Conference A
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Committee Staff

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<td>Director</td>
<td>Citlali Mora Catlett</td>
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<td>Chair</td>
<td>Marcus Sanchez</td>
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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

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<td>UNDP/1/2</td>
<td>Urbanization and Sustainable Development</td>
<td>24 votes in favor, 0 vote against, 3 abstentions</td>
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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.
The United Nations Development Programme,

Fully aware that sustainable urbanization is a global challenge that all Member States face and that better understanding of this issue is essential among all Member States,

Having devoted attention to the inclusive participation from a wide diversity of actors and experts during the preparatory process of Habitat III and wanting to reinforce this engagement strategy,

Understanding that knowledge sharing, both in continuous and punctual forms, is usually carried out through the medium of databases, conferences, and educational workshops, as is shown by the French Alliance for Cities and Territorial Development (PFVT),

Stressing the importance of collaboration between cities facing similar challenges such as through South-South cooperation, while keeping in mind and working to preserve vital cultural history,

Recognizing the need for sharing best practices for sustainability between Member States, such as full electronic participation, in order to create sustainable business practices, which will be further developed by the Urban Indicators Guidelines,

Recalling the past success of information sharing initiatives such as the World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty (WACAP),

Recognizing that marginalized groups such as women and indigenous populations still face significant barriers, in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 pertaining to “Gender Equality” and SDG 10, in obtaining equitable access to information and knowledge in regard to sustainable urban development,

Approving projects such as modernizing vocational education and training developing learning designs for differentiated education for gifted and talented students in a makerspace setting, such events made possible by forums such as the UN Global Sustainable Transport Conference,

Understands the importance of technology being available to the general population of each Member State, which is in line with SDG 9, “Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure”, which fosters innovation and acts as a first step in ensuring sustainability in urban planning,

Emphasizes the need for the maintained support of programs increasing internet access globally, which is an essential component to SDG 10, “Reducing Inequalities”, and SDG 11, which is “Sustainable Cities and Communities”,

Recalling the imperative of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable as outlined in Target 11.3 in SDG 11,

Acknowledging the success of frameworks for regional cooperation such as the Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Americas and the Moscow Urban Forum,

Encourages expanding cooperation between national governments and their domestic businesses in efforts to bolster domestic investment for private-sector businesses through public-private partnerships (PPPs), in line with SDG 17, in order to better support sustainable local development,
Recognizing the important position mayors and any urban decision-makers hold when shaping cities towards resilience, modernity, and inclusivity as well as the emphasizing unequal access to best practices and lessons as discussed by the Global Parliament of Mayors,

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

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

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

1. Recommends the creation of a constantly updated international online platform listing best practices in the sphere of urban development to support local actors around the world in sustainable urban planning titled the “Urbanization Partnerships Database” with the following attributes, that can allow it to be:

   a. Assigned to UN-Habitat and co-managed by the UNDP, and recommending that their existing budgets be used in order to maintain the database;

   b. Operated with the support of UN-Habitat’s regional and national offices, with the financial support of any and all willing Member States, as well as any private entities willing to supplement funding and maintenance for the database;

   c. Hosted on the existing UN-Habitat server infrastructure;

   d. Aimed at operating at a global level, where:

      i. National governments and non-governmental actors can collaborate with UNDP to facilitate knowledge-sharing in proven best practices in the field of urban planning policy;

      ii. UNDP Member States encourage non-governmental actors to have good faith practices with Member States, and UNDP encourages that non-governmental actors utilize UNDP funding transparent through actions and reports to both Member States they operate within, as well as UNDP as a body;

      iii. Governments and local authorities have full authority to use and access the database within their own borders and prioritize the access to said database in regard to their own citizens;

   e. Making certain that the database is available in at least in the six official languages of the United Nations to make it accessible for all;

   f. Divide the database into specific areas related to different fields in best practices, including technology application, according to the Member States’ desires and needs:

      i. Remaining dedicated to smart transport development that will ease traffic and make public transportation more accessible for rural areas while following the recommendations of the UN Global Sustainable Transport Conferences;

      ii. Being committed to finding smart waste disposal management that should be aimed to be automatic to reduce waste’s environmental impact;
iii. Searching for more eco-friendly and diversified energy systems, which consider the local specifics and make their urban planning more resilient to shocks such as natural disasters or sudden fuel price hikes;

iv. Including any relevant field of technology that can help facilitate sustainability and build resilient cities;

v. Making best efforts to preserve cultural history, especially architecture harmony, despite rapid urbanization;

