



APMCHUD

**Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on
Housing and Urban Development
(APMCHUD)**

Minutes of the
**4th Meeting of the
5th Bureau of APMCHUD**

held on
October 18, 2016
at
Quito, Ecuador

**Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the 5th Bureau of
Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban
Development (APMCHUD)**

Date: October 18, 2016 (4.30 PM to 6.30 PM)

Venue: Quito, Ecuador

The list of Participants is enclosed.

Welcoming the Hon'ble Members of the Bureau and the representatives of UN Habitat for the 4th Meeting of the 5th Bureau of APMCHUD, the Deputy Chief Coordinator Mr. Satinder Pal Singh expressed his special thanks to the UN-Habitat and Ecuador for facilitating conduct of this meeting. The Deputy Chief Coordinator mentioned that indications have been received that the Independent State of Samoa and Republic of Maldives would not be able to participate in the meeting due to exigencies, and that they have conveyed their best wishes for the success of the meeting. He then requested the Hon'ble Chair to initiate the proceedings of the meeting.

Chairing the meeting, H.E Dr. Kim Kyoung-Hwan, Hon'ble Vice Minister for Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MoLIT), Republic of Korea welcomed the Hon'ble members of the Bureau and all the delegates to the 4th meeting of the 5th Bureau of APMCHUD. The Hon'ble Vice-Minister thanked the UN-Habitat for facilitating the meeting by providing space during the Habitat-III event. The Hon'ble Minister also expressed his appreciation for the efforts to successfully host the 6th APMCHUD conference in December, 2016. Highlighting that this Bureau meeting assumes special significance as it is being held in conjunction with the Habitat-III event, the Hon'ble Minister expressed confidence that APMCHUD would continue to act as a collective mechanism to convert the challenges in the housing and urban development into opportunities for sustainable development of the Asia Pacific region. In this context, the Hon'ble Minister also recalled that the Seoul Declaration adopted during the 5th APMCHUD held at Seoul in 2014 had emphasized that governments should continue to strengthen efforts to make human settlements in the Asia Pacific region more sustainable and resilient and give people equal and fair benefits for urban planning and development. The Hon'ble minister expressed happiness that as the chair country, the Republic of Korea has developed various policies for safe and secure human settlements over the last 60 years and has provided member countries with a venue to share its successful experiences of urban development for a short period of time. Recalling the old saying that 'if you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, go together', the Hon'ble Minister hoped that the Asia Pacific countries solidify cooperation and share experiences through this bureau meeting so that together we realize our future of stable human settlements as partners for co-prosperity. H.E Dr. Kim Kyoung-Hwan, Hon'ble Vice Minister for Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MoLIT), Republic of Korea once again welcomed the Hon'ble members of the Bureau

and all the delegates to the 4th meeting of the 5th Bureau of APMCHUD and requested for their initial remarks, before taking up the agenda items.

H.E. Dr. Hamed Mazaherian, Islamic Republic of Iran thanked the Chair for the opportunity to share initial remarks. Registering his appreciation for UN-Habitat and the Secretariat of APMCHUD for all the coordinating initiatives, the Hon'ble Minister indicated that Islamic Republic of Iran had taken up a number of initiatives as part of the Working group 2 activities and the same would be elaborated during the appropriate agenda item during the meeting.

H.E Indika Bandaranayake, Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction, Ministry of Housing and Construction, Sri Lanka thanked the Chair for the opportunity to share his initial remarks. The Hon'ble Minister conveyed his special appreciation and thanks to the UN-Habitat and the Habitat III Secretariat for facilitating the 4th meeting of the 5th Bureau of APMCHUD in conjunction with the Habitat III Conference in Quito, Ecuador. H.E Indika Bandaranayake indicated that this will be the preparatory meeting for the forthcoming 6th APMCHUD Conference scheduled to be held in New Delhi, India in December, 2016 which would be hosted by the Government of Republic of India. The Hon'ble Minister indicated that the Asia Pacific region is going through a very bright era of economic growth. With 60% of humanity, this region has vast human resources and promising future potential for growth and development. However, Asia Pacific region is faced with critical challenges with regard to sustainable urbanization. Poverty, rapid growth of informal settlements and inadequate basic services, natural disasters and climate change are some of them. The Hon'ble Minister assured that Sri Lanka, as a member of APMCHUD, continues the support and adheres as far as possible to principles in planning and implementing housing and urban development programmes in Sri Lanka.

