

## ZERO DRAFT OF THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

### Comments from the UN Habitat Task Force of ISOCARP

<b>1</b>	<b>STRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATION</b>	<p>The Zero Draft is an excellent start in compiling many relevant issues. Nevertheless we think, that the zero draft is still very declarative in nature and not very operational. The document is redundant on large aspects with the ODD n°11 and needs to find its specific position that should be mainly on the implementation of the ODD n°11. For the moment, very few elements are provided regarding tools and means for the implementation.</p> <p>It is very difficult to work through the text. We dare that the document will be even less comprehensible for decision-makers and the public and the next generation to work with. The document needs to be revised in order to be more comprehensible. We suggest the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To add an overview of the issues (in main categories)</li> <li>- To structure the issues better, also with interlinkages.</li> </ul>
<b>2</b>	<b>EVALUATION</b>	<p>It is hardly possible to evaluate 175 statements, how this should be done? We suggest to highlight the aims and the effects for each core issue, upon which an evaluation can be done. It is strongly necessary to focus more on the effects than on the means, in order to achieve the goals.</p> <p>The NUA could propose to define indicators to follow-up the implementation of the NUA, globally and by country. This production of indicators should be compatible with those of the ODD.</p>
<b>3</b>	<b>EDUCATION</b>	<p>The key issue about the paradigm shift is to pay attention to EDUCATION of the new generation of people to be a new kind of citizens that could create better living environments! However, in the zero draft the EDUCATION is still treated as the MEAN, but not as the INPUT for better cities.</p> <p>Low attention is paid to the role of education in the process of building local capacities around</p>

		<p>the world.</p> <p>Starting from the schools, kids have to be educated what is the city and how to make them sustainable in the simple and acceptable way. The Habitat education can be continued in the colleges and universities. Then these kids will grow up and become a new generation of capable decision-makers who can shift the world paradigm of the urban development in 15 or 20 years.</p> <p>Paradigm shift is based on citizen competency recognition in building cities and education should support alternative urban production of citizens for better cities</p>
4	<b>CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT</b>	<p>We acknowledge highly that “Urban Planning and Management” is a core issue. Nevertheless we think it is very urgent that national policies support to strengthen the education for professional know-how in urban planning and management. Which is mentioned in general in the chapter Capacity-Development.</p> <p>We suggest to add a section about the support of education of professionals and development of research on urban issues.</p>
5	<b>FOCUS</b>	<p>Of the many issues which are the core issues? We expected a section in the document, preferably in the first part. We suggest to include a section with a concise text on the urgency for the new agenda and the core issues of the agenda.</p>
6	<b>PARADIGM SHIFT</b>	<p>The Preamble indicates the need for a radical paradigm shift, though it does not become clear what this radical paradigm shift is? If I put all the issues addressed in the NUA together, will this bring us to the radical paradigm shift? We suggest to include a section with a concise text on what is this radical shift as in the conceptualization of urbanization, of urban systems, which we need so urgently.</p> <p>The paradigm shift should be based on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- climate change that change radically the way and contents of urban planning and management</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- collaborative governance for planning, building and managing cities: civil society should have direct access to decision making, direct and powerful representation to international institutions (as UN-Habitat and international funders as the World bank)</li> <li>- replacing citizens at the center of the scope with strong support from public sector and professional in their initiatives for building formal and informal cities,</li> <li>- giving priority to the economy for more urban jobs better than more productivity, for more regulations on land and real estate speculation.</li> </ul>
<b>7</b>	<b>VISION</b>	<p>The NUA envisions to be the first step for operationalizing sustainable development in an integrated and coordinated way at global, regional, national, sub-national and local levels. And calls for sustainable cities. Throughout the document many issues around different aspects towards sustainable cities, though miss a section which addresses the overall vision of the agenda.</p> <p>We suggest to include a section with a concise text on the overall vision of the agenda in achieving sustainable (urban) development, including what is sustainable (urban) development, what is a sustainable city and region, according to the NUA and how the NUA fits in.</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>CONCEPT:</b>	<p>Throughout the document the focus is on urbanization on land, excluding development on water, our upcoming waterscapes, born from necessities (and with that a range of upcoming new policies, regulations and management systems). Our comment is to look beyond the “traditional” concept of cities on land use.</p>
<b>9</b>	<b>PLAN OF ACTION</b>	<p>Throughout the document the word implementation comes up many times, though we miss a plan of action with indicators, especially as the agenda calls for continuous follow up and review. In part C Follow up and Review the Zero Draft stresses the need to follow up and review as a continuous process for implementing, monitoring and evaluating. In order to be able do this, we will need a plan what to implement (also in what time period), monitor (also how to monitor) and evaluate (also how to monitor).</p>