2. **Recommends** the implementation of an online educational partnerships platform program that focuses on professional training for specialized fields in the disciplines of urbanization and sustainable development including water and waste management, urban planning, sustainable energy systems, disaster resiliency, among others, organized and overseen by UN-Habitat, partnering with global educational institutions as part of the Urbanization Partnerships Database, through:

a. Publishing existing opportunities for educational development and professional training to increase access to said programs to otherwise unknowing candidates;

b. Fostering exchange programs between people in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and universities offering urbanization and sustainable development programs of study, to generate a larger pool of educated professionals to lead urbanization and sustainable development projects in LDCs;

c. Providing an easily accessible platform for universities around the globe to share information and technology in regard to their urbanization and sustainable development curriculum to promote the spread of best practices in the education fields of these disciplines;

d. Creating internships and professional development partnerships between graduate students and LDCs to encourage urbanization and sustainable development projects in LDCs while also providing valuable experience to young professionals in these disciplines;

e. Proposing the inclusion, a repertoire of on-demand online courses created by a panel of experts, officials, and administrators assembled by UN-Habitat, administered and updated by UN-Habitat’s regional and local offices, aimed at administrators and officials involved with urban development projects in local areas, and with the goal of leveraging digital resources to offer free and streamlined practical know-how;

3. **Requests** UNDP to implement conferences on improving life in cities by holding a regional annual forum connecting local urban-policy makers, mayors, researchers, and representatives of the private sector, in order to:

a. Bring together those involved in sustainable urbanization efforts in the cities of their respective regional UNDP offices starting November 2019 with additional voluntary support from local bodies such as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and ASEAN;

b. Utilize funding from UNDP sources, as well as non-governmental and private organizations;

c. Exchange information, experiences, and approaches in regard to dealing with shared issues connected to urbanization;

d. Report results to the annual WACAP forum to interconnect the respective regions;

e. Give representatives of the private sector the chance to present their innovative and sustainable projects to tackle urban challenges by contributing to the financing of the conference;
f. Enable online-participation via an urbanization partnership database (UPD);

4. Invites Member States to create and implement educational workshops with the following settings:
   a. Financing coming from UNDP budget first and then the additional needed funding will be given from willing Member States’ budgets with the support of donations coming from private funds that are overseen by Member States’ ministries of education or equivalents;
   b. Personnel assigned by Member States’ ministries of education or relevant equivalents, assisted by volunteers from willing non-governmental actors, including but not limited to teachers, university professors, and administrators chosen for their background in education and urban planning policy;
   c. Centered on providing an understanding to all citizens in Member States on the guidelines of living sustainably and what that entails for the people and the state overall, implemented by willing non-governmental actors;

5. Advocates UNDP to work with more educational organizations to build a dynamic connection between rural and urban areas during the process of urbanization through advocating for all Member States to reach out to more scholars and volunteers to offer education assistance, while remaining alarmed by the inequality among education in rural and urban areas internationally, and noting that it is essential to bring awareness to the issues regarding education to all Member States;

6. Further suggests the creation of public consultations in the form of citizen assemblies to promote the inclusion of citizens in the new sustainable urban planning of their cities, and thus, collect the public’s opinion on the needs of their cities and allow them to debate on the appropriate ideal to elaborate for a sustainable development, where:
   a. The assemblies should be set up by each city, in the location and disposition of their choice, as long as the setup facilitates a climate for debate;
   b. Each city should have the responsibility of the organization and the financing of the assemblies at the discretion of each Member State’s resources;
   c. The results of the assemblies should be taken in consideration for future urban planning of the city;

