by SDG 13,
64

65 *Cognizant that* almost two thirds of the world's cities with populations of over five million that will continue
66 to grow due to urbanization are located in areas at risk of sea level rise and in some cases putting the
67 totality of the territory of some small island nations at risk, according to the UN Ocean Conference (2017)
68 and the urgency to protect these coastal ecosystems as highlighted with the second target of SDG 14,
69

70 *Expressing* concern in regard to the increasing deterioration of land through rapid, unplanned and
71 unsustainable urbanization processes, we recognize the urgency to mitigate environmental threats
72 caused by cities and the accompanying pollution as referenced by the United Nations Development
73 Programme Global Environmental Finance (UNDP-GEF) Unit to prevent further loss of biodiversity and
74 SDG 15,
75

76 *Directs* attention cycle support is still both badly needed and is key to peace, security, and stable
77 institutions as presented in SDG 16, especially in rapidly growing urban areas where faith in institutions,
78 and political inclusivity is often severely lacking, with new urban dwellers often being the most excluded,
79 and further that one of the best ways to improve conditions in cities is by enfranchising city dwellers, while
80 still acknowledging the success of the Global Project for Electoral Cycle Support I (GPECS I) and the
81 Global Program For Electoral Cycle Support II (GPECS II) as pointed out in the Global Project for
82 Electoral Cycle Support Phase II Annual Report (2015) issued by the UNDP and notes that UNDP is one
83 of the primary sources of electoral cycle support to Member States,
84

85 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution 71/244 (2016) "South-South cooperation", which highlights the
86 importance of expanding upon South-South Cooperation (SSC) initiatives to achieve the Sustainable
87 Development Goals (SDGs) specifically SDG 17 by emphasizing that SSC, without suggesting that North-
88 South is not incredibly valuable as a complement to SSC, is essential to create sustainable cities and
89 create a climate for peace as it is a landmark resolution on strengthening partnerships to solve a goal as
90 multifaceted as sustainable urbanization,
91

- 92 1. *Further reminds* Member States of the importance of sustainable practices to achieve resilience while
93 actively urbanizing to look to and implement strategies set forth by the UN Sustainable Development
94 Knowledge Platform to combat hurdles that arise with urbanization;
95
- 96 2. *Suggests* Member States to use the UNDP-UN Environment Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI) as a
97 guide for urbanization planning practices to decrease economic and social inequalities that arise in
98 vast city resilience planning;
99
- 100 3. *Recommends* Member States implement or expand upon climate-smart urban agriculture programs
101 similar to the FAO's Food for the Cities Program, which uses City Region Food Systems (CRFS) to
102 monitor food resources and agricultural growing environments within cities to integrate best practice
103 methods when growing and distributing food in urban environments;
104

- 105 4. *Highlights* the importance of ensuring access to regular health care services as well as taking into
106 account individuals' psychological well-being, by:
107
- 108 a. Securing basic physical health care services such as access to medication, vaccinations, and
109 regular checkups, reproductive health and prenatal services to decrease infant and maternal
110 mortality, to nutritional services such as, but not limited to, supplements and vitamins;
111
 - 112 b. Emphasizing the need to combat health complications that arise from climate change effects
113 due to contamination of air, water, and scarce resources resulting in pulmonary and cardiac
114 stress, birth defects, and exposure to toxins, etc.;
 - 115
 - 116 c. Provide specific using the already existent WHO's Mental Health Atlas (2017), an important
117 tool providing information and data on the progress towards the achievement of objectives
118 and targets of the Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013–2020, as well as planning
119 mental health services within countries and regions, which shall:
120
 - 121 i. Evaluate the direct effects on mental health caused by urbanized environments and
122 recognize the specific vulnerable population affected by socioeconomic stress, who
123 are much more at risk to experience social and economic adversity;
 - 124 ii. Share the project's results with concerned Member States so that they can evaluate
125 their needs;
 - 126 iii. Provide specific tools to respond to individual Member States' needs and to integrate
127 them at a national scale by taking into account the recommendations of the Mental
128 Health Atlas to work on facilitating the integration of individuals that migrate from rural
129 environment to cities, where social and economic factors increase mental issues;
130
- 131 5. *Strongly endorses* that Member States expand upon education initiatives for urban development
132 similar to the Urban Planning and Design Hub established by UN-Habitat which uses workshops and
133 technology to educate local level populations on urban planning and design for a more sustainable
134 city;
135
- 136 6. *Further recommends* UN-Women to continue to fund urban planning programs through the Fund for
137 Gender Equality, and encourages states to avail themselves of these funds to assist in the
138 implementation of SDG 5, as it pertains to urbanization, and in meeting the goals set forth in CEDAW;
139
- 140 7. *Strongly endorses* UNDP further collaborate with the WHO and UN Water to implement sustainable
141 water infrastructure programs to increase overall public health while ensuring that developing nations
142 will have the capacity to continue to run these programs that:
143
- 144 a. Improves and expands hydrological public health infrastructure to ensure access to clean
145 water and sanitation for all through:
146
 - 147 i. Building and expanding on limited water infrastructure to secure access to safe
148 drinking water for all;
 - 149 ii. Creating and improving upon waste management and sanitation infrastructure to
150 decrease the spread of communicable diseases;
151
 - 152 b. Encourages the facilitation of training programs for developing states provided by developed
153 states as technical expertise and developing states to increase South-South cooperation and
154 independence;
155
 - 156 c. Ensures that efficient resources and knowledge are available to developing states to continue
157 to improve upon these services;
158
 - 159 d. Utilizes the Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking Water (GLAAS)
160 initiative and biannual reports that they publish to aid in the establishment of effective public

