

Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Urban Sustainable Development

Plenary Discussion

Remarks by Moni Pizani on behalf of UN Women

- I would like to congratulate the Secretary-General of the Conference for the successful outcome of the negotiation process and recognize the New Urban Agenda has taken forward the aspirations of the SGDs to a pathway that ensures that urban settings are empowered to be able to produce positive transformations.
- With explicit the Beijing Platform for Action, the United Nations Conference on Population and Development, the 2030 Agenda as well as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among others, the New Urban Agenda has strengthened the opportunities for SDG-5 and our determination for a Planet 5050 by 2030 to be achieved.
- UN Women is committed to Habitat III as it provides a great opportunity for improving the spatial configuration of cities and human settlements, as well as to advocate for the full recognition of the important role and contributions of women to the urban development agenda.
- I also thank the Secretary of Habitat III for a very inclusive, transparent and participatory process in which UN Women and the gender equality constituencies have had the opportunity to influence the negotiated outcome.
- Through our engagement with the negotiation process, UN Women and other gender equality advocates, have ensured that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls are featured prominently in the outcome and that the new urban agenda strategically supports the implementation of the 2030 Agenda using human settlements and urbanization as a vehicle for change.
- Overall, we have strongly advocated for a model of urban development that uses national planning as a driver for economic development and poverty elimination, social inclusion, environmental sustainability, the elimination of violence and discrimination against women, and for the full enjoyment of human rights for all.

- In the way forward we have also prepared the grounds to ensure that the new urban agenda is actually fully implemented in a gender responsive manner. It is important to build on the successful experience of our work in the urban context and by strengthening partnership with the key stakeholders including the local governments, civil society, private sector, the youth, among others.
- The challenge is to ensure that frontloading efforts are secure so to advance in using the opportunities provided by the new urban agenda in the acceleration moment for the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
- Thank you