



Code: UN-Habitat/1/1

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Program

Topic: Building Smart Cities to Implement the New Urban Agenda

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),

Strongly agreeing with the *New Urban Agenda* that advocates providing basic services and equal opportunities for all, supporting cleaner cities, and abating impacts of disasters and greenhouse gas emissions,

Observing the utmost importance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as outlined in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, and the People-First Smart Cities initiative,

Reiterating the ineluctable tendency of rapid urbanization and recalling the United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC) initiative that defined smart sustainable cities as cities that use information and communication technologies (ICTs) to enhance the quality of life for their citizens, increase efficiency of urban planning, organization and operation, and also ensure the needs of present and future generations,

Alarmed by the United Nations' (UN) estimate that there will be 400 million job losses globally due to the impacts of COVID-19, with the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita expected to decline by 4.2 percent in 2020,

Taking note that cities and metropolitan areas are powerhouses to economic growth- contributing about 60 percent of global GDP, but also account for about 70 percent of global carbon emissions and over 60 percent of resource use,

Aware that 40 percent of urban growth is occurring in slums and will only worsen economic inequality if growth is unchecked,

Mindful that Member States may have different needs based on their unique geographic location and availability of resources,

Emphasizing that low-income Member States need the guidance of higher-income Member States when implementing the New Urban Agenda's goal of integrating smart city technology in regions,

Acknowledging that developing Member States are often unable to make advances in implementing smart city technology and achieving the *New Urban Agenda's* goal of expanding equal opportunities to all people due to a lack of widespread and affordable Internet access,

Noting with satisfaction the success of past data collection efforts facilitated by UN-Habitat in clarifying socio-economic drivers behind the state of urbanization in participating Member States,

Stressing the relationship between accurate data collection and informed decision making that is integral to sustainable urban development,

Affirming the importance of information sharing between regions to effectively implement the Smart City initiative in alignment with the *New Urban Agenda* and the SDGs,

Noting further how the sharing of technology is an important factor in the creation and sustainment of smart cities and the achievement of the *New Urban Agenda*,

Bearing in mind from General Assembly resolution 71/381 and the *New Urban Agenda*, sustainable cities cannot be implemented in a manner that practices equitability unless the cost of crucial advanced technology, such as the internet of things, is substantially reduced,

Having considered the lack of technological prowess amongst citizens,

Having examined the need for a digitally literate workforce that would be required for the smooth functioning of smart cities,

Understanding the importance of reaching the *New Urban Agenda's* goal of providing all urban dwellers with access to potable drinking water and the potential for Global Water Opportunity Partnership Alliances (GWOPAs) to facilitate the wide-scale development of desalination plants and waste reclamation facilities,

Deeply concerned with the lack of clean water access and crumbling infrastructure for developing nations across the world, which could further be improved through the use of the Internet of Things (IoT) according to the *New Urban Agenda*,

Regretting the inability for the UN-Habitat executive board to issue contracts, to public and private corporations, for infrastructure development projects through GWOPAs,

Considering the potential for public private-partnerships (PPPs), private enterprises, and government corporations to enable the construction of large scale, sustainable water infrastructure projects,

Deeply conscious of the fact that only 16% of Member States have adequate funding to implement infrastructure projects,

Noting with concern that according to the Center of Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, in 2019 alone, nearly 100 million people were impacted by disasters and 103 billion dollars of economic loss was reported,

Noting with deep concern that the World Bank has reported effects of natural disasters will push 100 million citizens into poverty by 2030,

Expressing concern with the inherent danger of sexual violence that urban development poses to women, ranging from unwanted sexual comments to rape and femicide,

Having reviewed the importance of PPPs in urban development and the need to regulate the PPPs to ensure Member States receive the full benefits from the partnerships,

Convinced that there is a lack of funding for lower to middle income Member States for proper sustainable growth in the development of smart cities,

Recognizing that the lack of governance and funding hinders the establishment of smart cities,

1. *Strongly encourages* willing and able Member States to adopt an initiative geared towards recycling existing hardware technology and repurposing said technology to resell as internet of things (IoT) sensors while also:

- a. Recognizing that Member States are not bound to share IoT technology but can do so at the discretion of private and governmental interests;
 - b. Utilizing recycled hardware to lower the cost of sensor technology known as the IoTs;
 - c. Recommending a hardware recycling program where basic computer components, central processing units, motherboards, memory, hard drives, and monitors are repurposed into IoT sensors capable of monitoring water quality, data collection, and subsistence agriculture;
 - d. Encouraging the use of IoT sensors for a plethora of issues specific to the needs of a nation such as improving water quality in municipal systems and ensuring the protection of water from pollutants;
2. *Endorses* enabling water managers to detect any irregularities in municipal systems including leaks; peaks and valleys in usage; equipment failures; and pollutants to ensure local utilities and industries are following the proper water protection regulations by:
- a. Highlighting the importance of clean water, focusing on using the IoT to further help improve the communities' clean water infrastructure;
 - b. Strengthening new pipes, dams, and storage tanks with the use of smart technology sensors;
 - c. Using smart sensors that will not only help provide clean water access to communities that need it the most but it will also help detect traces of the coronavirus in wastewater;
3. *Encourages* Member States to participate in inclusive data collection that serves the purpose of sharing information to monitor the development of sustainable cities while respecting the discretion and respective interests of individual Member States when sharing data;
4. *Recommends* the development of regional platforms to strengthen relations of Member States for the purpose of:
- a. Creating innovative methods to tackle the *New Urban Agenda*;
 - b. Networking within the regional bloc communities to bring together different innovators in various fields;
 - c. Inviting multilateral support for the development of an app where data collections can be logged and tracked for sharing purposes;
 - d. Calling for the General Assembly Fifth Committee to provide funding from the UN general budget in part to create this regional platform;
5. *Strongly suggests* improving subsistence agriculture through:

- a. Encouraging Member States to utilize agricultural IoT sensors to reduce their carbon footprint;
 - b. Encouraging the use of sensors capable of reading soil water saturation, communicating with irrigation systems, and reading nutrients levels of crops;
6. *Encourages* that the International Telecommunication Union facilitate the creation of an initiative to promote partnerships between governments and telecommunications providers to establish free or affordable Wi-Fi networks for inhabited areas that would:
 - a. Achieve the goals of the *New Urban Agenda*, including:
 - i. Promoting equal opportunities by providing access to online employment and education opportunities;
 - ii. Facilitating disaster risk reduction measures by ensuring that information from disaster risk warning systems can reach as many people as possible;
 - iii. Improving the well-being of people living in slums by providing opportunities for online employment, education, and entrepreneurship as methods to help people rise out of poverty;
 - b. Pave the way for further development of smart city technology, as widespread Internet access is vital to ensuring that more advanced smart city technology can eventually be implemented in developing Member States;
 - c. Be funded by Universal Service and Access funds, which are public funds dedicated to expanding Internet connectivity and access to equal opportunities;
7. *Welcomes* the integration of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), which is an internationally recognized green building certification system that verifies the sustainability of housing units based on government approved guidelines, certified buildings into cities to lower energy consumption by controlling water efficiency, using sustainable materials in the building process, and maintaining indoor air quality;
8. *Invites* Member States to introduce national policies emphasizing increased education on how to use smart technology which would:
 - a. Call for the creation of educational guides and resources that teach citizens in the developing world how to effectively use and maximize the benefits of new technology;
 - b. Encourage the creation of pamphlets explaining proper usage of smart technology;
 - c. Encourage Member States to work with governmental and non-governmental (NGO) employees to conduct presentations in villages about smart technology;
 - d. Recommend that governments in different Member States work with schools to introduce more technology-based learning;
9. *Calls for* localized systems of infrastructure that are less expensive and more suitable for developing Member States, which generates more jobs and helps Member States achieve SDG 9;

10. *Urges* the General Assembly and the UN-Habitat Executive Board to address the issue of gender and ethnic segregation in urban public housing by:
 - a. Encouraging Member States to build collaborative frameworks for neighboring municipal authorities that are predominantly made up of different ethnic groups;
 - b. Requesting financial assistance from UN Agencies such as One UN Fund to offer housing loans to single parent and female-led households;
 - c. Advising local urban governments to develop widespread systems of street lights and emergency kiosks in densely populated areas that have relatively high crime rates;
11. *Requests* that private enterprises, government corporations, and PPPs be allowed to participate in and compete for GWOPAs in which preference for GWOPA funding will be given to those which facilitate the construction of desalination plants, waste reclamation plants, and water treatment facilities;
12. *Appeals* to the General Assembly Fifth Committee to consider reserving \$30 million of UN-Habitat's Executive Board's budget for the specific purpose of funding GWOPAs that develop desalination and waste reclamation plants in the urban areas that meet the following criteria:
 - a. The urban area is located in a UN member state that has signed on to the *New Urban Agenda*;
 - b. The urban area has at least 100,000 individuals without access to clean drinking water;
 - c. The urban area is located in South Asia or Africa and borders the Red Sea or the Indian Ocean;
13. *Further reminds* Member States of the infrastructure gaps in funding and urges the implementation of clean energy legislation that includes safe energy that is compatible with the technological innovations within smart city civilizations which would:
 - a. Transform citywide infrastructure to abide by the standards of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and the *New Urban Agenda*;
 - b. Implement a cost-effective source of clean energy that is not only compatible with innovations in technology, but will significantly lower carbon emissions in Member States to better the lives of the civilians, in which:
 - i. The relevant government departments that handle electricity and energy of the respective Member States is in favor of adopting renewable energy to help mitigate climate change;
 - ii. The UN-Habitat Executive Board is requested to offer private sectors incentives- such as tax breaks and incentivized programs to allow them to help fund a cost-effective technological innovation to better the lives of civilians in smart cities with clean energy;
 - iii. Incentivization to private institutions would occur to allocate some of their renewable power to public institutions;