- 161 policy and administration measures across all levels of government in regard to all Member
162 States;
- 163
- 164 8. *Appeals* to Member States to look to the joint UN Environment-One Gigaton Coalition guidelines for
165 implementing renewable energy in developing countries titled Renewable Energy and Energy
166 Efficiency in Developing Countries: Contribution to Reducing Global Emissions (2017) to reduce
167 emissions based in non-renewable energy by streamlining the process of creating and implementing
168 renewable sources of energy to create a foundation for sustainability in developing nations;
- 169
- 170 9. *Recommends* Member States to collaborate with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and
171 regional bodies to create sustainable economic growth opportunity programs similar to the New
172 Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)'s Empowering Novel Agri-Business-Led Employment
173 for Youth in African Agriculture, which offers life skills education, job training, and internships to
174 empower youth and women in the agricultural and small business sectors;
- 175
- 176 10. *Strongly endorses* Member States implement innovative information and communications technology
177 (ICT) projects within urban planning similar to UN-Habitat's Block by Block program that uses
178 Minecraft to engage youth in the process of planning sustainable cities through online technology;
- 179
- 180 11. *Invites* the World Bank to examine the possibility of encouraging states to seek alternative, debt free
181 funding, especially via the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF), before offering them a loans and
182 increasing their sovereign debt, which will allow them to more sustainably develop over time;
- 183
- 184 12. *Recommends* Member States expand upon sustainable transportation initiatives similar to the Cairo
185 Integrated Mobility Project, which is a collaboration between the Egyptian government, UNDP, and
186 UN-Habitat, which has made efforts to increase resilient transportation on top of already existing
187 transportation infrastructure across the greater Cairo region;
- 188
- 189 13. *Invites* all Members States to reduce sulfur oxides (SO₂) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) levels by at least
190 20% until 2040 compared to the levels of 2010, in order to reach this goal:
- 191
- 192 a. Member States should encourage the creation of green certified buildings, as well as make
193 innovation-driven plans considering the support for advocating green energy to help industrial
194 structure reform;
- 195
- 196 b. Member States should prioritize sustainable and renewable power generation both in national
197 and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI);
- 198
- 199 c. Member States should acknowledge that least developed states face extra challenges in
200 implementing all pollution reduction goals due to both lack of capacity and their phase of
201 industrial development; to that end the Sustainable Development Goals Fund should continue
202 providing funds to least developed states, especially to facilitate South-South cooperation
203 (SSC) and South-South Triangular Cooperation (SSTC);
- 204
- 205 14. *Recommends* the Secretariat appoint a special rapporteur tasked with performing an assessment of
206 the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the rapporteurs report should:
- 207
- 208 a. Result in a report detailing contributions to The GCF;
- 209
- 210 b. The status of commitments being met;
- 211
- 212 c. The distribution of funds to beneficiary states;
- 213
- 214 d. How those states have spent those funds;
- 215

