

ORAL STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARIAT IN CONNECTION WITH DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.2/66/L.36 ENTITLED "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)"

1. This oral statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 2 and 3, of draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.36, the General Assembly:

(a) Decides to convene in 2016, in line with the bi-decennial cycle (1976, 1996 and 2016), a third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III) to reinvigorate the global commitment to sustainable urbanization that should focus on the implementation of a 'New Urban Agenda' which should build on the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and other relevant international UN conferences, and requests a modalities resolution to be adopted before the end of 2012.

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to provide all appropriate support to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), who will serve as the Secretary-General of the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development and Head of its Secretariat, and to prepare a report on the modalities of the conference for submission and consideration by the General Assembly before the end of 2012.

3. In the absence of specific information on the format, scope, schedule and number of meetings of the Conference, the Secretary-General is unable to determine the conference servicing requirements at this time and will be in the position to submit details of the financial implications to the General Assembly, if applicable, in accordance with established procedures when the modalities of the meeting and preparatory activities are known.

4. It is expected that preparatory activities and activities related to the Conference would be implemented in the biennia 2014-2015 and 2016-2017, respectively. Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.36, there would be no requirement for additional provisions under the proposed programme budget for 2012-2013. Additional resources may be required in the biennia 2014-2015 and 2016-2017 and would be included in related proposed programme budget submissions for Section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management and/or Section 15, Human settlements.

5. The attention of the Committee is drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, and subsequent resolutions, the latest of which is resolution 65/259 of 24 December 2010 in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.