24 August 2017

Excellency,

Pursuant to my letter dated 18 July regarding the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly to discuss the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the positioning of UN-Habitat in this regard, which will take place on 5 and 6 September in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, I have the honor to share herewith the updated program of the meeting.

The meeting will consist of an opening segment, four panel discussions, one plenary debate and a closing session.

Please note that the plenary debate will be held over the afternoons of both days. It will address one theme: ‘Best practices, success stories and recommendations contained in the report of the Independent Panel to Assess, Enhance Effectiveness of UN-Habitat’. Member States wishing to speak in the plenary debate are encouraged to inscribe in the list of speakers by contacting the General Assembly Affairs Branch (Mr. Carlos Galindo (e-mail galindo@un.org, with copy to e-mail gaspeakerslist@un.org). Additional information can be found in the UN Journal.

In order to provide more details regarding the logistical arrangements of this meeting, Mr. Tomas Anker Christensen, Chef de Cabinet of my office, will provide a briefing to Member States on Wednesday, 30 August at 2:00 p.m in Conference Room 5.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Peter Thomson

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
High Level Meeting on the New Urban Agenda and UN-Habitat
Trusteeship Council Chamber, 5-6 September 2017

Provisional Program

September 5, Tuesday

10:00-10:20 Opening Segment

- H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson
  President of 71st Session of the UN General Assembly
- H.E. António Guterres (TBC)
  Secretary-General of the United Nations
- Dr. Joan Clos
  Executive Director of UN-Habitat

10:20-10:30 Introduction of the evidence-based and independent assessment of UN-Habitat by the Independent Panel to Assess and Enhance Effectiveness of UN-Habitat

- H.E. Rosario Robles
  Secretary of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development of Mexico, Co-Chair of the Independent Assessment Panel of UN-Habitat
- H.E. František Ružička
  Former Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to the United Nations

10:30-11:45 Interactive Panel 1: the positioning of UN-Habitat in the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda
- The normative and operational mandate of UN-Habitat
- The work of UN-Habitat with governments and stakeholders

Format: Moderated discussion between members of the Independent Assessment Panel of UN-Habitat and meeting participants

Moderator:
- Mr. Manish Bapna
  Executive Vice President and Managing Director, World Resources Institute

Panellists:
- H.E. Rosario Robles
  Secretary of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development of Mexico, Co-Chair of the Independent Assessment Panel of UN-Habitat
- H.E František Ružička
  Former Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to the United Nations
11:45-13:00
Interactive Panel 2: the positioning of UN-Habitat in the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda
- The governance structure of UN-Habitat
- The financial capability of UN-Habitat

Format: Moderated discussion between members of the Independent Assessment Panel of UN-Habitat and meeting participants

Moderator:
- Mr. Manish Babna
Executive Vice President and Managing Director, World Resource Institute

Panellists:
- Hon. Mpho Parks Tau
President of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and South African Local Governments Association, Co-Chair of the Independent Assessment Panel of UN-Habitat
- H.E. Dian Triansyah Djani
Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations
- Hon. Peter Calthorpe
Architect, urban designer, urban planner, and founding member of the Congress for New Urbanism
- Hon. Sheela Patel
Founder and Director of the Society for Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC)

15:00-18:00
High Level Segment and Plenary debate:

Best practices, success stories and recommendations contained in the report of the Independent Panel to Assess, Enhance Effectiveness of UN-Habitat

Statements by member states and other meeting participants
Interactive Panel 3: Implementing the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs – the role of the United Nations System

Format: Moderated discussion between high level representatives of UN agencies and meeting participants

Moderator:
- Ms. Min Thu Pham  
  Executive Director of Policy, UN Foundation

Panellists:
- Ms. Grete Faremo  
  Executive Director, UNOPS
- Mr. Thomas Gass  
  Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in UN DESA
- Ms. Aisa Dacyira  
  Deputy Executive Director, UN-Habitat
- Mr. Magdy Martínez-Solimán  
  Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP
- Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin  
  Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, United Nations Relations, and Partnerships, World Bank Group
- Ms. Grainne O’Hara  
  Deputy Director, UNHCR New York Office

Contributions from pre-selected respondents

Interactive Panel 4: Implementing the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs – the role of the multi-stakeholder collaboration

Format: Moderated discussion between representatives of stakeholders and meeting participants

Moderator:
Mr Tomas Anker Christensen  
Chef de Cabinet of Office of the PGA, 71st session

Panellists:
- Mr. Aromar Revi  
  Director, Indian Institute for Human Settlements
- Ms. Eugenie Birch  
  President, General Assembly of Partners
- Ms. Maria Jose Lubertino  
  Executive Director, Citizen Association for Human Rights of Argentina
- Mr. Hazem Galal  
  Cities Sector Global Leader, PwC; Member of WEF Global Future Council on Cities

Contributions from pre-selected respondents
15:00-17:50  Plenary debate continued:

Best practices, success stories and recommendations contained in the report of the Independent Panel to Assess, Enhance Effectiveness of UN-Habitat

*Statements by member states and other meeting participants*

17:50-18:00  Closing segment

- **H.E. Mr. Peter Thomson**
  President of 71st Session of the UN General Assembly