

**The statement delivered by H.E. Mr. Ciprian Lucian Roșca, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, Romania, on The 78th session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management, including its Ministerial Meeting**

Your Excellencies,  
Distinguished guests,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a special honour for me to represent Romania at the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Committee on Housing and Land Management at its 78<sup>th</sup> session, to speak on behalf of the Romanian Ministry of Regional Development, Public Administration and European Funds, and wishing you Happy anniversary!

Romania is currently passing through a dynamic process of urban and territorial planning reform, as follows:

- We completed last year the Romania's Territorial Development Strategy, which outlines the long term vision of the national territory development up to 2035 by setting up the main guidelines for territorial development on the basis of a strategic concept.
- Moreover, 2 years ago we have started to build the Planning and Construction Code, the National Housing Strategy, and the Norms related to the Real Estate Information System and Urban Data Banks. Additionally, the up-dating of the National Territorial Development Plan is currently in progress.

Furthermore, I would like to highlight a special milestone for Romania's urban development policy within this year, as Romania hosted the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial Planning (CEMAT), from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2017. Since its establishment in 1970, CEMAT brings together representatives of the 47 member states of the Council of Europe, united in their pursuit of a common objective: to strengthen and promote cooperation and the exchange of information in the area of spatial and regional planning not only among the member states but also at a broader international level.

The 17<sup>th</sup> CEMAT Conference was also promoted in the context of the Romania commitment to submit the Voluntary National Review, including SDG 11, in 2018 and the future Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union in

2019. It is important to underline that the 17<sup>th</sup> CEMAT session addressed the issue of *Functional areas – capitalisation of local potential in territorial development policies over the European continent*. The CEMAT conference held in Bucharest was primarily an acknowledgment of the importance of urban development in the process of ensuring a sustainable spatial development of the European continent. At the European Union level, the charters, resolutions and declarations commonly agreed by CEMAT form the basis for the cooperation and the amendment the national legal framework of each member state on territorial and urban planning and development, as well.

In this respect, the results of the Romanian Presidency of CEMAT are particularly critical, in the context of an extensive process of the legal and regulatory framework up-grading with focus on spatial planning and urban development. Furthermore, the revision of the national policies is in progress as well, in order to adjust them to the guidelines of the UN New Urban Agenda, agreed at the Habitat III Conference last year, the sustainable development goals(SDGs) of the 2030Agenda.

Last but not least, I am grateful for participating at this event during these days, when we also celebrate the World Urbanism Day, and I look forward to capitalizing the outcomes of the current session of the Committee on Housing and Land Management.

Thank you!