

Oral statement by the secretariat in connection with
draft resolution A/C.2/66/L.75 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, 5 and 6, of the draft resolution, 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 Habitat Agenda, 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 the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and other major United Nations conferences and summits,

(b) Further decides to consider before the end of 2012 the scope, modalities, format and organization of the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III), in a most efficient and effective manner,

(c) Invites the Secretary General to appoint the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) as the Secretary-General of the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development and to act as focal point on behalf of the United Nations system.

3. 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.75, 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.
4. 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, in accordance with established procedures when the modalities of the meeting and preparatory activities are known for the biennia 2014-2015 and 2016-2017. It is expected that decision on the scope, modalities, format and organization of the third United Nations conference on housing and sustainable urban development (Habitat III) will be taken at the end of 2012.
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.