



HABITAT III POLICY UNITS

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

BACKGROUND

In the framework of the preparations towards Habitat III, a total of 10 Policy Papers on relevant topics will be developed by Policy Units (each Policy Unit will develop one Policy Paper) composed of 20 experts each, coming from different geographic areas and constituencies. The main objectives of this undertake will be:

// To bring together high-level expertise to explore state-of-the-art research and analysis on specific themes;

// To identify good practices and lessons learned; and

// To develop policy recommendations on particular issues regarding sustainable urban development.

The 10 Policy Units will focus respectively on the following 10 topics:

1. Right to the City, and Cities for All;
2. Socio-Cultural Urban Framework;
3. National Urban Policies;
4. Urban Governance, Capacity and Institutional Development;
5. Municipal Finance and Local Fiscal Systems;
6. Urban Spatial Strategy: Land Market and Segregation;
7. Urban Economic Development Strategy;
8. Urban Ecology and Resilience;
9. Urban Services and Technology; and
10. Housing Policies.

IDENTIFICATION OF EXPERTS

The process to identify experts for the composition of 10 Policy Units will include the following steps:

1. Request to member states to officially propose, to the Secretary General of the Conference, suitable experts to be part of specific Policy Units.





To this aim, a letter was sent on May 8, 2015 to all member states *[Attachment 1]*.

2. Request to accredited stakeholders to officially propose, to the Secretary General of the Conference, suitable experts to be part of specific Policy Units.

To this aim a letter to all UNECOSOC, Habitat II, and specially accredited organizations will be sent by end of May 2015.

In addition to the accredited organizations, the Habitat III Secretariat in consultation with Bureau Members may invite other international organizations, recognized for their contributions to specific Policy Units' topics, to propose suitable experts. The Habitat III Secretariat is not limiting number of nominated experts.

3. The Habitat III Secretariat will also request the UN Task Team, building on the work done for the preparation of Issue Papers, to propose suitable experts to be part of specific Policy Units.

[Terms of Reference for Experts in Attachment 2].

CRITERIA OF SELECTION

Based on the proposals received, the Secretary General will appoint 10 experts for each Policy Unit. The selection, conducted in close consultation with the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III, will be based on the following criteria:

// DEMONSTRABLE COMPETENCE

The candidate should be able to demonstrate a highly recognized competency at the level of working experience and researches/studies production on subjects directly related to the topic of the Policy Unit. To this aim, researches and publications issued on the topics, relevant working experiences, and participation and engagement in other intergovernmental processes and/or global development frameworks will be considered and evaluated.

// GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE

The selection will strive to ensure a fair balance on the geographic origin of the experts in order for all five geographic regions to be fairly represented in each unit.

// GENDER BALANCE

Whenever possible and depending on the availability of suitable candidates, the selection will ensure that male and women are equally represented in all the units.





In addition to the above, careful considerations will be made, as relevant, on ensuring diversity of approaches and sub-thematic focuses. When necessary, other mechanisms such as interviews could be carry out during the selection process.

The selection will be nominative based on the above criteria.

As part of the nominations, the Habitat III Secretariat is expecting to receive CVs of experts.

CO-LEADING ORGANIZATIONS

Each policy unit will be co-led by 2 organizations appointed by the Secretary General of the Conference. The organizations willing to co-lead a Policy Unit will be selected in close consultation with the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III, based on the following criteria:

- // International scope of the organization and high level demonstrable recognition in the subject area and/or specific topic of the Policy Unit;
- // Priority will be given to International organizations that can demonstrate participation and engagement in other intergovernmental processes and/or global development frameworks; and
- // Diversity in their constituency groups.

[Terms of Reference for Co-leading organizations in Attachment 3].

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

The cost of the Policy Units has been calculated in approximately 2.5 Million USD, including travel for two meetings (and one virtual meeting), the Habitat III Secretariat support and travel, the documentation, publication of documents and translation in 6 official UN languages, and the technical support for the open consultations. Each Policy Unit would cost 250,000 USD. Member states and other potential donors are being approached for contributing to the Habitat III Trust Fund.

