

PREPARATIONS FOR HABITAT III

PRESENTATION
TO THE NATIONAL FORUM ON HUMAN
SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
CONSULTATION WORKSHOP FOR A SOUTH AFRICAN
POSITION ON THE NEW URBAN AGENDA
20 JULY 2016



Purpose

- To provide an overview of preparatory processes for Habitat III
- To provide an overview of the emerging issues in the consultations for the Zero Draft Habitat III Outcome Document
- (The Zero Draft is the base document for the negotiations through “informal consultations” at UN Headquarters in New York and formal consultations at the 3rd Preparatory Committee meeting in Indonesia in July)



Background

1. Habitat III will produce the major United Nations policy document on housing, urban development and human settlements for the next 20 years, and South Africa will be expected to implement it. It is thus important that we play an active role in shaping this new global agenda.
2. The preparatory process toward Habitat III enables sector stakeholders to actively engage with new thinking around addressing human settlements and urbanisation.
3. It would thus galvanise parties to achieving the vision for human settlements and safer communities outlined in the National Development Plan.

Background

- In 2014, South Africa submitted its National Report for Habitat III to the United Nations
- The Report was the product of wide-ranging consultations and also based on the outcome of the 20 year Review
- In the National Report, we indicated the issues we would like to see included in the New Urban Agenda:



Issues raised by South Africa for inclusion in the New Urban Agenda under Chapter I: Urban Demographics

- It is expected that New Agenda focus on understanding rural dynamic and on proposing ways to accelerate inclusive growth, expand employment and serve the poor.
- It is imperative that strategies are developed to address the need of young people in fields such as education, skills development etc.
- It is important to maintain focus on HIV/Aids prevention and management.
- Young women must feel safe in urban areas and liveable city design should be encouraged.
- Emphasis must be placed on social development and welfare studies on elderly, leading to targeted programmes that protect and nurture the elderly in a society.

Issues raised by South Africa for inclusion in the New Urban Agenda under Chapter II: Land and Urban Planning

- Ensuring sustainable planning and design
- Improving urban land management and addressing urban sprawl
- Enhancing urban and peri-urban food production
- Addressing urban mobility challenges
- Improving technical capacity to plan and manage cities



Issues raised by South Africa for inclusion in the New Urban Agenda under Chapter III: Environment and Urbanisation

New Agenda should address disaster risks, in particular:

- Poor integrated planning within organs of state needs to be strengthened and the concerned communities must be involved throughout the whole process.
- Through public information and education programmes, communities will take necessary measures to reduce disaster risks at community level.



Issues raised by South Africa for inclusion in the New Urban Agenda under Chapter IV: Urban Governance and Legislation

- Effective administration, support and monitoring of legislation to be effective as a lever for development.
- It is important to recognize the complexity of implementing legislation within a unitary state.
- Implementation of the Spatial Planning and Land use Management Act and means to formalized secure land tenure for the urban poor needs to be prioritised.
- Focus needs to be on adopting a developmental approach that is based on investing in people, place and jobs – this can be achieved through first-class services in public facilities from first class education in our public schools, public transport systems and health services etc.



Issues raised by South Africa for inclusion in the New Urban Agenda under Chapter V: Urban Economy

- Move beyond traditional notions of building competitive cities to a stronger focus on sustainable growth focusing on spatial economic inclusivity
- Targeted employment creation as poverty reduction measure
- Offer more partnerships for innovative solutions to job creation for the poor



Issues raised by South Africa for inclusion in the New Urban Agenda under Chapter VI: Housing and Basic Services

- Encourage slum upgrading and prevention
- Improving access to housing
- Ensuring sustainable access to safe drinking water
- Ensuring sustainable access to basic sanitation and drainage
- Improving access to clean domestic energy
- Improving access to sustainable means of transport



Habitat III Preparatory Process

1. Preparation of National Reports by UN Member states on progress since 1996 in implementing the Habitat II outcomes (Sept 2014)
2. Preparatory Committee 1 and 2 deliberated on how the preparatory process should unfold (Sept 2014 and April 2015)
3. Preparation of Issue Papers to inform the substantive discussions in preparation for Habitat III (prepared by the UN Task Force, made up of all relevant and interested UN agencies) (December 2015)
4. Establishment of policy units comprised of nominated international experts to prepare policy papers to guide the development of the Habitat III outcome document (February 2016)

Habitat III Preparatory Process

5. Habitat III Regional and Thematic Meetings as formal inputs to the preparatory process (including Pretoria Declaration on Informal Settlements)
6. Discussion on the findings and recommendations of the policy units through informal consultations with member states and stakeholders (April 2016)
7. Release of Zero Draft outcome document by Habitat III Bureau (6 May 2016)
8. Inter-sessional process of negotiations at UN Headquarters in New York and subsequent:
 - a. Release of Revised Zero Draft on 18 June
 - b. Release of Draft New Urban Agenda on 15 July
9. Prepcom 3 in Surabaya Indonesia 25 to 27 July 2016