H.E Indika Bandaranayake further highlighted that the new government of His Excellency Mithripala Sirisena and the Prime Minister Hon'ble Ranil Wickramasinghe has launched a multi-faceted programme of balanced development, identifying housing and management of urban growth as key areas of focus. Accordingly, the government has promoted the Western Province megapolis as well as other urban centres distributed among strategic locations as an urban development strategy in association with a comprehensive shelter and infrastructure development. The Hon'ble Minister highlighted that housing has been elevated as one of the highest priorities of the government's development effort and the Government has pledged to empower citizens to become land and home owners, and that His Excellency the President has declared 2017 as the year of poverty alleviation in the country.

H.E Mohammad Salem Al-Junaidi Faris, Director General of Public Works and Housing, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan thanked the Chair for the opportunity. Thanking the UN-Habitat for facilitating the venue for the meeting, he also appreciated the efforts of the Secretariat in coordinating the arrangements. H.E Mohammad Salem Al-Junaidi Faris assured the continued support and involvement of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in the activities of APMCHUD.

H.E Mr. Arshad Omar Esmaeel, Ambassador of Iraq to Brazilia/Brasil & Head of Iraqi Delegation to Habitat III indicated that **H.E Eng. Istabraq I. AL Shouk, Senior Deputy Minister of Ministry of Construction and Housing and Municipalities and Public Works and Head of the National HABITAT Committee in Iraq** could not participate in the meeting personally in view of exigencies and that he has conveyed his best wishes for the meeting. H.E Mr. Arshad Omar Esmaeel read the message of H.E Eng. Istabraq I. AL Shouk. In his address H.E Eng. Istabraq I. AL Shouk indicated that with the beginning of the HABITAT III conference, military operations began in Iraq, to liberate Mosul from ISIS, the terrorist organization, and Iraq now is in a decisive confrontation at the military, logistical and political level, with this terrorist organization that causes serious damage to his country and for the whole Arab region, which is not limited to a specific aspect, but includes planning, urban and humanity aspects, in every specific detail. Though unable to participate personally, H.E Eng. Istabraq I. AL Shouk indicated that he is looking at this historic event as a real opportunity which coincides with extraordinary military circumstance that Iraq is passing through and looks forward to the coming together of all international, regional and Arab efforts to rebuild Iraq through confirming Iraq's need of continued support from the international community by confronting the challenges of terrorism risks and achieving comprehensive and sustainable urban prosperity with equal opportunities for all, promoting social cohesion, uprooting poverty, respecting human rights, providing decent services and shelter with the productive employment of the communities affected by disasters, protecting community diversity through mutual respect, protecting cultural heritage, and participating in urban life without fear of violence and discrimination.

Despite the success of Iraq in the formulation of the National Development Plan for the years 2013-2017 with an ambitious vision, Iraq is endeavour to achieve the set objectives have been hampered because of the terrorist attack of ISIS in the middle of 2014, bringing in its wake a range of political, economic, social and cultural crises, especially the number of internally displaced persons and migrants from the provinces which were occupied by terrorist gangs of ISIS two years ago. There are more than 3.6 million displaced persons scattered in the provinces of Iraq, the financial losses in excess of \$ 23 billion for the period after 2014, the genocide against Yazidis, which includes killing of 400,000 people, sexual slavery and other crimes, at least 3,200 Yazidi women and children still being held by ISIS, theft and destruction of archaeological sites of oldest human civilizations that are global humanitarian heritage, as well as the growth of slums and informal squatters, which was one of the results of forced displacement because of terrorism.