- c. Accelerate hydroelectricity production as an effort to lower Greenhouse Gas emissions by:
 - i. Working in collaboration with the UN Development Programme's Regional Renewable Energy Center to allocate \$2.5-2.8 million of funding annually into renewable energy and energy security to reach goals of the Four Year Programme (2018-2022) of 1000 mwp of renewable energy by year 2;
 - ii. Helping reduce the need for gas, oil, and electricity imports and encouraging the use of hydroelectricity over harmful gases, oils, and electricity;
- 14. *Commits* to creating a transnational trust fund, financed through contributions from willing Member States, NGOs, and private sector organizations to help developing Member States implement cost-effective and environmentally conscious technology in urban areas;
- 15. *Also calls for* multinational cooperation between Member States through the UN-Habitat Committee and to bridge the gaps between each region's development program in order to:
 - a. Further the ideas laid out in the *New Urban Agenda* regarding coordination in implementing policies between regional and international stakeholders;
 - b. Allow cities and Member States to build relationships with other international cities through a smart city action network;
 - c. Encourage the development of PPPs with multinational financial and technological companies by mobilizing a large group of Member States;
 - d. Help run and standardize the International Technological Scrap Market as well as oversees the expansion of broadband technology;
 - e. Advise Member States to cooperate to expand the Free Trade Zone to allow all Member States and cities to easily export and import new or innovative technologies and ideas;
 - f. Urge partnering with outside groups like the UN Refugee Agency, which would greatly enhance the living conditions of many communities which could decrease the need to urbanize as a whole;
- 16. *Underscores* the importance of creating public spaces that are safe for people of all sexes in order to curb the danger women face in urban areas which would:
 - a. Promote urban planning and technological applications that create public spaces which reduce crime and allow for law enforcement to more efficiently allocate resources for the prevention of crime;
 - b. Develop a comprehensive training program for urban law enforcement on how to effectively handle sexual harassment and assault;
 - c. Encourage partnerships with local governments to learn about the greatest dangers women face within specific cities and create specific, technology-based solutions such as adding more smart street lights within a specific city if women feel unsafe outdoors in the evening;

- d. Endorse the application of information technology and IoT to monitor and prevent crime in urban areas and create safe public spaces for all people;
17. *Supports* the creation of a technology sharing program between Member States in order to share research and development in technology used in the fostering and sustainment of smart cities which would:
- a. Be based upon building up cooperative efforts between governments and potential private shareholders;
 - b. Be comprehensively funded by PPPs, based upon the encouragement of their development;
18. *Draws attention to* the need for maintenance of smart city initiatives, and calls upon the Member States to work on standardized guidelines to create technical training focused on the installation of ICTs, regular upkeep and maintenance, and troubleshooting ICTs;
19. *Supports* the creation of “Smart Pockets” by Member States in densely populated cities by refurbishing existing infrastructure to best address the unique needs of Member States by:
- a. Creating eco-friendly buildings by refurbishing old and abandoned buildings to update floor-plans using renewable energy resources;
 - b. Planting fruit trees and berry groves along curbs and in public parks throughout cities allowing an access point for food;
20. *Welcomes* all Member States to work on guidelines and action plans to prevent individuals from racial and ethnic minorities, sexes, social classes, and immigrants from being discriminated against and deprived of opportunities to advance in smart cities through:
- a. Lending smart devices for the groups in need;
 - b. Creating online job market and online careers that caters for minority groups and disadvantaged groups;
 - c. Increasing the amount of career service centers and public education centers that prepare minorities and disadvantaged groups with fluency in native language, resumes, career development, and etiquettes in the workplaces, which can maximize the applications of ICTs and, in turn, provide advantages for minorities to improve their quality of life;
21. *Expresses its hope* that Member States, NGOs, and private stakeholders will work to develop a financial trust fund focusing on low- and middle-income states for broadband infrastructure that would:
- a. Promote equal opportunities for investment;

- b. Finance and leverage further funding for high impact infrastructure projects based on established best practices for telecommunications advancements;
 - c. Focus funding in a catalytic way to use the UN leverage to trigger domestic and international growth in broadband access and connectivity;
22. *Further encourages* Member States to adopt a tax credit, similar to a 30% tax credit that incorporates all research and development expenses related to developing smart technology to businesses that implement and develop smart technology such as smart bulbs, dryers, and appliances, which will:
- a. Foster more development of smart technologies;
 - b. Accelerate the implementation of these smart technologies by the private sector;
23. *Reiterates* the importance of establishing and sharing best practices, created by experts with technical experience in the realm of smart infrastructure creation, between Member States and encourages sharing of these practices by:
- a. Encouraging multilateral cooperation through regional organizations to ensure sovereignty of states are not impeded upon, and co-operation between Member States and their allies;
 - b. Expanding and utilizing existing open smart city databases, like the ones established by global academic institutions to share these best practices;
 - c. Recognizing that past PPPs have often failed because one party was impacted at a higher rate when it came to risks - therefore a set of best practices will include equal division of risk factors between both parties in order to ensure that no one party is disproportionately affected;
 - d. Addressing the lack of finances for developing smart cities which divides the responsibilities between both parties involved in the partnerships;
 - e. Engaging private investors and developing partnerships through the promotion of incentives such as subsidies;
24. *Emphasizes* the importance of implementing disaster relief prevention in the Global South through:
- a. Advocating for a global climate resilience fund modeled after the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of states, the European Union (EU), the World Bank and the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR);
 - b. Recommending the expansion of the EU's strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction by encouraging collaboration between national and regional governments;
 - c. Utilizing geographic data to track the vulnerability of households and create multiplex hazard management frameworks;

25. *Also recommends* the creation of a natural disaster rehabilitation fund called *Rebuild Together* through the United Nations Development Programme with a focus on:
- a. Rebuilding urban areas utilizing smart technology in the aftermath of disasters in accordance with recommendations made in the *New Urban Agenda*;
 - b. Supporting the implementation of vital smart technology programs as outlined in the Global Smart Cities Initiative that foster inclusiveness and equal access to opportunities;
 - c. Providing grants for Member States to apply for monetary support immediately after a disaster strikes;
 - d. Encouraging Member States to work with UN-Habitat to create long term infrastructure plans that improve overall disaster resilience modeled after past smart city master plans which set up roadmaps for future development;
 - e. Suggesting funding by the *People Funded Smart Cities Program*, Fidelity Charitable, an organization that supports initiatives related to SDG 11, and by encouraging voluntary donations from Member States;
26. *Endorses* intergovernmental partnerships to eliminate the data deficit in underdeveloped countries inhibiting proportional and adequate management of urban areas with a dataset focused on population demographics and infrastructure.