- 216 e. Serve to assist UNDP and the UN as a whole in identifying further needs to aid the
217 developing world in implementing SDG 13, and provided information on the success of the
218 GCF so far;
219
- 220 f. Once completed the assessment should be delivered to UNDP and Economic and Social
221 Council and be made available to all interested parties;
222
- 223 15. *Further recommends* the implementation of efficient land use policies and practices to all levels of the
224 governments of rapidly urbanizing states to protect the health of ecosystems and biodiversity in
225 alignment with SDG 15, preservation of life on land, due to the unsustainable expansion practices
226 urban areas are currently experiencing:
227
- 228 a. Incorporating educational as well as funding programs to protect and restore the environment
229 with the promotion of conservation efforts supporting restoration projects protecting against
230 loss of animal and vegetation diversity and encouraging efficient management of natural
231 resources;
232
- 233 b. Combatting land degradation processes through educational programs focused on the
234 reduction of deforestation to prevent the desertification of fertile land, and the decreases the
235 use of unsustainable and harmful agricultural practices;
236
- 237 c. Partnering with the UNDP-GEF Unit to establish adequate funding for solid waste
238 management facilities and services to organize the necessary resources to create
239 sustainable waste management operations such as landfills and refuse collection, and to
240 control the flow of chemicals and hazardous wastes harmful to human and ecosystem health
241 to avoid further contamination of terrestrial environments;
242
- 243 16. *Establishes* the Global Program For Electoral Cycle Support III (GPECS III) in support of UNDP's
244 electoral support mission especially as a foundation for inclusive urbanization and the achievement of
245 SDG 16, continuing the work of GPECS I and GPECS II in providing support for national election
246 management bodies (EMBs) and the right of self-determination for all people, while specifically
247 working towards ensuring that urban dwellers who are often cut off from their traditional social
248 structures are still included in civil and political society:
249
- 250 a. By including a special focus within GPECS III further supporting local elections, for example
251 those for city councils and mayors, which will serve to strengthen urban capacity, especially
252 in rapidly urbanizing areas, serving to make cities both more inclusive and more responsive
253 to the needs of their people;
254
- 255 b. By advocating for increased local-level governmental and NGO support for vulnerable urban
256 populations (indigenous populations, disabled persons, women and youth), especially new
257 urban dwellers to gain personal experience with election participation, the results of which will
258 be directly observable by individual voters;
259
- 260 c. GPECS III will also continue to support EMBs generally by helping with, creating strategic
261 plans, preparing cost assessments and budgets, drafting and implementing procedural plans,
262 drafting results management plans, engaging with stakeholders, with special attention paid to
263 community groups, and organizations, especially those that assist and represent new urban
264 dwellers, and, support gender mainstreaming and the inclusion of younger citizens in the
265 process, while also working specifically on supporting the development of local governments,
266 especially city councils and community advisory boards in urban areas;
267
- 268 d. GPECS III will be funded, as were GPECS I and GPECS II by voluntary contributions from
269 both Member States and NGOs and other non-profits;
270

- 271 17. *Endorses* the importance of cooperation within the UN, by emphasizing that SSC and other
272 cooperation efforts are essential to create sustainable cities and all Member States should strive to
273 make cooperation one of their key targets to create a climate for peace, thus we implore all Members
274 States to collaborate internationally by leaving nobody behind and enabling everyone to reach the
275 SDGs;
- 276 18. *Further reminds* Member States that while the SDG agenda is set to finish in 2030 these practices
277 should continue to be implemented past the agenda date to continue projects in sustainability.
278



Code: UNDP/1/3

Committee: United Nations Development Program

Topic: Urbanization and Sustainable Development

1 *The United Nations Development Programme,*

2

3 *Understanding* that according to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN
4 DESA), 70% of the world's population is expected to live in urban areas by 2050. Further requiring the
5 accommodation of this growth to be met by General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015) on "Transforming
6 our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

7

8 *Highlighting* the importance of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8, Decent Work and Economic
9 Growth, and its role in increasing urbanization efforts,

10

11 *Noting* the existing efforts of developing Member States in building accessible and sustainable cities as
12 stated by SDG 11, Sustainable Cities and Communities,

13

14 *Acknowledging* the negative effects of dis-incentivizing and stalled development after Least Developed
15 Countries (LDCs) graduation as cited by UN DESA Capacity Development Programme Management
16 Office,