7. Recommends the expansion of the World Alliance of Cities Against Poverty’s global forum to create a local forum named the inclusive sustainable urbanization project (ISUP) that will supervise and support the sustainable urbanization of second sized cities to fight against poverty, which:
   a. Should elect 20 cities per year and organize local scale debates in each of the elected cities, inviting and allowing different actors to come and share projects to resolve local sustainable challenges;
   b. Help to gather different actors such as universities, specialists, political representatives, schools, and laborers to develop innovative projects resolving sustainability challenges within a city, identifying specific measurable goals and allowing them to share their views, and to develop an inclusive approach to urbanization;
   c. Organize a vote to choose the most feasible and effective projects, and to support financially the implementation of these projects during the specified time required to complete the project;
   d. Improve the elected projects and help the community to learn about the challenges they faced during and after the implementation, verifying if goals have been achieved by the
8. **Emphasizes** the inclusion of marginalized groups, especially women and indigenous populations in obtaining equitable access to technology information in order to better ensure their capacity in supporting sustainable development;

9. **Encourages** local governments and communities, under the supervision of UN-Habitat's National Urban Policy program, wishing to undertake infrastructural project to improve economic growth by hiring regional contractors:
   a. Involving local non-governmental actors in the process to use local knowledge and resources through consultation;
   b. Ensuring that the information is made available to regionally qualified local contractors by public announcement and advertisement;

10. **Recommend** that UNDP in partnership with UN-Habitat provides biannual consultancy in UN-Habitat local offices in regard to the feasibility of infrastructural projects and accountability of third parties in charge through monitoring, and:
   a. Making clear and precise targets for Member States;
   b. Creating an infrastructural analysis plan to make projects and objectives better understandable for Member States;

11. **Further recommends** strengthening the capacity of regional, national, and local stakeholders to access and share technology, including, but not limited to, the fields of sustainable development and urbanization;

12. **Draws** the attention of all Member States and those with observer status within UNDP to engage seriously with regional bodies in meaningful conversation with the ultimate goal of strengthening advocacy work within their local communities;

13. **Recommend** the use of the meaningful indicators included in UN-Habitat's Urban Indicators Guideline on urban projects to enable effective communication on common goals.
The United Nations Development Programme,

Guided by the ideals set forth in the Charter of the United Nations specifically Article II which emphasizes the importance of individual state sovereignty within international solutions,

Aware of the World Health Organization’s (WHO) report titled Sustainable Cities Health at the Heart of Urban Development (2017), which highlights the importance of social considerations within urbanization as well as the need for a more people-centered approach to decrease poverty when working to achieve sustainable development as promoted in Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1,

Noting with concern that the Food and Agriculture Organization’s (FAO) report titled Climate Smart Agriculture (2019) has stated that the rapid growth of cities in the developing world is placing massive demands on urban food supply systems, which obstruct the realization of SDG 2,

Mindful of social considerations of urbanization as well as the need for more initiatives paying particular attention to health issues, as it is highlighted in documents like WHO resolution (AFR/RC66/15) “African Public Health Emergency Fund: The Way Forward” (2016) and in SDG 3,

Emphasizing the importance of education to the urban development process and to achieving SDG 4 both practically and as a driver for capacity building, especially in the global south, to build up their cities in a reliable way, as also mentioned in the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization’s (UNESCO) report named Education and Urban Development: Alliance for a Sustainable Future 2004,

Re-emphasizing the importance of women in all stages of the urban development and encouraging Member States to support the role of women in government and civil society, recalling the goals set forth in United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (1981) and the UN-Women Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women “Beijing+30” (2015), from the Fourth World Conference on Women, and SDG 5,

Acknowledges the necessity to improve living conditions and expand access to basic needs to those living in poor urban environments with an emphasis on public health, sanitation management, and, water management in accordance with the WHO article titled Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (2019) and SDG 6,

Recognizing that according to the United Nations Sustainable Development’s platform article titled Access to Energy for Development SDG Action 665 (2015) the increased use of renewable energy is essential for resilient and sustainable urbanization, as well as achieving SDG 7,

Deeply conscious of the desire states and communities have to build capacity and increase developmental independence whenever possible as displayed by General Assembly resolution 69/313 (2015) on “Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development” (Addis Ababa Action Agenda) and SDG 8, and reduce the need for foreign investment dependency, and that without that capacity-building information sharing alone is not enough,

Bearing in mind that SDG 9 and the Secretary General’s Envoy on Youth emphasized at the Economic Commission for Africa in 2017 the importance of youth as an engine of development for cities,

Acknowledges that there are international economic decisions that disproportionately affect the developing world especially given the structure of some international financial institutions and how it
prevents developing states from gaining funding for pressing urbanization projects without incurring unsustainable debt that further exacerbates the economic inequality that is outlined in SDG 10.