Code: UN-Habitat/1/2

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Program

Topic: Building Smart Cities to Implement the New Urban Agenda

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),

Deeply conscious of the responsibilities established in the *New Urban Agenda* for Member States to champion higher quality of life and success for all through safe, economical, innovative, and sustainable rural and urban settlements,

Expressing its satisfaction with the *United Nations Sustainable Development Framework* as a leading partner dedicated to bringing an end to global issues such as extreme inequality and helping Member States to strengthen economic and infrastructural growth overall,

Acknowledging that the United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are a useful international standard that Member States can draw on for developing smart city initiatives,

Recognizing the efforts made by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), highlighting the importance of citizens' ability to have ease of access to services and information,

Appreciating the unrealized potential of data-based public health systems in combating the spread of communicable diseases,

Noting with deep concern the challenges of modern-day funding being finite, and the fact that only 16% of cities have adequate funds to implement basic infrastructure projects, according to Deloitte,

Fully alarmed by the fact that 68% of the world population will live in urban areas by 2050 according to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), which poses huge challenges for environmental protection, urban services, and technological and economic opportunities, and further noting the issues addressed in *UN-Habitat Assembly HSP/HA.1.Res.1*, such as spatial inequality, poverty, climate issues, and urban crises,

Stressing the need for comprehensive multilateral cooperation among different actors, including governments of developing and developed nations, industry, institutions, and civil society to bring about the vision set forth in Article 15c of the *New Urban Agenda*,

Affirming the establishment of past regional smart city organizations, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Smart Cities Network and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's (UNECE) Smart Cities PROFILES Program,

Observing the importance of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in assisting Member States in building sustainable infrastructure projects, which would aid in the development of smart cities and smart city initiatives such as smart streetlights and the development of technology-based social services in developing countries,

Reaffirming the importance of including smart streetlights for the implementation of safer roads and the reduction of crime,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 67/216 of 2012 on the global challenge faced by developing countries in the development of efficient human settlements and the importance of building sustainable infrastructure initiatives, General Assembly resolution 68/239 on the importance of recognizing effective solutions and the consideration to sustainable urbanization, General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 2015 on providing access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 2015 on the importance of sustainable transportation in achieving urban-rural linkages, and General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 2012 on energy efficient multi-modal transport systems,

Expressing confidence that economic collaboration between Member States for increased access of transportation will ensure reduced congestion, more developed cities, and greater access for vulnerable populations,

Reaffirming Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 which highlights the necessity of meeting basic human needs like access to clean water and quality sanitation systems first before expanding to advanced technology,

Realizing that facilities should be designed and built with sustainable technology, as noted in the UN's People-focused Smart Cities initiative,

Commending the work of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN-Water, and their partners in increasing universal access to clean water and sanitation,

Cognizant of the threats of the worldwide housing crisis to the universal "right to live somewhere in security, peace and dignity," as outlined in Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, and affirming the importance of "the progressive realization of the right to adequate housing for all as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living," as stated in the *New Urban Agenda*,

Drawing attention to the Global Shelter Strategy, and its definition and promotion of adequate housing as the right to adequate privacy, space, security, lighting and ventilation, basic infrastructure and location with regard to work and basic facilities all of which could be made affordable,

Acknowledging the growing urban homelessness crisis, with over 150 million homeless people and 1.6 billion people without adequate shelter, according to Yale University, leaving them vulnerable to human trafficking, illness, poverty, and providing additional challenges to sustainable development, and further acknowledging the longterm effectiveness of "Housing First" solutions, which provide housing for persons suffering from mental illness, addiction, or poverty, while underlying issues are resolved,

Noting the advisory power of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD) and the value of the skills this body possesses in regard to the development of sustainable housing in conjunction with the lack of construction expertise of citizens in developing areas,

Recognizing UN Habitat's Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP) and its successes in providing municipality leaders with toolkits for slum upgrading and housing development,

Alarmed by the lack of financial support and increasing number of informal settlements and slums throughout least developed Member States as well as the pervasive cycles of multigenerational poverty that have become inescapable for citizens of these regions,

Dissatisfied with the immense disparities that are created by the inaccessibility to wireless networks across the world,

Recognizing the communication shortcomings that come from unstable internet accessibility and the inequalities caused by the unavailability of technology to a large portion of the population,

Noting with deep concern the many deaths caused by air and water pollution, ecological simplification, and overall climate change that are caused by not utilizing clean renewable energy, which undermines SDG 3 and SDG 13 and the importance of recognizing the need for technology that reduces air pollution in urban areas and protects the natural environment such as the support and expansion of biomass, solar energy, and wind power,

