

## 19th Session of the Governing Council, 5 - 9 May 2003, Nairobi, Kenya

### 8th meeting 9 May 2003

#### 19/3. Global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance

The Governing Council,

Recalling the goals and principles, commitments and recommendations of the Habitat Agenda on the themes "Adequate shelter for all" and "Sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world",

Recalling also the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fifth special session,

Recalling further the adoption on 4 September 2002 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on [Sustainable Development](#)<sup>10</sup> ,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 56/205 of 21 December 2001, on the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), which designates the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance as strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and Commission on Human Settlements resolution 18/3 of 16 February 2001 on the same topic,

Noting with satisfaction the activities undertaken by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) to promote the global campaigns, including the launches and follow-up activities under way in all regions, and the knowledge-management instruments developed to support the implementation of the two global campaigns,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of Governments in initiating campaign activities, organizing campaign launches and adopting national action plans to improve security of tenure and urban governance,

Aware of the active partnerships established with new and existing Habitat Agenda partners around the two campaigns, including joint activities with coalitions of non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, with the associations of local authorities and with other United Nations organizations, and of the efforts to mainstream the global campaigns in global programmes, including the increasing convergence of the activities of the Global Campaign on Urban Governance with the Urban Management Programme,

Noting the active contributions of Slum/Shack Dwellers International and the International Union of Local Authorities in the implementation of the global campaigns and the successful holding of the first session of the World Urban Forum, and also the particular operational efforts of Slum/Shack Dwellers International to upgrade slums and promote policy alternatives to unlawful forced evictions and the crucial role of the International Union of Local Authorities in chairing the global steering group providing guidance to the Global Campaign on Urban Governance,

Recognizing the need to continue and expand the broad based, inclusive and global process involving Governments, federations of slum dwellers, local authorities, private-sector partners, professional associations, community-based organizations and all other Habitat Agenda partners in implementing secure tenure and urban governance campaign activities at the local, national, regional and global levels,

Emphasizing the importance of secure tenure and urban governance in achieving adequate shelter for

all and sustainable urban development,

Welcoming the collaboration between the United Nations Development Programme and UN-HABITAT in the launching of national campaigns and on the occasion of the Global Sub-Practice Meetings on Decentralization, Local Governance and Urban Development, and welcoming also the memorandum of understanding concluded between UN-HABITAT and the United Nations Development Programme, which allows for further strengthening of the campaigns at the national level,

Noting further the cooperation between UN-HABITAT and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the United Nations Housing Rights Programme as an important component in the advocacy work within the two global campaigns,

1. Requests the Executive Director to promote continued expansion of the global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance through policy debate, knowledge management, advocacy, capacity-building and innovative technical cooperation and to ensure the continued support of UN-HABITAT to countries in their individual and collective efforts to stop the practice of unlawful forced evictions and provide security of tenure and urban governance for all people;
2. Invites Governments, in cooperation with other Habitat Agenda partners, to initiate and encourage debate on the principles of secure tenure and urban governance at the national and local levels;
3. Encourages Governments, in cooperation with other Habitat Agenda partners and with assistance from UN-HABITAT, as appropriate, to utilize the advocacy instruments of the global campaigns and to accelerate efforts at the national and local levels to introduce legislation, promote policy reform, strengthen institutional arrangements and build consensus on security of tenure and urban governance;
4. Invites the Executive Director to utilize fully the activities of the global campaigns to improve the lives of slum dwellers significantly;
5. Invites Governments at all levels to explore the possibility of using the urban governance tools developed by UN-HABITAT in collaboration with other Habitat Agenda partners to promote broad based participation in decision making, accountability, simplicity of procedures and transparency and best practices and to support the introduction of these tools in the curricula of relevant institutions, as contained in the Declaration on Cities and other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;
6. Encourages Governments at all levels to build upon the political will, partnership and organizing capacities of the urban poor, private-sector partners and community-based organizations to scale up city-wide upgrading programmes and promote inclusive city development strategies;
7. Invites all current and potential Habitat Agenda partners to lend their support to the implementation of the global campaigns, to provide contributions and to formalize partnerships with UN-HABITAT to realize the goals of the campaigns;
8. Requests the Executive Director to ensure continued expansion of the range of capacity-building activities and to increase the level of human and financial resources for advocacy tools to support both campaigns, to promote inclusiveness and transparency in local governance within the legal framework of each country and to measure progress towards achieving security of tenure and urban governance;
9. Also requests the Executive Director to further mainstream the principles of the campaigns through the UN-HABITAT regional offices, regional anchor institutions, urban observatories and national and local institutions and through other networks of community-based organizations, non-governmental organizations and municipal associations;

10. Further requests the Executive Director to further enhance synergy with the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations organizations in order to help Governments, bearing in mind the differing capabilities of countries, to localize the global campaigns at the national level, and to assist Governments and Habitat Agenda partners working at the municipal and local level in promoting security of tenure and urban governance;
11. Invites Governments in a position to do so to provide further financial and technical support to the global campaigns for secure tenure and on urban governance;
12. Requests the Executive Director to report to it on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution at its next session.