



General Assembly

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United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)

Quito, 17–20 October 2016

Item 4 of the provisional agenda *

Adoption of the agenda

Provisional agenda

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* A/CONF/226/1.

Annotations

1. Opening of the Conference

1. The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) will be convened at the Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana Benjamín Carrión, Quito, and will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 17 October 2016. Rule 17 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference (see A/CONF.226/2) provides that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, or, in his absence, any member of the secretariat designated by him for that purpose, shall open the first meeting of the Conference and preside until the Conference has elected its President. In accordance with decision 4/2016 adopted by the Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its third session, held in Surabaya, Indonesia, from 25 to 27 July 2016 (A/CONF.226/PC.3/24, annex I), the formal opening plenary meeting of the Conference will hear statements from the President of the Conference, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the General Assembly, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the Secretary-General of the Conference, a representative of local authorities, and a representative of the major groups and other stakeholders.

2. Election of the President

2. Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference provides that the Conference shall elect a President from among the representatives of participating States. Rule 44 provides that all elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless, in the absence of any objection, the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or slate. It is customary for the head of the delegation of the State hosting the Conference (Ecuador) to be elected President of the Conference.

3. Adoption of the rules of procedure

3. In accordance with rule 18 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference will, at its first meeting, adopt its rules of procedure. The provisional rules of procedure of the Conference as approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/210 and revised by the Preparatory Committee for the Conference in decision 1/2016 adopted at its third session (A/CONF.226/PC.3/24, annex I), are recommended for adoption by the Conference.

Documentation

Note by the secretariat transmitting the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference (A/CONF.226/2)

4. Adoption of the agenda

4. In accordance with rule 18 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference will adopt its agenda, the draft of which shall, until such adoption, be the provisional agenda of the Conference. The Conference will have before it for adoption the provisional agenda (A/CONF.226/1), as recommended in its decision 2/2016 adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its third session (A/CONF.226/PC.3/24, annex I).

Documentation

Provisional agenda (A/CONF.226/1)

5. Election of officers other than the President

5. Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that the Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers other than the President: 14 Vice-Presidents and an ex officio Vice-President from the host country, a Rapporteur-General and the Chair of the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. These officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee, the composition of which shall be in accordance with rule 11. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

6. Organization of work, including the establishment of subsidiary bodies, and other organizational matters

6. The General Assembly, in its resolutions 69/226 of 19 December 2014 and 70/210 of 22 December 2015, encouraged Member States to participate at the highest possible level in the Conference.

7. The Preparatory Committee for the Conference, in decision 4/2016 adopted at its third session, decided on the organization of work of the Conference (A/CONF.226/PC.3/24, annex I).

8. The rules of procedure of the Conference have a number of provisions on the organization of work, including the establishment of subsidiary bodies, and other organizational matters. A note by the secretariat on organizational and procedural matters, including a proposed timetable of work for the Conference, will be before the Conference for its consideration.

Documentation

Note by the secretariat on organization and procedural matters (A/CONF.226/3)

7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference

(a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

9. Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that a Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference and that its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its seventy-first session.

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

10. In accordance with rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Credentials Committee will examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay. Rule 3 provides that the credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the secretariat of the Conference, if possible not less than one week before the date fixed for the opening of the Conference. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of the European Union, by the President of the European Commission.

8. General debate

11. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 69/226, the Conference will be composed of eight plenary meetings, on the basis of two meetings a day, held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. each day from Monday, 17 October, to Thursday, 20 October.

12. In accordance with decision 4/2016 adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its third session (A/CONF.226/PC.3/24, annex I), the list of speakers for the general debate will be established on a first-come, first-served basis, under the customary protocol that ensures that Heads of State and Government speak first, to be followed by other heads of delegation. The European Union, in its capacity as observer, will be included in the list of speakers. A time limit of five minutes will be established for each statement.

13. Representatives of the following organizations may, time permitting and without setting a precedent, make a statement during the general debate: intergovernmental organizations and other entities that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the capacity of observer in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices (rule 60 of the provisional rules of procedure); specialized agencies and related organizations (rule 61); other intergovernmental organizations (rule 62); interested United Nations organs (rule 63); associate members of regional commissions (rule 66); local authorities (rule 64); and non-governmental organizations (rule 65).

14. Rule 20 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that no one may address the Conference without having previously obtained the permission of the President. The secretariat shall be in charge of drawing up a list of speakers.

15. The summaries of the plenary meetings will be included in the report of the Conference.

9. Round-table sessions

16. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 69/226, the Conference will include six high-level round-table sessions to be held concurrently with the plenary meetings, except during the opening and closing plenary meetings, to be scheduled as follows: Monday, 17 October, from 3 to 6 p.m.; Tuesday, 18 October, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 19 October, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.; and Thursday, 20 October, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

17. In accordance with decision 2/2016 adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its third session (A/CONF.226/PC.3/24, annex I), the high-level round-table sessions will focus on identifying concrete actions for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda to further strengthen the global partnerships for sustainable urban development. The six sessions will be held on the following themes: round table 1 – Leave no one behind: urban inclusion and prosperity; round table 2 – Ecological, climate-resilient

and disaster responsive cities; round table 3 – Adequate and affordable housing; round table 4 – Integrated strategic planning and management; round table 5 – Implementing the New Urban Agenda at all levels and with all actors; and round table 6 – Financing sustainable urban development.

18. Each high-level round-table session will have two Co-Chairs, one from a developing country and one from a developed country, to be appointed by the President of the Conference from among the Heads of State and Government and ministers attending the Conference, in consultation with the regional groups. The Secretary-General of the Conference, in consultation with the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee, will identify up to four panellists and a moderator for each of the sessions.

19. Each of the high-level round-table sessions will begin with statements by the Co-Chairs. Summaries of the sessions will be presented orally by the Co-Chairs at the closing plenary meeting and will be included in the final report of the Conference.

20. The high-level round-table sessions will be interactive and multi-stakeholder in nature, and each will be open to participation by representatives of all participating States, up to 15 representatives of observers, relevant entities of the United Nations system and other accredited intergovernmental organizations, up to 6 representatives of local authorities and up to 6 representatives of major groups and other relevant stakeholders. States participating in the Conference and other participants are encouraged to ensure they are represented at the sessions at the highest possible level. Each participant may be accompanied by one adviser.

21. At the discretion of the Co-Chairs, priority in the order of speakers will be given to those speaking at the level of Head of State or Government or at the ministerial level, followed by high-level representatives of other stakeholders, taking into account that there will be no prepared list of speakers. The high-level round-table sessions should aim to achieve a balance between speakers from participating States and stakeholders. In order to provide for maximum participation, interventions should not exceed three minutes.

10. Adoption of the final outcome of the Conference

22. The General Assembly in its resolution 67/216 decided that the Conference would result in a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented outcome document, which would reinvigorate the global commitment to and support for housing and sustainable urban development and the implementation of a “New Urban Agenda”.

Documentation

Note by the secretariat transmitting the draft outcome document of the Conference (A/CONF.226/4)

11. Adoption of the report of the Conference

23. The Conference will adopt a report on its activities, a draft of which will be prepared by the Rapporteur-General and presented to the Conference for its approval.

Documentation

Draft report of the Conference

12. Closure of the Conference

24. In accordance with decision 4/2016 adopted by the Preparatory Committee at its third session (A/CONF.226/PC.3/24, annex I), the closing plenary meeting, to be held on the afternoon of Thursday, 20 October, is expected to conclude with reporting on the six high-level round-table sessions.