Recognizing the importance of the General Assembly’s resolution A/RES/66/288 (2012) on “The Future We Want” that emphasizes the need for enhanced capacity building and the strengthening of local communities to achieve sustainable development,

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

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

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

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

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

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

1. Further reminds Member States of the importance of sustainable practices to achieve resilience while actively urbanizing to look to and implement strategies set forth by the UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform to combat hurdles that arise with urbanization;

2. Suggests Member States to use the UNDP-UN Environment Poverty Environment Initiative (PEI) as a guide for urbanization planning practices to decrease economic and social inequalities that arise in vast city resilience planning;

3. Recommends Member States implement or expand upon climate-smart urban agriculture programs similar to the FAO’s Food for the Cities Program, which uses City Region Food Systems (CRFS) to monitor food resources and agricultural growing environments within cities to integrate best practice methods when growing and distributing food in urban environments;
4. **Highlights** the importance of ensuring access to regular health care services as well as taking into account individuals’ psychological well-being, by:

- a. Securing basic physical health care services such as access to medication, vaccinations, and regular checkups, reproductive health and prenatal services to decrease infant and maternal mortality, to nutritional services such as, but not limited to, supplements and vitamins;

- b. Emphasizing the need to combat health complications that arise from climate change effects due to contamination of air, water, and scarce resources resulting in pulmonary and cardiac stress, birth defects, and exposure to toxins, etc.;

- c. Provide specific using the already existent WHO’s Mental Health Atlas (2017), an important tool providing information and data on the progress towards the achievement of objectives and targets of the Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013–2020, as well as planning mental health services within countries and regions, which shall:
  - i. Evaluate the direct effects on mental health caused by urbanized environments and recognize the specific vulnerable population affected by socioeconomic stress, who are much more at risk to experience social and economic adversity;
  - ii. Share the project’s results with concerned Member States so that they can evaluate their needs;
  - iii. Provide specific tools to respond to individual Member States’ needs and to integrate them at a national scale by taking into account the recommendations of the Mental Health Atlas to work on facilitating the integration of individuals that migrate from rural environment to cities, where social and economic factors increase mental issues;

5. **Strongly endorses** that Member States expand upon education initiatives for urban development similar to the Urban Planning and Design Hub established by UN-Habitat which uses workshops and technology to educate local level populations on urban planning and design for a more sustainable city;

6. **Further recommends** UN-Women to continue to fund urban planning programs through the Fund for Gender Equality, and encourages states to avail themselves of these funds to assist in the implementation of SDG 5, as it pertains to urbanization, and in meeting the goals set forth in CEDAW;

7. **Strongly endorses** UNDP further collaborate with the WHO and UN Water to implement sustainable water infrastructure programs to increase overall public health while ensuring that developing nations will have the capacity to continue to run these programs that:

- a. Improves and expands hydrological public health infrastructure to ensure access to clean water and sanitation for all through:
  - i. Building and expanding on limited water infrastructure to secure access to safe drinking water for all;
  - ii. Creating and improving upon waste management and sanitation infrastructure to decrease the spread of communicable diseases;

- b. Encourages the facilitation of training programs for developing states provided by developed states as technical expertise and developing states to increase South-South cooperation and independence;

- c. Ensures that efficient resources and knowledge are available to developing states to continue to improve upon these services;

- d. Utilizes the Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking Water (GLAAS) initiative and biannual reports that they publish to aid in the establishment of effective public
policy and administration measures across all levels of government in regard to all Member States;

8. **Appeals** to Member States to look to the joint UN Environment-One Gigaton Coalition guidelines for implementing renewable energy in developing countries titled **Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Developing Countries: Contribution to Reducing Global Emissions (2017)** to reduce emissions based in non-renewable energy by streamlining the process of creating and implementing renewable sources of energy to create a foundation for sustainability in developing nations;

9. **Recommends** Member States to collaborate with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and regional bodies to create sustainable economic growth opportunity programs similar to the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)’s Empowering Novel Agri-Business-Led Employment for Youth in African Agriculture, which offers life skills education, job training, and internships to empower youth and women in the agricultural and small business sectors;

10. **Strongly endorses** Member States implement innovative information and communications technology (ICT) projects within urban planning similar to UN-Habitat’s Block by Block program that uses Minecraft to engage youth in the process of planning sustainable cities through online technology;