Taking into consideration the strengths and weaknesses of each Member State's natural resources with respect to creating a more efficient form of using renewable energy, the importance of which was acknowledged in SDG 7 and General Assembly resolution 67/215,

Appreciating that non-renewable energy sources are integral to the economies of many developed and developing nations and that mandating an immediate transition to green energy would place an undue burden on these Member States,

1. *Firmly reminds* Member States of their commitment given to implement the *New Urban Agenda* on national, regional, and global levels;
2. *Urges* Member States to administer the *United Nations Sustainable Development Framework*, which is dedicated to the sustainable development of infrastructure in developing countries;
3. *Invites* Member States to track their progress towards smart city development specifically using the U4SSC KPIs, and further encourages Member States, particularly Member States that would have difficulty in implementing a large number of changes, to reach goals under the U4SSC KPIs in at least one of the following areas of technology, health, relationships between organizations, infrastructure, virtual environment, and energy;
4. *Takes note of* opportunities for Member States to collaborate with regional technology sharing platforms like Digital Co-Creation on the creation of a centralized app modeled from the existing mobile application in Johannesburg that provides citizens with access to information on governmental and civil services and personalized information such as medical records, which would be provided to Member States without that technology by:
 - a. Collaborating with NGOs to create PPPs that will help disperse the technology, as well as assist in training civil servants in the maintenance and operation of these technologies;
 - b. Using open source technologies such as FrontlineSMS to provide low tech information hotlines;
5. *Advocates* for Member States to integrate emerging technologies such as remote patient monitoring, infectious disease surveillance, and online care and scheduling into urban

infrastructure, and further recommends Member States achieve this objective through collaboration with health-focused NGOs such as the World Health Organization;

6. *Draws the attention* to the importance of technical assistance for cities in willing Member States to increase prosperity and lessening poverty through urban planning, transport and resilience, which will aim to achieve the development of smart cities and SDGs by mitigating the problems caused by urban sprawl;
7. *Proposes* a focus on creating new employment opportunities through the construction of smart cities in emerging regions, specifically involving local entrepreneurship to improve knowledge economy, and such new employment positions will be most likely a combination of two or more categories including:
 - a. Data scientists who can assign human expertise and judgements to artificial intelligence models so that they can solve complex problems;
 - b. Software, platform, and database developers who will play a key role in creating applications and new solutions;
 - c. Network security analysts who ensure the security of the network and the normal operation of critical urban systems such as the city power grid;
8. *Calls upon* each Member State to create its own local support network through feed-in tariffs and forums that are jointly organized by the Member State and organizations like the UN-supported Principles of Responsible Investment by showing its citizens and potential private stakeholders clear social benefits in sustainable infrastructure and thus attracting continuing funds;
9. *Encourages* Member States to facilitate a fund through existing partnerships and regional development banks that will sponsor the construction of smart city projects based on their KPIs, outlined in the U4SSC initiative by:
 - a. Creating an incentivized loan and grant program within the fund to reward cities with grants whom successfully meet KPIs, after their implementation of smart city projects;
 - b. Partnering with existing global telecommunications companies that support smart city initiatives to provide existing and experiences partnerships on an equitable and international level;
10. *Recommends* that Smart Cities Partnership be established between two cities, which will be known as “sister cities,” that share similarities in many respects, including population, geographical location, historical and cultural significance, and challenges, and such projects:
 - a. Involving multilateral cooperation in various forms, including state-state such as the *Partnership for Future of Smart Cities Project* between Çanakkale and Tarragona jointly funded by the European Union (EU) and Turkey, state-regional organization such as the *U.S-ASEAN Smart Cities Partnership (USASCP)*, and within Member States;

- b. Establishing an efficient working body based on specific negotiations between partners in each project to identify appropriate matches considering city objectives and interests, such as the USASCP as a great practice;
 - c. Aiming at long term cooperation to transform both cities sustainably by supporting each other with experience in areas in which they excel;
 - d. Implementing a citizen-oriented approach where civic participation is involved to facilitate the smart city transformation process;
 - e. Adopting an open-data system by both cities to facilitate an environment for all stakeholders and motivate sustainable collaborations among them;
11. *Emphasizes* the importance of best practice sharing of ongoing PPPs between regional organizations such as, but not limited to: ASEAN, European Union, Group of Latin America and the Caribbean, and more;
12. *Authorizes* the UN-Habitat to host an event modeled on the Smart City EXPO and supported by the United Cities Local Governments, which is an existing forum that presents successful PPPs and that can emphasize the facilitation of finding appropriate PPPs for Member States to form relationships;
13. *Expresses its hope* that the international community and fellow Member States execute regional, national, and international initiatives and the participation of local and national authorities to aid in means of preparation for sustainable development;
14. *Requests* Member States utilize Free Trade Zones (FTZs) to facilitate the import and export of new and innovative technologies and to accelerate their dissemination with the intention of spreading best practices to developing nations;
15. *Calls upon* fellow Member States to implement Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Cities and Communities initiatives to establish smart street lights, in both developed and developing countries to ensure reduced crime rates and efficient light sourcing for the reduction of traffic death fatalities during nighttime hours;
16. *Invites* Member States to develop sustainable transport systems which will improve citizen access to reliable transportation that was laid out in General Assembly resolution 70/472 such as:
- a. Emphasizing the use of road technologies that produce low carbon emissions;
 - b. Creating public transportation that emits low levels of carbon dioxide;
 - c. Developing sustainable forms of transportation such as light rail lines;
17. *Welcomes* Member States creating new and remodeling existing water sanitation systems according to their needs by:
- a. Working in partnership with the World Bank, similar to the Clean Water Program 2020 in Belarus, to fund this essential infrastructure development and maintenance;

