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Bid to raise USD250 million for urban aspects of SDGs at first UN-Habitat Assembly

NAIROBI, 10 May 2019 – UN-Habitat will hold a partnership and pledging conference to raise USD 250 million for urban development work. The funds will be used in 2019 to help countries implement the [New Urban Agenda](#) and urban dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially Goal 11 to *make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*.

The conference will be held during the UN-Habitat's first UN-Habitat Assembly which takes place from 27-31 May in 2019 at UN-Habitat's headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. Around 2,000 delegates from all over the world are expected to attend including Heads of State and Government, ministers and representatives of national and local governments, civil society, NGOs, businesses, academics, and other United Nations agencies.

The partnership and pledging conference, to be held on Wednesday 29 May 2019, will feature a high-level panel discussion with senior representatives from regional groups, national governments, local governments, the private sector and civil society on how to build successful partnerships to mobilize and leverage financing for sustainable urbanization. This will be followed by a pledging session aimed at raising USD 250 million to implement normative and country programmes to reduce spatial inequality and poverty, enhance prosperity of cities, strengthen climate change action, improve the urban environment, and mitigate and respond to urban crises to help realize the vision of a better quality of life for all in an urbanizing world.

The UN-Habitat Assembly was established by the General Assembly in its resolution of 20th December 2018 on strengthening UN-Habitat. The UN-Habitat Assembly will be the highest-level decision-making body focused on sustainable urbanization and human settlements and will have universal membership of all 193 United Nations Member States who together, will frame the global urbanization agenda and provide strategic guidance to UN-Habitat in its work.



“If we want to have a chance of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, we need to get our cities right.” Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director, UN-Habitat

Member States adopted the New Urban Agenda because the world's urban population is expected to nearly double by 2050 with over two thirds of the global population living in urban areas, posing massive sustainability challenges in terms of housing, infrastructure, basic services, food security, health, education, decent jobs, safety, and natural resources, among others. UN-Habitat is a focal point on sustainable urbanization and human settlements within the UN System to support implementation of the New Urban Agenda and urban dimensions of the SDGs.

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