Intersessional Negotiations

CALENDAR APRIL-JULY 2016

25-29 APRIL

Open-ended
informal
consultative
meetings

16-20 MAY

16-17 May
Informal hearings
with local
authorities
associations

18-20 May

Informal
intergovernmental
meetings

Submission
DRAFT ZERO

6-10 JUNE

6-7 June
Informal hearings
with stakeholders

8-10 June

Informal
intergovernmental
meetings

29 JUNE-1 JULY

Informal
intergovernmental
meetings

SURABAYA
PREPCOM3
25-27 JULY

HABITAT III
CONFERENCE
New Urban Agenda
17-20 OCTOBER



LEADING CHANGE IN THE CITY: FROM SLUMS TO INTEGRATED, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Regional Preparatory Process

1. Africa intends actively shaping the New Urban Agenda, in line with its vision for an African Urban Agenda which will promote the structural transformation of the continent to realise its development potential, as articulated in Agenda 2063
2. At the Africa Regional Preparatory Conference for Habitat III in Nigeria in February 2016 Ministers adopted the Common African position for Habitat III as the basis for the negotiating position of the Africa Group
3. It is envisaged that the Common Position will be endorsed by Heads of State at the upcoming AU Summit in Kigali in July 2016



Draft Common African Position for Habitat III

The 8 pillars of the Common African Position for Habitat III are:

- Pillar 1: Harness the potential of Urbanization to accelerate structural economic transformation and inclusive growth
- Pillar 2: Link Sustainable Urban and Human Settlements Development with Resilience
- Pillar 3: Enhance people-centred urban and human settlements development
- Pillar 4: Strengthening institutions and systems for promoting transformative change in human settlements



Draft Common African Position for Habitat III

- Pillar 5: Enhance the contribution of urban and human settlements development to the continental integration process
- Pillar 6: Enhance Africa's global competitiveness through Urban and human settlements development
- Pillar 7: Enhancing Environmental Sustainability and Effective Response to Climate Change in Human Settlements
- Pillar 8: Institute a Global partnership for sustainable urban management to facilitate implementation of the new global urban and human settlements agenda in Africa



Development of the Outcome Document for Habitat III

- The Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III is comprised of two members from each of the five regions of the United Nations
- The 10 members of the Bureau are Chad, Chile, Czech Republic, Ecuador, France, Germany, Indonesia, Senegal, Slovakia, and the United Arab Emirates
- Chair is France, co-chair is Ecuador



Approach & Methodology of the Bureau

Mandate of the Bureau was to provide a transformative, concise and action-oriented outcome:

- Which is communicable, forward-looking, universal, spatially integrative and ambitious , and
- that will emphasize the role of cities and human settlements as a critical means to achieve sustainable development



Approach & Methodology of the Bureau

Therefore the Bureau decided:

- To build the New Urban Agenda on the most advanced international instruments, specifically on the milestones, experiences and the unfinished business of Habitat II and the urban components of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
- To elaborate a document that reflects global challenges in urbanization areas, and seeks to eradicate poverty, promote inclusive growth, improve well-being and resilience, and provide new opportunities in planning and managing urban development.



- To draw most of the proposals from agreed outcomes of previous UN Summits and processes, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement on climate change, the Sendai Framework for Disasters Risk Reduction and the Addis-Ababa Action Agenda.
- To work in a very constructive way with a real will to propose a document more responsive to the urban development major challenges.
- To accommodate all main views and priorities of regional groups, drawing on the Regional and thematic Declarations, the summary of national and regional reports, and the Policy papers recommendations.



STRUCTURE OF THE DOCUMENT

➤ **QUITO DECLARATION**

➤ **QUITO IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF
ACTION**



QUITO DECLARATION

The Quito Declaration has three elements:

- ✓ Our shared vision
- ✓ Our principles and commitments
- ✓ Call for Action

It recognises four universally applicable fundamental drivers of change:

- ✓ National urban policies
- ✓ Urban legislation
- ✓ Urban and territorial planning
- ✓ Effective financing frameworks



The Quito implementation Plan for the New Urban Agenda

The Quito implementation Plan for the New Urban Agenda has three substantive parts :

- A. Transformative commitments**
- B. Effective implementation**
- C. Follow-up and Review.**



A. The transformative Commitments for Sustainable Urban Development

The idea was to focus on the three pillars of the sustainable development: social, economic and environmental. Following that logic, it has established the following sections:

- ✓ Sustainable and inclusive urban prosperity and opportunities for all
- ✓ Sustainable Urban Development for Social Inclusion and Poverty Eradication
- ✓ Environmentally Sound and Resilient Urban Development



B. Effective implementation

Objective: To identify strategies that translate the commitments into concrete actions to bring adequate solutions to the vast urban challenges. In this spirit, the Zero draft proposes the following three sections:

- ✓ Building the urban governance structure:
Establishing a supportive framework
- ✓ Planning and Managing the urban spatial development
- ✓ Means of implementation



B1 “Building the Urban Governance Structure: Establishing a supportive framework”

Under this section, the objective is to encourage:

- ✓ The establishment of national and local frameworks, including the stakeholder engagement framework
- ✓ An inclusive and implementable national urban policies that could guide the sustainable urban development actions at all levels.