- b. Inviting Member States lacking in consistent water and sanitation infrastructure to consult with the UNDP and UN-backed NGO Sanitation and Water for All on future development;
 - c. Emphasizing the addition of water infrastructure and sanitation in Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) to share the experiences of said policies and their effects on the implementation of SDGs;
18. *Recommends* Member States in developing countries with economies in transit to revitalize housing markets in an effort to assess the needs of housing and shelter for their citizens, and work to remove or improve currently substandard housing by:
- a. Promoting policies that encourage the enhancement of private sector integration;
 - b. Improving existing infrastructure and housing in an affordable manner;
 - c. Collaborating with UN Member States, other international organizations and international financing institutions to financially mobilize the efforts and policies that developing nations are implementing;
19. *Further requests* the United Nations Housing Rights Programme (UNHRP) to create a common definition of homelessness, standardized measuring instruments and living standards in consultation with experts, and for Member States to voluntarily report these statistics;
20. *Approves* the implementation of data-based programs, the consultation of academic experts, and the engagement of people who have experienced homelessness or life in informal settlements in order to:
- a. Better understand and address what causes homelessness;
 - b. Promote the development of norms, standards, and guidelines in addressing the needs of homeless people;
 - c. Advance capacity-building and technical cooperation between Member States;
21. *Further appeals* to the Member States to prioritize “Housing First” solutions by using ICTs to help homeless people access these resources to assist them in resolving personal, underlying issues related to homelessness; and to share data between organizations so as to render them more effective in their offers of help;
22. *Endorses* the sharing of best practices of engineers and urban planners across Member States to collaborate in the problem-solving and planning aspects of providing clean water and affordable housing in developing nations through bilateral or multilateral cooperation to facilitate these goals;
23. *Calls upon* the utilization of CSocD’s knowledge-base and the sharing of technical skills of architects and urban engineers in order to transfer the expertise and skills of the international community and individual Member States to the citizens of the developing nation in which the housing is to be constructed through training and education in order to mobilize and diversify the nation’s workforce;

24. *Further invites* Member States to develop e-learning platforms similar to PSUP while implementing other online features for citizen learning in order to promote responsiveness between communities and relevant actors;
25. *Expresses its hope* that Member States adhere to the *Global Housing Strategy* and utilize the World Bank Group's Global Infrastructure Faculty, as well as to adopt countercyclical fiscal policies in order to bolster the mobilization of revenue and finance investment for planned housing development, infrastructure, and Smarter Cities laid out in the *New Urban Agenda*, which will involve:
 - a. Implementing planning frameworks and strengthening existing forecasting tools;
 - b. Expanding citizen involvement to ensure funds are allocated best to serve communities unique needs;
26. *Calls for* the creation and expansion of a public internet access in areas such as libraries and other public areas in an effort to improve inclusivity and connectivity by lessening these disparities through:
 - a. Having governments collaborate with the private sector to achieve public internet access;
 - b. Creating a connection between Member States and NGOs such as the Alliance for Affordable internet, who are focused on providing accessible internet access;
 - c. Promoting the principles of digital development such as building for sustainability and reusing and improving existing infrastructure;
27. *Further recommends* Member States create the infrastructure needed for the implementation of cellular networks wherever it is deemed possible to do so by:
 - a. Having the United Nations be a contact point with the private sector and NGOs such as Wireless Network in the Developing World to establish the infrastructure needed;
 - b. Having developing nations follow the guidelines set forth by Wireless Networking in the Developing World in creating a cellular network infrastructure;
 - c. Receiving funds from the World Banks as either low interest loans or grants in order for the implementation of cellular networks be financially accessible;
28. *Encourages* Member States to invest in renewable energy such as solar and wind energy in order to reduce global warming by:
 - a. Encouraging Member States to apply funds from the World Banks at a low- to no-interest rate to have the financial resources to install these renewable energy sources;
 - b. Transmitting developing countries that have an abundance of natural resources that could be used for cleaner renewable energy to make use of their geographical location to their advantage;
 - c. Inviting Member States to use the clean energy that best suits their natural resources, such as Member States that have an excessive amount of sunlight using solar energy,

those that have an excessive amount of water using hydro power, and those that have an excessive amount of wind using wind energy;

29. *Calls upon* development banks such as the International Monetary Fund and World Bank to offer incentives to help lower- and middle-income countries to develop renewable energy infrastructure which will be in proportion to the degree of change from non-renewable to renewable energy sources as a fraction of the whole;
30. *Urges* the international community to maintain diligent efforts toward expanding public health by way of smart technologies through the promotion of sustainable urbanization that bridges the gaps preventing all citizens from experiencing the full benefits urban life offers.