H.E Eng. Istabraq I. AL Shouk observed in his address that the ruin of ISIS is a huge challenge and requires a national mobilization and the participation of various institutions and companies of the state by dividing the affected areas into sectors, assigning them to a party with the capacity to complete the duties, while eschewing pointless public statements. But there is a need to determine the scale of destruction in a realistic way, specifying the required projects with their demands of machinery, equipment, construction materials, and estimating finances to support the engineering

efforts to return the situation to what it was before the war. In this context, H.E Eng. Istabraq I. AL Shouk, Senior Deputy Minister, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Municipalities and Public Works observed in his address that the Ministry of Construction and Housing and Municipalities and Public Works has taken the initiative, as the sectoral ministry concerned in housing and sustainable urban development, in supporting the Iraqi government's measures to address the multiple crises by providing the ministry's resources to the reconstruction process and building areas devastated by terror, rebuilding destroyed infrastructure which is the basic nerve centre of life, before returning of displaced persons to the liberated areas, addressing urban distortions, through the programme of settlement and rehabilitation of slums, modernization of the national housing policy in collaboration with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in Iraq, and directing housing loans of the CBI initiative as a priority for the reconstruction of housing units in the liberated areas.

H.E Eng. Istabraq I. AL Shouk, Senior Deputy Minister, Ministry of Construction and Housing and Municipalities and Public Works thanked and registered his appreciation to Ecuador for hosting various activities and also the Bureau for follow up of ideas and concepts that have been launched in the series of meetings of the Bureau.

Dr. Nandita Chatterjee, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India thanked the Chair and indicated that **H.E Mr.Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Minister of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Urban Development and Information & Broadcasting, Republic of India** could not personally join the meeting in view of official exigencies and that he conveys his best wishes for the success of the meeting. Thanking the UN-Habitat for facilitating the meeting and its continued support and guidance in the affairs of APMCHUD, Dr Nandita Chatterjee shared the message of the Hon'ble Minister with the Hon'ble members of the Bureau. In his message H.E Mr.Venkaiah Naidu conveyed his satisfaction on the progress of APMCHUD, as an effective collaborative mechanism in the field of housing and urban development, since its beginning in 2006, in New Delhi. He noted that at the threshold of a decade of its efforts, the collective engagement of the member countries has enabled it to maintain its vibrant character all through. The Hon'ble Minister conveyed that India is indeed grateful to APMCHUD for agreeing to the proposal of India hosting the 6th APMCHUD in New Delhi this year. Briefly highlighting the activities under the Working Group I, the Hon'ble Minister indicated that, as the lead country of the Working Group on 'Urban and Rural Planning and Management', India had taken up in October 2016 a study through the coordinating Institution namely Human Settlements Management Institute on one of the contemporary issues of urbanisation – peri-urbanisation and related aspects. The World habitat Day 2016 was also celebrated with a number of programmes, with focus on the theme of 'Housing at the centre'. The event at New Delhi by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation saw participation by the UN-Habitat's Regional office for Asia Pacific at Fukuoka as well.

H.E Mr.Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Minister of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Urban Development & Information & Broadcasting, Republic of India in his message further indicated that India is passing through a momentous period in respect to overall

development, and particularly in respect of housing and urban development sector. A number of programmes focussed on inclusive and sustainable development of human settlements are under implementation in mission mode. Some of these include the programme of 'Housing for All' with comprehensive strategies towards achieving this objective by 2022, the programme for development of 100 Smart cities in competitive mode, programme for rejuvenation and transformation of 500 cities of over 100,000 population with adequate strengthening of infrastructure facilities, and the programme for revitalisation and integrated infrastructure development in heritage cities. The Hon'ble Minister also offered that India would be very happy to share its successful experiments in the field of housing and urban development and would also be happy to learn from innovative approaches being followed by member countries in the Asia Pacific region.