		<p>We suggest to include a section dedicated to a plan of action. Good also to link-up in more details with the Sustainable Development Goals, the Global Goals, with their targets, indicators and tools of measuring/monitoring.</p> <p>Plan of actions need tools for the implementation. NUA should focus on what new tools fitting well with the paradigm shift. Today, missing on financing urban policies and strategies cannot continue due to the need of more planning to face climate change adaptation and mitigation of cities.</p> <p>On the same NUA implementation should define financial and institutional tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to define standards and identify urban solutions at the global level,</li> <li>- to share experiences between cities (cf. Urbact at the European scale that inspire a similar tool at the global level)</li> <li>- to mobilize professionals to support citizens initiatives and innovation through urban labs</li> <li>- to assess the effectiveness of the NUA implementation through indicators and global sharing</li> </ul> <p>7(a).....Effective devolution and decentralization, based on.....</p>
<b>10</b>	<b>ROAD MAP</b>	<p>What are the pathways or roadmaps towards a sustainable city? What is the Quito Implementation Plan exactly? What means or which support can be delivered from UN Habitat? We miss a clear statement about a timeline and the support that UN Habitat can offer in this process of implementation (see also EDUCATION).</p>
<b>11</b>	<b>DEMOCRATIC STRUCTURES</b>	<p>Transformative commitments</p> <p>6a: Develop open and democratic governance and management system in planning and development of cities and human settlements, including comprehensive land information framework on use, interests and rights.</p>
<b>12</b>	<b>PARTICIPATION</b>	<p>The chapter “Enabling and strengthening participation” is too short. We suggest to add a statement about the role of the public in planning processes in order to enhance democratic</p>

		approaches through participation and legislation. Moreover we suggest a focus about the aim to built-up democratic structures, in order to gain legitimacy of urban and land use planning frameworks.
<b>13</b>	<b>RECOGNIZE AND LEVERAGE CULTURE, DIVERSITY</b>	41(a). Measures be taken to register and have record of all citizens and their physical address in cities and the country side. This will provide information to policy makers and planners on individual and community needs and attendant intervention measures.
<b>14</b>	<b>URBAN FORM AND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PROSPERITY</b>	56(a). We commit that all human settlements (rural and urban) be planned- including individual rural homesteads. farm holding, rural village, local/market centre, town, municipality, city. This will ensure sustainable security and delivery of services.
<b>15</b>	<b>FOSTER ECOLOGICAL AND RESILIENT CITIES AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS</b>	69(a). We commit to preserve and protect endangered natural resources, including forest and wildlife sanctuaries, and avoid encroachment by city and infrastructure expansion and human activities. The same be enforced through national legal instruments and international conventions and treaties.
<b>16</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY</b>	In the chapter „Urban form and urban infrastructure for prosperity“ we miss a statements about the importance of environmental quality and green economy.
<b>17</b>	<b>URBAN DESIGN</b>	The chapter “Recognize and leverage culture, diversity and safety in cities” should also include the importance of a good quality of urban design and architecture as contribution to leverage culture, architectural quality and heritage.  On the same recognize alternative and innovation from citizen initiative and plan for informal settlements and innovative ways of urban production (collaborative housing production, collective land ownership...)

<b>18</b>	<b>LIVING AGENDA:</b>	Anyway, we are able to provide online feedback, our last comment is about also providing the NUA online in such a format that it truly becomes a living agenda, with its vision, plan of action, measuring, monitoring and evaluating features.  What tool to permanently follow-up the NUA implementation?
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