11. **Invites** the World Bank to examine the possibility of encouraging states to seek alternative, debt free funding, especially via the Sustainable Development Fund (SDF), before offering them a loan and increasing their sovereign debt, which will allow them to more sustainably develop over time;

12. **Recommends** Member States expand upon sustainable transportation initiatives similar to the Cairo Integrated Mobility Project, which is a collaboration between the Egyptian government, UNDP, and UN-Habitat, which has made efforts to increase resilient transportation on top of already existing transportation infrastructure across the greater Cairo region;

13. **Invites** all Members States to reduce sulfur oxides (SO2) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) levels by at least 20% until 2040 compared to the levels of 2010, in order to reach this goal:
   a. Member States should encourage the creation of green certified buildings, as well as make innovation-driven plans considering the support for advocating green energy to help industrial structure reform;
   b. Member States should prioritize sustainable and renewable power generation both in national and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI);
   c. Member States should acknowledge that least developed states face extra challenges in implementing all pollution reduction goals due to both lack of capacity and their phase of industrial development; to that end the Sustainable Development Goals Fund should continue providing funds to least developed states, especially to facilitate South-South cooperation (SSC) and South-South Triangular Cooperation (SSTC);

14. **Recommends** the Secretariat appoint a special rapporteur tasked with performing an assessment of the Green Climate Fund (GCF), the rapporteurs report should:
   a. Result in a report detailing contributions to The GCF;
   b. The status of commitments being met;
   c. The distribution of funds to beneficiary states;
   d. How those states have spent those funds;
e. Serve to assist UNDP and the UN as a whole in identifying further needs to aid the developing world in implementing SDG 13, and provided information on the success of the GCF so far;

f. Once completed the assessment should be delivered to UNDP and Economic and Social Council and be made available to all interested parties;

15. **Further recommends** the implementation of efficient land use policies and practices to all levels of the governments of rapidly urbanizing states to protect the health of ecosystems and biodiversity in alignment with SDG 15, preservation of life on land, due to the unsustainable expansion practices urban areas are currently experiencing:

a. Incorporating educational as well as funding programs to protect and restore the environment with the promotion of conservation efforts supporting restoration projects protecting against loss of animal and vegetation diversity and encouraging efficient management of natural resources;

b. Combatting land degradation processes through educational programs focused on the reduction of deforestation to prevent the desertification of fertile land, and the decreases the use of unsustainable and harmful agricultural practices;

c. Partnering with the UNDP-GEF Unit to establish adequate funding for solid waste management facilities and services to organize the necessary resources to create sustainable waste management operations such as landfills and refuse collection, and to control the flow of chemicals and hazardous wastes harmful to human and ecosystem health to avoid further contamination of terrestrial environments;

16. **Establishes** the Global Program For Electoral Cycle Support III (GPECS III) in support of UNDP’s electoral support mission especially as a foundation for inclusive urbanization and the achievement of SDG 16, continuing the work of GPECS I and GPECS II in providing support for national election management bodies (EMBs) and the right of self-determination for all people, while specifically working towards ensuring that urban dwellers who are often cut off from their traditional social structures are still included in civil and political society:

a. By including a special focus within GPECS III further supporting local elections, for example those for city councils and mayors, which will serve to strengthen urban capacity, especially in rapidly urbanizing areas, serving to make cities both more inclusive and more responsive to the needs of their people;

b. By advocating for increased local-level governmental and NGO support for vulnerable urban populations (indigenous populations, disabled persons, women and youth), especially new urban dwellers to gain personal experience with election participation, the results of which will be directly observable by individual voters;

c. GPECS III will also continue to support EMBs generally by helping with, creating strategic plans, preparing cost assessments and budgets, drafting and implementing procedural plans, drafting results management plans, engaging with stakeholders, with special attention paid to community groups, and organizations, especially those that assist and represent new urban dwellers, and, support gender mainstreaming and the inclusion of younger citizens in the process, while also working specifically on supporting the development of local governments, especially city councils and community advisory boards in urban areas;

d. GPECS III will be funded, as were GPECS I and GPECS II by voluntary contributions from both Member States and NGOs and other non-profits;
17. *Endorses* the importance of cooperation within the UN, by emphasizing that SSC and other cooperation efforts are essential to create sustainable cities and all Member States should strive to make cooperation one of their key targets to create a climate for peace, thus we implore all Members States to collaborate internationally by leaving nobody behind and enabling everyone to reach the SDGs;

