



PANEL ON REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS¹

HABITAT III OPEN-ENDED INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETINGS

MONDAY 25 APRIL 2016, CONFERENCE ROOM 3

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Moderator

Mr. Kumaresh Misra, Deputy Secretary General, Habitat III Secretariat

Regional Presentations

- Ms. Lana Winayanti, Senior Expert, Ministry of Public Works and Housing, Indonesia
- Ms Karla Šlechtová, Minister, Ministry of Regional Development, Czech Republic
- Mr. Eruviel Avila Villegas, Governor of the State of Mexico

This panel brings together some of the key recommendations identified during the Habitat III Regional meetings. The full declarations from all the regions are available and can be consulted on www.habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/rt-meetings or on this link [here](#).

Some of the identified recommendations are highlighted below.

The Jakarta Declaration on Sustainable urbanization to accelerate development

Recognizing that in the twenty years since Habitat II urbanization in the region has been extensive, resulting in 2.1 billion people living in cities and towns and the emergence of cities as drivers of economic growth as well as a large and growing middle class. It is also a region with extreme inequalities, inadequate affordable housing and basic service provision, as well as uncertainty and vulnerabilities related to global economic trends, climate change and natural disasters.

Mindful of the fact that the Asia-Pacific region has a unique, diverse and rich history of urbanization processes, city building and community organisation, we agree to seek effective approaches, strategies and tools, that are not only able to respond the specific challenges of the region, but contributing to addressing larger global issues as well.

Some Key recommendations;

- A comprehensive, long-term and focused political commitment and leadership is promoted at the global, regional, national and local levels, for the achievement of the SDG 11 and other Sustainable Development Goals, by operationalizing a New Urban Agenda for inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities and human settlements.

¹Information Habitat III Regional Meeting is available at <https://www.habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/rt-meetings>



- Radical shift in the way cities are planned, developed and managed, with people seen as change agents rather than beneficiaries.
- Formulation of integrated, multi-sectoral and participatory national urban policies and strategies to provide a national framework to guide urban development in the medium and long term;
- Creation of stronger linkages between urban and rural areas to achieve more balanced economic and social development;
- Strongly incorporate sustainable urbanization into the strategies to mitigate and adapt to the effect of climate change;
- Mainstreaming of disaster risk assessments into land-use policy development and implementation in urban and rural areas;

A full version of the Jakarta Declaration is available online on www.habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/rt-meetings or on this link [here](#)

The Abuja Declaration on Africa's Priorities for the New Urban Agenda

Acknowledging that the opportunities and challenges of urbanization and human settlements have increased in scope and complexity, and thus the need to harness the full potential of the existing institutional and policy frameworks as transformative instruments for economic growth and poverty reduction.

Mindful that sustainable urbanization for Africa encompasses a holistic and integrated concept of human settlements in a continuum which reinforces economic, social and environmental linkages across metropolises, cities and medium-sized towns to villages where most of the continent's population still reside, requiring a multi-sectoral approach which strengthens partnerships at all levels including with non-state actors.

Some Key Recommendations from the declaration;

- Harness the potential of urbanization to accelerate structural transformation for inclusive and sustainable growth.
- Enhance people-centered urban and human settlements.
- Strengthen institutions and systems for promoting transformative change in human settlements
- Enhance the contribution of urban and human settlements development to continental integration.
- Enhance environmental sustainability, resilience and effective responses to climate change in cities and human settlements
- Enhance efforts to advance a global partnership to facilitate the implementation of the new global urban and human settlements agenda.

A full version of the Abuja Declaration is available online on www.habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/rt-meetings or on this link [here](#)



The Prague Declaration on European Habitat

Some of the key recommendations this declaration called for are:

- Innovative and productive cities.
- Increasing attractiveness and liveability of cities with a focus on innovation and adequate and affordable housing, ensuring gender equality and women's empowerment as well as taking into consideration youth and gender perspectives.
- Job creation promotion through entrepreneurial-friendly conditions, while respecting the environment.
- Green, compact, resource efficient and resilient cities; Green and better integrated with nature, inclusive, liveable, compact and resilient cities are a priority in policies at all levels of the government and in regional cooperation, especially with regard to members of vulnerable groups, marginalized communities and people with special needs.
- Inclusive and safe cities; To address the causes of discrimination and inequalities, with a particular focus on human rights in cities on the basis of gender equality and as a result of other forms of exclusion and unequal power relations owing to race, ethnicity, culture, caste, class, age, ability or disability, sexual orientation, religion.
- Good urban governance; Improving urban governance by establishing and strengthening local democracy, participatory and multilevel governance, building the capacity of local authorities and all civil society actors, implementing holistic and integrated strategies for sustainable urban development.

A full version of the Prague Declaration is available on www.habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/rt-meetings or on this link [here](#)

The Toluca Declaration for Habitat III

From the perspective of Latin America and the Caribbean, the consolidation of cities and human settlements where people can fully exercise all their rights and freedoms is an indispensable condition to combat structural lags that harm the region's countries and cities like poverty, insecurity and violence, social and territorial inequality and the vulnerability to the effects of climate change.

The Right to the City is considered in some countries as a guiding concept that advocates environments possessing the necessary conditions to facilitate the universal and effective exercise of all human rights—economic, social, and cultural—and, from the regional perspective, can help generate of more and new development opportunities.

For this reason, Latin America and the Caribbean calls on the participation of its political leaders to assume the commitment to push the New urban Agenda forward.

Some key recommendations:

- Incorporate into development planning schemes a focus on the integral and sustainable management of the territory, promoting equitable growth of regions and reinforcing links between urban, peri-urban, and rural areas.



- Promote the development of intermediate cities as service centers for rural areas and as the first link in generating value in production chains
- Recognize that addressing the housing shortage entails the structuring of a comprehensive land policy, and that urban informality is a result of dysfunctional land markets and urban policies, necessitating the strengthening of urbanization programs and integration of informal settlements.
- Ensure the participation of the local population when developing the necessary infrastructure designed to provide universal and equitable access to public services.
- Significantly reduce the impact cities have on climate change through the promotion of consumption and production patterns that are sustainable, as well as develop and apply mitigation and adaptation strategies for climate change.

A full version of the Toluca Declaration is available on www.habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/rt-meetings or on this link [here](#)