17

18 *Expressing its appreciation* for the work already done by the Human Capital Project and the United
19 Nations System Staff College partnership with the Project Management Institute (PMI) in the proliferation
20 of expert science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) knowledge,

21

22 *Recognizing* the important work of bodies such as United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-
23 Habitat), the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the Green Climate Fund, the Global
24 Environment Facility's Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF), and the Sustainable Development Goals
25 Fund (SDG Fund) in their role in cooperative facilitation of sustainable urbanization in developing nations
26 through targeted projects and programs,

27

28 *Recalling* the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) Evaluation Report 6/2012
29 (2012) on "Evaluation of the UN-Habitat Liaison Offices", which highlighted that lack of funding and
30 manpower experienced by certain regional, national, or local UN-Habitat offices has limited in the past
31 their ability to fulfill their mandate to the best of their ability, including but not limited to ensuring
32 sustainability in urban planning policies,

33

34 1. *Calls upon* the UNDP Funding Window for sustainable development and poverty eradication to
35 provide financial support and make appropriate allocation decisions for local private and public
36 development projects;

37

38 2. *Further invites* the UNCDF, UN-Habitat, the LDCF, SDG Fund, the Green Climate Fund, and others
39 to contribute to the UNDP Funding Windows and to support local private and public development
40 projects in the ways that are presented in this resolution;

41

42 3. *Recommends* the creation of a permanent body recruited from around the globe which consists of
43 urban planning experts specializing in architecture, engineering, and project management, alongside
44 the UNDP's existing consultants and contractors hiring program to provide STEM expertise in relation
45 to infrastructure development for sustainable urbanization by:

46

- 47 a. Facilitating bi-annual urban infrastructure development seminars organized by Member
48 States' respective ministries of land planning, urbanization or other relevant equivalents,
49 through cooperation with private corporations, public entities, universities, and this
50 conglomerate of urban planning experts to share knowledge across sectors through local
51 panels and classes to serve as a resource for rural communities in regard to sustainable
52 development and urbanization techniques;
- 53
- 54 b. Performing cooperative fieldwork with private firms to support hands-on learning through local
55 internships and volunteer opportunities with the goal of generating human capital within
56 existing communities through national skills development strategies and expanding UNDP
57 consultancies from a short-term development emphasis to long-term;
- 58
- 59 4. *Further recommends* that financial capital and human capital from the aforementioned bodies be
60 used to revive stalled projects to support the creation of new local startups centered in STEM
61 technology for rural urbanization in underdeveloped regions through:
- 62
- 63 a. Expansion of a local approach to community development through the creation of local socio-
64 economic development plans that mirror each Member States' respective national socio-
65 economic development plans, with these plans being:
- 66
- 67 i. Created at a local level with assistance from partnerships between Member States
68 and the UNDP and suggested assistance from the World Bank;
- 69 ii. Revised by the permanent body of urban planning experts every four years that gives
70 nonmandatory suggestions, beginning in 2020 through cooperation between local
71 and regional officials as well as national governments;
- 72
- 73 b. Direction of funds to projects including, but not limited to plumbing systems and wastewater
74 management, roads and public transportation networks, health care facilities, sustainable
75 housing projects, and local private sector development;
- 76
- 77 5. *Encourages* communities to focus on the hiring of local labor through the creation of job matching
78 entities with an emphasis on STEM fields for urbanization of smaller, rural communities with the goal
79 of:
- 80
- 81 a. Long term job creation and employment;
- 82
- 83 b. Reducing the trend of brain drain;
- 84
- 85 c. Promoting gross domestic product (GDP) growth;
- 86
- 87 6. *Recommends* that UN-Habitat regional, national and local offices carry out their own bottom-up
88 fundraising activities to supplement the usual top-down UN allocated budget:
- 89
- 90 a. Incentivizing public grants and private donations from actors including but not limited to local
91 and municipal government funds, private businesses and trust funds, and private donations
92 from individuals;
- 93
- 94 b. In order to improve their ability to carry out their designated mandates, especially in regard to
95 studying and supporting sustainable urban planning and policies;
- 96
- 97 c. Through traditional as well as social media campaigns carried out in the form of calls to
98 action and to donations, while reiterating the importance of the work being carried out by UN-
99 Habitat local offices;