18. *Further reminds* Member States that while the SDG agenda is set to finish in 2030 these practices should continue to be implemented past the agenda date to continue projects in sustainability.
The United Nations Development Programme,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3. Recommends the creation of a permanent body recruited from around the globe which consists of urban planning experts specializing in architecture, engineering, and project management, alongside the UNDP’s existing consultants and contractors hiring program to provide STEM expertise in relation to infrastructure development for sustainable urbanization by:
a. Facilitating bi-annual urban infrastructure development seminars organized by Member States’ respective ministries of land planning, urbanization or other relevant equivalents, through cooperation with private corporations, public entities, universities, and this conglomerate of urban planning experts to share knowledge across sectors through local panels and classes to serve as a resource for rural communities in regard to sustainable development and urbanization techniques;

b. Performing cooperative fieldwork with private firms to support hands-on learning through local internships and volunteer opportunities with the goal of generating human capital within existing communities through national skills development strategies and expanding UNDP consultancies from a short-term development emphasis to long-term;

4. Further recommends that financial capital and human capital from the aforementioned bodies be used to revive stalled projects to support the creation of new local startups centered in STEM technology for rural urbanization in underdeveloped regions through:

a. Expansion of a local approach to community development through the creation of local socio-economic development plans that mirror each Member States’ respective national socio-economic development plans, with these plans being:

i. Created at a local level with assistance from partnerships between Member States and the UNDP and suggested assistance from the World Bank;

ii. Revised by the permanent body of urban planning experts every four years that gives nonmandatory suggestions, beginning in 2020 through cooperation between local and regional officials as well as national governments;

b. Direction of funds to projects including, but not limited to plumbing systems and wastewater management, roads and public transportation networks, health care facilities, sustainable housing projects, and local private sector development;

5. Encourages communities to focus on the hiring of local labor through the creation of job matching entities with an emphasis on STEM fields for urbanization of smaller, rural communities with the goal of:

a. Long term job creation and employment;

b. Reducing the trend of brain drain;

c. Promoting gross domestic product (GDP) growth;

6. Recommends that UN-Habitat regional, national and local offices carry out their own bottom-up fundraising activities to supplement the usual top-down UN allocated budget:

a. Incentivizing public grants and private donations from actors including but not limited to local and municipal government funds, private businesses and trust funds, and private donations from individuals;

b. In order to improve their ability to carry out their designated mandates, especially in regard to studying and supporting sustainable urban planning and policies;

c. Through traditional as well as social media campaigns carried out in the form of calls to action and to donations, while reiterating the importance of the work being carried out by UN-Habitat local offices;
7. **Further recommends** that UN-Habitat regional, national and local offices further reinforce their cooperation:

a. With actors including but not limited to Local Urban Observatories, National Ministries of Development, Urbanism, Land Planning or equivalent Ministries or sub-Ministries within Member States and carrying the same mandate, national and local public and private research universities, local NGOs operating in the field of sustainable development, urbanization and urban planning in good faith and transparent practices;

b. To foster a better common understanding of the most recent and urgent problems that populations living in urban areas currently face;

c. To share their research and findings together on the relevant UN online data repositories and resources so that redundant or overlapping work is avoided and further innovative solutions are achieved;

d. To consider releasing inter-agency, multilevel and multilateral publications on existing UN servers and content distribution platforms in order to follow the UN spirit of cooperation while increasing the potential scope of said publications;

e. To consider leveraging inter-agency social media capabilities in order to increase the reach of their promotions and advertisements, to help the local populations better understand the nature of the work being done and to incentivize them to contribute with their own efforts.
The United Nations Development Programme,

Having devoted attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 7, 8, 9, and 11, which aim to provide clean and affordable energy, innovate industrialization, and sustainable economic growth to shift toward innovative transportation and energy infrastructure, and achieve sustainable urban development,

Noting with satisfaction the 2016 United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), which created the New Urban Agenda for 2030 (2016), and set an unprecedented global standard for sustainable urban development,

Noting the urgency of balancing environmental protection and the urbanization process, as stated in the Cancun Agreement (2010),