B2 “Planning and managing urban spatial development”

Objective: Implementation of an integrated urban spatial development strategies supporting the realization of integrated and well-connected cities and human settlements, including peri-urban areas and the rural hinterland. The focus is on the following areas able to harness social and economic benefits of urban opportunities:

- ✓ Urban and Territorial Planning
- ✓ Housing and slum upgrading
- ✓ Land
- ✓ Transport and Mobility
- ✓ Urban Basic Services
- ✓ Heritage and Culture



LEADING CHANGE IN THE CITY: FROM SLUMS TO INTEGRATED, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

B3 “Means of Implementation”

Adequate financial resources and capacities at all levels and the deployment of a wide range of means of implementation are critical to address challenges and opportunities of urban development. To achieve the objectives, the Zero Draft proposes the following tools:

- ✓ Domestic Public Resources
- ✓ Financial Management referring to the Revenue and Expenditure, Borrowing and Climate finance
- ✓ Partnerships
- ✓ International Development Cooperation
- ✓ Science, Technology, Innovation and Capacity Development, including Data collection and analysis.



C The Follow-up and Review

Objective:

To carry out the follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda :

- to ensure its effective implementation and progressive impact,
- by establishing a periodic, effective, inclusive, and transparent framework,
- at the global, regional, national, sub-national and local levels,
- feeding into and coherent with the 2030 Agenda follow-up and review, and recognizing and strengthening the existing platforms and processes.



Follow-up and Review

In this regard:

- The existing mandate and leading role of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), in coordinating the United Nations System on urban development issues has been reaffirmed
- Its expertise to supporting governments to formulate and implement policies to achieve the Agenda 2030 goals and the New Urban Agenda has been stated.



Follow up and Review

- UN-Habitat is requested to prepare a periodic progress report on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, and to generate, with other relevant stakeholders evidence-based and practical guidance for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.
- The creation of an International Multi-stakeholder Panel on Sustainable Urbanization, coordinated by UN-Habitat in collaboration with the rest of the UN System, was proposed even if the idea was not seen or considered as a priority within the Bureau.



Follow-up and Review

In line with:

- the General Assembly recommendations,
- The Abuja Declaration (of the Habitat III Regional Meeting for Africa)
- The Toluca Declaration (Habitat III Regional Meeting of Latin American and the Caribbean),

the Bureau has agreed to propose the strengthening of UN-Habitat in implementing the New Urban Agenda and the urban and human settlements component of the 2030 Agenda, by considering the specific following measures:



Follow-up and Review

- Establishing universal membership in its Governing Council to give it more authority and legitimacy in decision-making;
- Ensuring adequate, stable, and predictable financial resources, both from the regular and non-regular UN budget;
- Improving the ability of the organization to provide capacity development to developing countries in designing, planning, and the implementation and sustainable management of urban and other human settlements;
- Empowering UN-Habitat as the UN institution that seeks to mobilize and engage all actors on the sustainable urbanization agenda and urban governance.

Brief analysis and views on the zero draft

- The zero draft reflects areas and issues where the Bureau members have fully agreed,
- Certain issues which some regional groups would like to see differently, formulation on some issues that are found significantly weak, and other important matters are not integrated.
- There was unanimity in the Bureau to include only concepts and notions that are not controversial and compatible to what deems integral to the urban development.



Brief analysis and views on the zero draft

- There is a significant reference to the essential role of regional, subnational governments in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the need for a renewed local-national partnership based inter alia on an effective decentralization.
- The zero draft called for a more integrated and strategic territorial approach to national urban policies, as a strong support for an important role for local government in local economic development
- The acknowledgement of the importance of capacity-building and development cooperation, as well as partnerships.



Brief analysis and views on the zero draft

- The zero draft was not able to find common ground around several issues, in particular a clear and an oriented vision of sustainable urban development for the upcoming twenty years. A vision that seeks to prioritize the needs of developing countries, specifically those in particular situation as LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs, and enhances international cooperation in urban development areas.
- The draft should accentuate the need of plugging the gap between developed and developing countries and, in order to leave no one behind, make reference to others actors, like primary producers of food, namely farmers and other agricultural stakeholders within the food value chain, as a key vehicle to ending hunger and eliminating poverty.



Brief analysis and views on the zero draft

Already in the document and **MUST** remain untouched

- The UN system wide coordinating role of UN-Habitat based in Nairobi
- All references to Cities **and Human settlements**
- Housing and basic services (adequate shelter for all)
- Urbanization as a force for structural transformation of national economies



Brief analysis and views on the zero draft

Not prominent in document and should be included

- Regional integration to advance territorial planning and infrastructure delivery
- Strengthening the value add in primary production as a trigger to industrialization and sustainable urban growth
- Gender-sensitive budgeting at local, subnational and national government levels
- Promote growth and development of urban corridors and trans-border conurbations as catalysts for regional integration
- Forestalling urban primacy by promoting territorial balance



Thank You