- 101 7. *Further recommends* that UN-Habitat regional, national and local offices further reinforce their
102 cooperation:
103
- 104 a. With actors including but not limited to Local Urban Observatories, National Ministries of
105 Development, Urbanism, Land Planning or equivalent Ministries or sub-Ministries within
106 Member States and carrying the same mandate, national and local public and private
107 research universities, local NGOs operating in the field of sustainable development,
108 urbanization and urban planning in good faith and transparent practices;
109
 - 110 b. To foster a better common understanding of the most recent and urgent problems that
111 populations living in urban areas currently face;
112
 - 113 c. To share their research and findings together on the relevant UN online data repositories and
114 resources so that redundant or overlapping work is avoided and further innovative solutions
115 are achieved;
116
 - 117 d. To consider releasing inter-agency, multilevel and multilateral publications on existing UN
118 servers and content distribution platforms in order to follow the UN spirit of cooperation while
119 increasing the potential scope of said publications;
120
 - 121 e. To consider leveraging inter-agency social media capabilities in order to increase the reach of
122 their promotions and advertisements, to help the local populations better understand the
123 nature of the work being done and to incentivize them to contribute with their own efforts.



Code: UNDP/1/4

Committee: United Nations Development Programme

Topic: Urbanization and Sustainable Development

1 *The United Nations Development Programme,*
2
3 *Having devoted attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 7, 8, 9, and 11, which aim to*
4 *provide clean and affordable energy, innovate industrialization, and sustainable economic growth to shift*
5 *toward innovative transportation and energy infrastructure, and achieve sustainable urban development,*
6
7 *Noting with satisfaction the 2016 United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban*
8 *Development (Habitat III), which created the New Urban Agenda for 2030 (2016), and set an*
9 *unprecedented global standard for sustainable urban development,*
10
11 *Noting the urgency of balancing environmental protection and the urbanization process, as stated in the*
12 *Cancun Agreement (2010),*
13
14 *Acknowledging the importance of private sector involvement with urban communities, cities, and*
15 *economies, as well as stakeholder implications in climate issues and policy-making, as discussed at the*
16 *World Urban Forum (2001),*
17
18 *Aware of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Cities (2030), which calls attention to the persistent challenges*
19 *faced by cities and human settlements, such as limited opportunities and mechanisms for youth and*
20 *women, inequitable access to the city, human rights violations, as well as gender inequalities, thus*
21 *recognizing the emerging challenges which require urgent action,*
22
23 *Affirming the World Bank Group's City Resilience Program (DPR), an effort that aims to assist city*
24 *governments by connecting cities to the necessary financing with the tools to pursue efforts to build*
25 *greater resilience to climate and disaster risks by connecting states with sources of private capital and*
26 *investors,*
27
28 *Recognizing the importance of increasing the number, diversity, and sustainability of means of transport,*
29 *as acknowledged in the report Mobilizing Sustainable Transport for Development (2016) by the Secretary*
30 *General's High-Level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport,*
31
32 *Conscious that 91% of the world's population resides in areas where overall pollution levels exceed World*
33 *Health Organization (WHO) guideline limits, as stated by the WHO in regard to ambient air pollution,*
34
35 *Expressing its concern regarding the Climate Vulnerability Monitor report, which states that in 2010 a*
36 *combined 4.5 million deaths were related to the use of fossil fuels, highlighting the need to use more*
37 *sustainable energy sources,*
38
39 *Considering the Economic and Social Council resolution E/CN.5/2018/NGO/7 on "Statement submitted by*
40 *IUS PRIMI VIRI International Association, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the*
41 *Economic and Social Council" and the significant role of building country development plans for*
42 *urbanization and the importance of creating satellite cities near big cities to reduce the problems of*
43 *unplanned urbanization,*
44
45 1. *Suggests that all Member States create a national satellite-city development plan to develop smaller*
46 *cities near the existing and over-populated ones by:*
47