H.E. Dr.M.Basuki Hadimuljono, Hon'ble Minister for Public Works and Housing, Republic of Indonesia could not join in the meeting due to certain exigencies, and Dr.Lana Winayati, Deputy for Housing Finance Evaluation, Ministry of Public Works and Housing, Republic of Indonesia represented the Hon'ble Minister and read out the address. In his opening remarks, the Hon'ble Minister thanked the Government of Republic of Korea and the APMCHUD secretariat for arranging the meeting and registered his highest respect and appreciation to the Government of India for their continuous support and commitment for APMCHUD and hosting the upcoming 6th APMCHUD. Indicating that the Government of Indonesia continues its commitment for APMCHUD, the Hon'ble Minister in his address highlighted that in the past year, Indonesia has been active in the execution of activities to support the implementation of the Seoul Declaration, and also has been an active partner of the United Nations in the progress towards Habitat III, which included the Prepcom3 in Surabaya, in July 2016, and also hosting of the 3rd Bureau meeting of APMCHUD. The Hon'ble Minister further highlighted that to support the Working Group on Sustainable Urban Development with a focus on climate change and disasters, Indonesia had held several events such as the workshop on Resilient Cities in Surabaya, together with the Rutgers University and 100 Resilient Cities. He added that the efforts to build resilient cities in Indonesia will continue as Jakarta now joins Semarang in the 100 Resilient City Program. In addition, it was informed that Indonesia also hosted the 4th ministerial meeting on Disaster Management and several other meetings on disaster risk reduction for the ASEAN community.

Outlining the progress of APMCHUD, the Hon'ble Minister highlighted in his address that it has been 10 years since the APMCHUD was first established in New Delhi, India, in December 2016, and that the first conference set the vision for sustainable urban development. Since then, the APMCHUD conferences held every two years were consistently held under different themes to support this vision. The New Urban Agenda, which is set to be adopted during the Habitat III conference will become the guiding document for housing and sustainable urban development for the next 20 years. He suggested that it is time to reflect on the current and past activities of APMCHUD to examine whether the efforts are significant enough to support APMCHUD's vision as a knowledge hub for sustainable housing and urban development in the Asia Pacific

region and for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. He further added that it is indeed time to think about what is the role of APMCHUD in facilitating the process of implementing the New Urban Agenda, what steps should we take and what needs to change so we may have a more workable and effective agenda in reaching the vision of sustainable housing and urban development, and how can we strengthen partnerships amongst stakeholders in the Asia Pacific region. He suggested that the APMCHUD conference may ponder on these aspects, including reviewing the effectiveness of our organization and how it can work better to achieve our common goal.

With the above initial remarks by the Hon'ble members, and with the permission of the Chair, the agenda items were taken up in sequence.

Item No. 1 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the 5th Bureau of the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD) held at Surabaya, Republic of Indonesia on 26th July, 2016

The Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated that the 3rd meeting of the 5th Bureau of APMCHUD was held at Surabaya, Republic of Indonesia on 26th July, 2016, and a copy of the Minutes of the meeting was circulated to the Hon'ble Members of the Bureau and was posted on the website of APMCHUD as well. (www.apmchud.com). A copy of the Minutes was also placed at Annexure 'A' as part of the agenda.

In this regard, the Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated that the APMCHUD secretariat has received a reference from the Republic of Iraq for a modification. As part of the 'Item No. 4: Information about the already approved agenda item relating to Organizational Issues - Resource base for APMCHUD – Status and way forward', the minutes had read as follows:

'...The Republic of Iraq requested that the details to enable making contribution by member countries may be informed to the member countries by the Bureau Secretariat.'

The Republic of Iraq has now desired that the same may be modified as follows:

'...The Iraq Government gave preliminary approval of the annual financial contribution to the resources base for APMCHUD and information will be given on completion of the procedures of depositing the amount of \$ 10,000 in the bank account of the secretariat.'

The Bureau considered the above and confirmed the Minutes along with the modification desired by the Republic of Iraq.

Item No. 2 : Action Taken subsequent to the 3rd Meeting of the 5th Bureau held on 26th July, 2016 at Surabaya, Republic of Indonesia - Report by the Chief Coordinator

A report on the actions taken on the decisions of the 3rd Meeting of the 5th Bureau held on 26th July, 2016 at Surabaya, Republic of Indonesia was presented by the Deputy Chief Coordinator.

In respect of '**Item No. 3: Activities of the Working Groups – reports/ Information by the Lead Countries of the 5 working groups**', it was decided that the draft revised theme of Working Group 4 could be 'Sustainable Smart Cities and Housing Finance' and that the same may be discussed in the 4th Bureau of APMCHUD so that the decision can be considered and finalized in the 6th APMCHUD'. It was informed that a separate item on the subject has been placed in the current Bureau meeting for consideration.

