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Agenda item 7

Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-second session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Imelda Smolcic (Uruguay)

Addendum

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015

(Item 3 (b))

Programme 12

Human settlements

1. At its 7th meeting, on 7 June 2012, the Committee considered programme 12, Human settlements, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015 (A/67/6 (Prog. 12)).
2. The Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) introduced the programme and responded to queries raised during the Committee's consideration of the programme.

Discussion

3. Support was expressed for the programme, in particular for the important work carried out by UN-Habitat in the African region. Clarification was sought on the proposal to establish a new organizational structure of UN-Habitat and clarifications were sought regarding the focus areas of UN-Habitat for the period 2014-2015.
4. Concern was expressed regarding the inadequate focus on rural areas in the strategic framework for the period 2014-2015. Clarification was sought on how the programme addressed accessibility for individuals with disabilities.
5. With regard to paragraph 12.5 of the proposed strategic framework, concerning the overall orientation of the programme, a view was expressed on the crucial



importance of international cooperation to support efforts of developing countries aimed at addressing challenges arising from the rapid increase of urban population.

6. Clarification was sought on the reference to a “green economy” in paragraph 12.13 and the related mandate since the concept had not been fully reviewed and accepted by Member States. The view was expressed that the term “green economy” should be replaced with the words “sustainable development”. Concern was also expressed that several indicators of achievement measured the achievements of Member States rather than those of the Secretariat. In reference to subprogramme 5, Housing and slum upgrading, it was asked whether indicator of achievement (c) read the same as expected accomplishment (c).

Conclusions and recommendations

7. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the programme narrative of programme 12, Human settlements, of the proposed strategic framework for the period 2014-2015, subject to the following modifications:**

Overall orientation

Paragraph 12.5

In the last sentence, replace the words “developed and transitional countries” with “most developed countries and countries with economies in transition, as well as some developing countries”.

Paragraph 12.9

In the second sentence, delete the words “and an increasing number of refugees and internally displaced people”. After the second sentence, insert a new sentence reading as follows: “In some contexts, the presence of displaced populations adds an additional layer of complexity to issues of urban poverty.”

Replace the last sentence with: “Although urbanization brings with it many problems, it also offers many opportunities for diversification of strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change especially through urban planning and design.”

Paragraph 12.11

In the first sentence, replace the words “legislation, land and good governance” with “governance, legislation and land”.

In the second sentence, insert the words “as requested by member States” after “UN-Habitat will address existing urban land problems and opportunities”.

Paragraph 12.13

In the last sentence, delete the words “a green economy within the context of”.