

**Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General
11 July 2013

Original: English

Economic Commission for Europe**Committee on Housing and Land Management****Seventy-fourth session and Ministerial Meeting**

Geneva, 7 - 9 October 2013

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

Draft outline of the publication “Challenges and priorities in housing and urban development in ECE region”**Note by the Secretariat***Summary*

The Committee on Housing and Land Management at its seventy-third session on 24-26 September 2012 requested the secretariat to prepare a publication, which would include short national reports on housing and land management. Since the UNECE Working Party on Land Administration is working on a comprehensive benchmarking study containing data and information on land management to be presented at the seventy-fourth session of the Committee, the focus of this publication is to be only on housing and urban development in order to avoid duplication of information.

This document contains an outline for the publication of the requested national reports on housing and urban development¹. The objectives of this publication will be:

To assess the current situation in housing and urban development in the ECE region;

To define the major challenges and priorities for future action in the areas of housing and urban development in the ECE region.

It is expected that this publication will contribute to the exchange of experiences in implementing policies and practices between governments in the ECE region. The publication could also become the Committee on Housing and Land Management contribution to the Habitat III conference.

¹Detailed guidelines to ECE member States for the preparation of the national reports are provided separately and are accessible at: <http://www.unece.org/housing-and-land-management/quick-links/national-reports.html>

The Habitat III conference will be organized by UN-Habitat in 2016.

This document was presented to the Bureau of the Committee on Housing and Land Management at its meeting on 22 May 2013 and it reflects the comments received.

The Committee is invited to approve this outline and agree to develop the draft publication for its seventy-fifth session.

I. DRAFT OUTLINE

1. The objectives of the proposed publication “Housing and Urban Development in the ECE region” are:
 - (a) To assess the current situation in housing and urban development in the ECE region; and
 - (b) To define the major challenges and priorities for future action in the areas of housing and urban development in the ECE region.
2. This publication will highlight the major milestones in the development of the institutional, legal and financial framework for housing and urban development in the ECE region from 2001 to 2012. A special focus will be on those policies, policy instruments, programmes and projects that have improved housing and urban development in the region.
3. Data on: population; demographic and economic dynamics; housing stock and tenure types; housing finance; housing markets; etc., will be an important part of this publication.
4. In 2012, a report on a survey on challenges and priorities in housing and land management in the ECE region was prepared². A summary of the major outcomes of this survey will be also included in the proposed publication.

II. APPROACH TO COMPILING THE PUBLICATION

5. The responsibility for preparing national reports is with each member State. It is upon them to organize the process for gathering information and data. However, it is recommended that a task force be established with representatives from key national stakeholders.
6. A time frame of 4 months will be assigned to consultations and collection of information and data (i.e.: from national authorities and local governments in the countries) and preparing the first draft.
7. The secretariat will then collect draft national reports, revise and send them back, if needed for clarification, correction or approval of the final text.
8. After receiving the final draft national reports, the secretariat will compile all the national reports into one publication.

III. PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE PUBLICATION

9. The structure of the publication will contain a summary of the survey outcomes on regional challenges and priorities for actions in the housing sector and urban development and national reports from member States on the state of housing and urban development. Relevant data will be provided in an Annex of the publication.

² Available at http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/sessions/docs2013/Survey_Report.pdf

IV. PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF NATIONAL REPORTS

10. Each national report should include four chapters and an annex with relevant data. In total, each national report should not be longer than 7 pages (Times New Roman, font size 10 and single space), including photos and charts and excluding annexes. The structure is conceived in such a way to provide a full picture of: the economic and demographic dynamics; the geographic situation and political system; housing and urban development challenges, trends and priorities; as well as their impact on the population concerned and the environment.

V. OUTLINE FOR NATIONAL REPORTS

Chapter I: Socio-economic conditions (not more than 800 words)

- 1.1 Geographic information
- 1.2 Legal and institutional framework
- 1.3 Population and demographic dynamics
- 1.4 Economy, poverty and employment

Chapter II: Housing and urban development policies in nutshell (800 words)

- 2.1 Milestones in reform of the housing sector
- 2.2. Milestones in reform of the urban development sector
- 2.3. Financial framework for housing and urban development

Chapter III: Housing and urban development – trends and challenges (1,000 words)

- 3.1 Development of cities – key trends and challenges
- 3.2. Policies and practices for the adaptation of cities to climate change as well as natural and human-induced disasters
- 3.3 Access to affordable and adequate housing
- 3.4 Quality of the stock and energy efficiency

Chapter IV: Policy response to major challenges for sustainable housing and urban development (1,000 words)

- 4.1 Vision, goal and objectives of housing and urban development policies
- 4.2 Current policy instruments
- 4.3 Projects under implementation
- 4.4 Project description

11. The Committee is invited to approve this outline and to agree to develop the draft publication for its seventy-fifth session.