Acknowledging the importance of private sector involvement with urban communities, cities, and economies, as well as stakeholder implications in climate issues and policy-making, as discussed at the World Urban Forum (2001),

Aware of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Cities (2030), which calls attention to the persistent challenges faced by cities and human settlements, such as limited opportunities and mechanisms for youth and women, inequitable access to the city, human rights violations, as well as gender inequalities, thus recognizing the emerging challenges which require urgent action,

Affirming the World Bank Group’s City Resilience Program (DPR), an effort that aims to assist city governments by connecting cities to the necessary financing with the tools to pursue efforts to build greater resilience to climate and disaster risks by connecting states with sources of private capital and investors,

Recognizing the importance of increasing the number, diversity, and sustainability of means of transport, as acknowledged in the report Mobilizing Sustainable Transport for Development (2016) by the Secretary General’s High-Level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport,

Conscious that 91% of the world’s population resides in areas where overall pollution levels exceed World Health Organization (WHO) guideline limits, as stated by the WHO in regard to ambient air pollution,

Expressing its concern regarding the Climate Vulnerability Monitor report, which states that in 2010 a combined 4.5 million deaths were related to the use of fossil fuels, highlighting the need to use more sustainable energy sources,

Considering the Economic and Social Council resolution E/CN.5/2018/NGO/7 on “Statement submitted by IUS PRIMI VIRI International Association, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council” and the significant role of building country development plans for urbanization and the importance of creating satellite cities near big cities to reduce the problems of unplanned urbanization,

1. Suggests that all Member States create a national satellite-city development plan to develop smaller cities near the existing and over-populated ones by:
a. Recommending the implementation of incentives such as, but not limited to, tax reduction and subsidies for businesses to relocate to satellite cities through governments at the discretion of the Member State;

b. Promoting national cooperation on developing sustainable public transport solutions, whether it is inter-city or intra-city transportation, such as high-speed electric powered trains, subways, buses, or tramway, with the intent of encouraging public transport use and reducing fare prices of every mean of transportation;

c. Offering more affordable housing in satellite cities through property tax reduction for low-income residents at the discretion and evaluation of the Member State;

d. Using knowledge and guidance from experts in urban planning or equivalent experience that work for the Executive Office of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) based on their knowledge criteria of urban planning;

e. Encouraging Member States to use assistance from the United Nations Capital Development Fund to fulfill the efforts of the country’s development plans;

2. **Encourages** all Member States to implement revegetation strategies in their highly populated areas through the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWFN), which would include:

a. The creation of public green spaces such as parks, community gardens, or schoolyards in urban areas, such as but not limited to schools, hospitals, airports, and train stations, modeled after the UN Human Settlements Program’s (UN-Habitat) Global Public Space Programme, which is currently working to improve the quality of public spaces worldwide, as well as the general wellbeing of communities, and quality of life;

b. The implementation of rooftops, vertical gardens, and orchards on all public building with the aim that all gardens would be owned by the city and managed by a civil society organization, that would report to the city annually and be taken care of by the community’s marginalized populations in order to increase community cohesion as well as provide food to the community’s less privileged members;

c. The identification of fragile areas as defined by the Commission on Sustainable Development’s (CSD) Agenda 21, with a focus on these ecosystems within an urban context, such as but not limited to marshes, streams, coastal areas, and their protection from soil artificialization and construction;

d. Funding for developing Member States is achieved by the WWFN, foundations and trusts, grants, and through development agencies, such as the Norwegian Agency, done to achieve an amount of funds to be able to distribute and allocate in developing Member States;

3. **Advises** Member States to utilize the Food and Agriculture Organization’s Forestry and Wildlife Commission for their respective regions to implement monitoring mechanisms based on the existing mechanisms for their Member State to ensure the protection of biodiversity from increasing urbanization and enable them to communicate their results and reports at regional levels;

4. **Encourages** Member States to continue promoting the participation of the private sector in the environmental enhancement of communities through national subsidies and tax reductions to private businesses who apply components of the city’s revegetation strategy into private sector practices at the discretion of each Member State;

5. **Expresses** the hope for all Member States to implement more sustainable transportation systems within all urban areas through the expansion of the Sustainable Transport Initiative with a focus on alternative transportation methods, by:
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.