Code: UN-Habitat/1/3

Committee: United Nations Human Settlements Program

Topic: Building Smart Cities to Implement the New Urban Agenda

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme,

Emphasising the sentiments of *The Paris Declaration* and the *Accra Agenda for Action* that delineates a clear cut and action-oriented road map on all levels to address the extensive difficulties as it pertains to lack of funding, resources, and technology faced by least developing countries (LDCs) in implementing smart city policies and renewable energy infrastructure,

Stressing the critical link between infrastructure governance and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 9 which would foster inclusive economic growth and built sustainable and resilient infrastructure against climate change,

Confident that, according to the UNs Recovery Better initiative the repurposing of existing buildings will provide not only a time efficient but energy efficient means of solving the housing scarcity issue plaguing many nations no matter how developed,

Recalling the principles mandated in *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* and the *New Urban Agenda*, which emphasize sustainability and smart urban planning, especially as it pertains to the development of information communication technologies (ICTs), which will mitigate the consequences of urbanization,

Drawing attention to the need to establish commerce, transportation, and communication hubs in designated Smart Cities to facilitate efficient development of other regions within states in accordance with the *New Urban Agenda*,

Affirming the necessity of nations and companies to support the creation and expansion of publicly available Wi-Fi networks and other wireless network infrastructure as an effort to improve inclusivity and connectivity in cities large and small in accordance to the the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) Principles of Digital Development,

Stressing the need put forth under *2030 Agenda*, to improve agricultural communities, sanitation and sewage, and housing issues in nations that lack a majority of an urban population,

Noting with approval the goals of the *New Urban Agenda* to establish the adequate provision of common good - including streets and open spaces - together with an efficient pattern of buildble plot, yet also the obstacles individual nations may face in implementing the Agenda,

Viewing with appreciation the benefits of ecologically-friendly housing infrastructure development such as monolithic domes which are cost-efficient, resilient to fire, hurricanes, and other natural disasters, and use 50% less energy for heating and cooling than a conventionally constructed building as reported by the Monolithic Dome Institute,

Recognizing, in conjunction with the 2015 resolution titled *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, that smart cities can not be attained without ensuring nation-states have the proper infrastructure established to support any further urbanization or modernization of communities,

Concerned about the various nations that are living in impoverished conditions that negatively impact the quality of life experienced by civilians worldwide as addressed in the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR) as well as SDG 1,

Deeply concerned with continued worldwide inequality that contradicts the goal of ICTs that promotes equal access to women that could contribute an additional USD \$28 trillion to the global annual GDP if their economic participation matched that of men's according to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women),

Acknowledges the principles presented in the European Union (EU) Inclusive Smart Cities Manifesto to uphold and integrate relevant gender equality measures in the development of smart cities,

1. *Urges* all willing and able Member States present in this body to allocate resources to support smart cities and make crucial infrastructure accessible in developing nations by way of:
 - a. Wealth sharing and infrastructure development through programs such as the One Belt One Road Initiative, which create a global infrastructural development network to inter-regional Member States and international institutions alike to promote stream-lined connectivity;
 - b. Collaborative information sharing, issuing regular updates on the status of smart city development, and the sharing of best practices;
 - c. Serving as liaisons towards assisting developing Member States with their infrastructural needs;
 - d. Providing rental subsidies to improve housing projects and public rental houses;
 - e. Promoting collaborative regional and national economic information communication technologies (ICTs) sharing between cities to ensure shared prosperity and rectify spatial inequality;
 - f. Increased public-private partnerships with business, civil society organizations (CSOs), and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to encourage environmental sustainability and smart city infrastructure development;
2. *Calls upon* the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Public Investment Management Assessments (PIMAs) to offer incentives for smart city investment which are necessary for creating debt sustainability and better infrastructure governance to alleviate the expensive costs of smart cities using methods such as:
 - a. Subsidies for multinational corporations to enter underdeveloped countries;
 - b. Microloans for small businesses and farmers to adopt smart city requirements;
 - c. Financial obligations from each member state to invest in smart cities;

- d. Global oversight on how UN funds are spent within smart cities;
 - e. Calls for financial support from agencies like the World Bank and the UN Road Safety Fund (UNRSF);
3. *Suggests* the using of creative and multiple-channel funding mechanism to finance the smart city construction through the:
- a. Integration of different ways of fundings may provide sufficient and flexible financial support for smart cities building;
 - b. International and regional funding from the World Bank, European Investment Bank (EIB), and other organizations;
 - c. Public funding such as mini-bonds of citizen-inclusive participation and crowdfunding to raise money for Smart Cities projects;
 - d. Private companies' investment, participation from multiple vendors, and government agencies in many areas like public transport and energy;
 - e. Expanding of online platforms like EIP-SCC Marketplace matchmaking which can improve the efficiency and convenience of establishing cooperation;
4. *Welcomes* member nations to seek collaboration among all stakeholders, regional banks, as well as State and Local governments to work towards repurposing abandoned buildings to allow for low income or subsidized housing by:
- a. Utilizing NGOs that specialize in Urban Planning to combat urban sprawl that have building technologies specific to the region as well as;
 - b. Incorporating stabilized soil block (SSB) technology as a simple yet sustainable method to rebuild buildings for less developed nations which allows for the utilization of materials already existing in the area as well as a simple yet effective training program for each nation's citizens;
 - c. Ensuring that all repurposed buildings will be energy efficient and fitted with solar panels to cut down on the energy costs;
 - d. Suggesting the use of abandoned buildings within each nation to prevent any further urban sprawl;
 - e. Seeking effective investment in renewable energy and increase energy efficiency measures for low-income or subsidized housing by:
 - i. Recommending household energy-saving initiatives that incorporate installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and LED lighting fixtures;
 - ii. Implementing cost-effective and efficient heating and cooling systems;
 - iii. Providing financial incentives such as tax breaks for low-income homeowners;