- 48 a. Recommending the implementation of incentives such as, but not limited to, tax reduction
49 and subsidies for businesses to relocate to satellite cities through governments at the
50 discretion of the Member State;
51
- 52 b. Promoting national cooperation on developing sustainable public transport solutions, whether
53 it is inter-city or intra-city transportation, such as high-speed electric powered trains,
54 subways, buses, or tramway, with the intent of encouraging public transport use and reducing
55 fare prices of every mean of transportation;
56
- 57 c. Offering more affordable housing in satellite cities through property tax reduction for low-
58 income residents at the discretion and evaluation of the Member State;
59
- 60 d. Using knowledge and guidance from experts in urban planning or equivalent experience that
61 work for the Executive Office of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) based on
62 their knowledge criteria of urban planning;
63
- 64 e. Encouraging Member States to use assistance from the United Nations Capital Development
65 Fund to fulfill the efforts of the country's development plans;
66
- 67 2. *Encourages* all Member States to implement revegetation strategies in their highly populated areas
68 through the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWFN), which would include:
69
- 70 a. The creation of public green spaces such as parks, community gardens, or schoolyards in
71 urban areas, such as but not limited to schools, hospitals, airports, and train stations,
72 modeled after the UN Human Settlements Program's (UN-Habitat) Global Public Space
73 Programme, which is currently working to improve the quality of public spaces worldwide, as
74 well as the general wellbeing of communities, and quality of life;
75
- 76 b. The implementation of rooftops, vertical gardens, and orchards on all public building with the
77 aim that all gardens would be owned by the city and managed by a civil society organization,
78 that would report to the city annually and be taken care of by the community's marginalized
79 populations in order to increase community cohesion as well as provide food to the
80 community's less privileged members;
81
- 82 c. The identification of fragile areas as defined by the Commission on Sustainable
83 Development's (CSD) Agenda 21, with a focus on these ecosystems within an urban context,
84 such as but not limited to marshes, streams, coastal areas, and their protection from soil
85 artificialization and construction;
86
- 87 d. Funding for developing Member States is achieved by the WWFN, foundations and trusts,
88 grants, and through development agencies, such as the Norwegian Agency, done to achieve
89 an amount of funds to be able to distribute and allocate in developing Member States;
90
- 91 3. *Advises* Member States to utilize the Food and Agriculture Organization's Forestry and Wildlife
92 Commission for their respective regions to implement monitoring mechanisms based on the existing
93 mechanisms for their Member State to ensure the protection of biodiversity from increasing
94 urbanization and enable them to communicate their results and reports at regional levels;
95
- 96 4. *Encourages* Member States to continue promoting the participation of the private sector in the
97 environmental enhancement of communities through national subsidies and tax reductions to private
98 businesses who apply components of the city's revegetation strategy into private sector practices at
99 the discretion of each Member State;
100
- 101 5. *Expresses* the hope for all Member States to implement more sustainable transportation systems
102 within all urban areas through the expansion of the Sustainable Transport Initiative with a focus on
103 alternative transportation methods, by:

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- a. Encouraging cities to implement car restricted areas in city centers to allow for better transit flow, and promote the use of pedestrians, bicycles, and public transports, such as privately-owned bike-sharing applications as a means for cleaner public transportation;
 - b. Suggesting to further build upon already existing urban mobility funds in certain Member States as well as help less developed nations implement them in order to finance investment in infrastructure through a percentage of the revenue collected from traffic fines given in the country;
 - c. Welcoming Member States to partner with the UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support to give assistance to less developed Member States with the use of electric powered vehicles and infrastructure by establishing a network of electric charging stations through public funding or a public-private partnership preferably using the liquid hydrogen supply network to ensure a smooth and efficient energetic transition;
 - d. Encouraging the development of new energy solutions such as fuel cell-powered vehicles (FCV) to ensure that developing Member States are able to move away from the use of fossil fuels within the automobile industry, in addition, Member States should build upon the Li-Cycle, a process that is able to recycle precious metals found within fuel cells and thus results in a more sustainable disposal mechanism for automobile parts;
 - e. Urging Member States to support sustainable transportation solutions and implementation through public-private partnership development programs or voluntary contribution;
6. *Invites* Member States to introduce innovative technologies in order to reduce pollution and energy consumption in cities, by:
- a. Using innovative painting for infrastructures such as AIRLITE, a natural paint that neutralizes pollutant and smog, returning the air to a purer state;
 - b. Shifting towards sustainably operated housing by using techniques such as adapting building orientation and placing complementary energy sources, such as solar panels on top of buildings, in order to increase energy efficiency;
 - c. Encouraging Member States to diversify clean energy sources by inviting businesses to invest in emission-free infrastructure projects in collaboration with construction companies to build solar-powered power plants in Member States presenting favorable conditions.