- f. Increasing public-private partnerships with business, civil society organizations (CSOs), and NGOs to encourage environmental sustainability and smart city infrastructure development;
5. *Endorses* Member States to further pursue the USAID Principles of Digital Development that promotes technological expansion and inclusion through:
 - a. Welcoming the meeting of Member States in a forum to facilitate partnerships between LDC's and more developed States, to promote inclusive development of Smart Cities across Member States by utilizing considering existing ecosystems and improving existing infrastructure;
 - b. Calling for the incorporation of ICT's and Wi-Fi to promote civic engagement that can bridge the technology gap, through training to encourage a broad range of users of all ages;
 - c. Supporting the collaborative and creative initiatives by the World Bank that have worked with PPP's to expand online learning for students across the globe amidst the COVID-19 pandemic that help provide the internet as a fundamental tool for education;
 - d. Prioritising open source, open innovation, and open data to facilitate technological advancement in both the private and public sectors whilst stressing the importance of privacy and security;
6. *Encourages* Member States to develop and adopt a framework of implementation as outlined in the New Urban Agenda, geared towards smart mobility for all nations centralized by the attainment of community promotion through programs such as locally based sponsorships and grants, renewable Resource Development, smart Transportation Systems, sustainable Healthcare Planning, community-based applications and internet sites that encourage community and government participation, and the promotion of tourism for economic gain and commercial development;
7. Further invites all Member States to work with UN-Habitat to create country-specific plans for implementing the New Urban Agenda and suggests building upon the developed Sub Regional Action Plan for the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda by:
 - a. Prioritizing and and expanding upon the regional challenges to all nations to ensure any plans produced would be able to be applied to the nations set of issues;
 - b. Basing developments on the contributions and recommendations of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe such as the Sustainable City week held annually;
 - c. Establishment and participating in regional based conferences to allow for the continued adaptation of existing frameworks;
 - d. Utilizing existing assistance frameworks, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNDC);

- e. Collaborating between public and private entities to these allow private entities into the nations that request the aide for the citizens to be trained in how to successfully integrate and maintain new technology such as railways, public wifi, and renewable energy sources, and further;
 - i. Encourages collaboration with NGOs that specialize in retrofitting renewable energy technology onto already existing buildings but also ones that allow for sustainable renewable energy technologies into nations, in order to make renewable energy much more attainable for less developed nations;
 - ii. Suggests the use of grant funding from the World Bank to allow smaller cities within LDCs to be able to implement smart energy technologies;
8. *Recommends* that Member States consider implementing ecologically-friendly housing developments in urban and suburban regions such as monolithic domes through organizations such as the Domes of the World Foundation in order to reduce energy use and strengthen disaster risk reduction infrastructure;
9. *Promotes* international collaboration to develop better road infrastructure, sanitation and sewage systems, and agriculture in impoverished communities with the help of organizations such as the United Nations Road Safety Fund (UNRSF), World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, and the Global Wastewater Initiative under UN Environment, all with the hopes to solidify the possibility of smart cities being implemented globally which would bring about sustainable development aimed at meeting a higher quality of life;
10. *Requests* nations to build off established regional development frameworks, such as the country-specific plans for implementing the New Urban Agenda covered under the Sub Regional Action Plan, that offer data collection detailing the economic standing and development levels of nations in question to:
 - a. Formally observe what aspects of development each nation requires and highlight any common trends;
 - b. Clarify what regions require more assistance to diminish impoverished conditions;
11. *Commits* to serving as secretariat of a global group of experts sourced through partnership between ITU-T Study Group 20 by the International Telecommunications Union and The Digital Co-Creation to:
 - a. Be funded the United Nations Development Program;
 - b. Be named The Community Assessment Group (T-CAG);
 - c. Advise nations in developing smart agriculture, education, medicine, urban planning, and infrastructure;
 - d. Evaluate communities to find the most effective and efficient ways to improve them based on individual necessity;
 - e. Collect data on best practices for nations facing diverse situations, this would account for weather, resources and more;

- f. Provide recommendations and data to officials of assessed communities for the purpose of improvements and reallocating funds;
 - g. Provide guidance on how to ethically and effectively implement changes;
 - h. Support developing basic infrastructure and public sector goods to improve the quality of life worldwide, offering access to public goods such;
- 12. *Proposes* that the UN embed gender-inclusive approaches in the already existing work of the New Urban Agenda that would provide more opportunities for women to become more mainstreamed into a society of growing ICTs;
- 13. *Calls upon* the World Bank's Global Road Fund and the UN Road Safety Fund (UNRSF) to increase access to smart and sustainable transportation through:
 - a. Co-sponsoring of sustainable smart transportation systems on the basis of Future Radar Project;
 - b. Introducing such innovative high-tech elements as;
 - i. AI based, drones, e-road-mapping, remote-sensing techniques;
 - ii. E-road-mapping to better design the roads in cities;
 - iii. Follow the model as set in Switzerland in regards to becoming a pro-public transport state.