In respect of the '**Item No. 5 : Information/Report by the Host country of 6th APMCHUD - Republic of India on preparations for the 6th APMCHUD in 2016**', it was decided that in the forthcoming Bureau meeting in Quito, Ecuador, India may present the details on further progress'. It was informed that a separate item on the subject has been placed in the current Bureau meeting for consideration.

In respect of '**Item No. 6 : Sharing of Information on Policies/Programmes/Innovative approaches/ best practices in the field of Housing and Urban Deve-lopment including Conferences/Seminars organized by the member countries of Asia Pacific Region – in the web-site of APMCHUD**', the Bureau had decided that as a first step, all the Bureau countries may nominate a nodal officer with whom the secretariat may interact in this regard, and that the member countries may like to provide details on the web-sites for which a link could be established with that of the web-site of APMCHUD. In this regard, it was informed that Secretariat is interacting with the member countries for the details requested.

As part of '**Item No. 7 : Any other item with the permission of the Chair**', on the subject of '**Holding of the 4th Meeting of the 5th Bureau of APMCHUD in Quito, Ecuador during Habitat III event in October 2016**', it was decided that the APMCHUD Secretariat may interact with the UN-HABITAT Habitat-III Secretariat for facilitating venue for holding the 4th Bureau meeting at Quito, Ecuador during the Habitat III event, and that the UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific – Fukuoka may also be approached to extend all possible help to the Secretariat of APMCHUD to firm up the arrangement. In this regard, it was informed that the APMCHUD Secretariat interacted with the Habitat-III Secretariat while taking the help of UN-HABITAT and, accordingly, the current meeting is being held in Quito. The Bureau registered its appreciation for the gracious help of UN-HABITAT in this regard.

Item No. 3: Activities of the Working Groups – reports/Information by the Lead Countries of the 5 working groups

The Deputy Chief Coordinator requested the lead countries of the 5 working groups to share any information on their activities, either now or the same may be communicated to the Secretariat at a later date, which would in turn be communicated to all the Hon'ble members.

Presenting its report on the activities of the Working Group 1 on Urban and Rural Planning and Management, Republic of India informed that details of the **International event on `Human Settlements Planning & Design : A Shared Understanding`, held on 24th June, 2016 at New Delhi, which was attended by representatives from the Embassies and High Commissions located in Delhi from 8 Asia Pacific countries** namely Japan, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Iraq, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Republic of Korea, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, and Republic of India, in addition to UN-Habitat, GIZ and Asia Cities Alliance-UNOPS, had already been reported during the 3rd meeting of the Bureau held at Surabaya.

Further, subsequent to the 3rd meeting, in the context of rapid urbanization along with spatial transformation and blurring of rural-urban boundaries, a study has been sponsored on the nature of Peri-urbanization process in one of the Hill states of India, which calls for re-engineering of Urban Governance Instruments to integrate and strengthen the urban centres and surrounding rural areas so as to mainstream urbanization. It was indicated that the study is an attempt to understand this trend of urbanization in the context of hilly habitations and draws contours of this challenge in this setting. Planning becomes specially significant for hilly states in terms of a fragile ecosystem, vulnerability to disasters, protection of unique natural heritage and resource constraints. It was highlighted that the findings from this study will not only contribute to the policy level macro discussion on the new forms of urbanization and develop mechanisms to plan beyond municipal boundaries but will also contribute in sharing of knowledge and experiences on this growing problem among Asia Pacific countries during the upcoming conference on Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD) at New Delhi. A copy of the report prepared was also shared with the Hon'ble Members of the Bureau.

Highlighting various initiatives taken up as part of the Working Group 2 on Upgrading of Slum and Informal Settlements, **H.E Dr.Hamed Mazaherian, Hon'ble deputy Minister for Housing and Construction, Ministry of Roads and Urban Development, Islamic Republic of Iran** indicated that the `Implementation Plan` as adopted during the 5th meeting of APMCHUD in Seoul in November 2014 required the following in respect of the working group 2 : (a) Prioritize socio-economic enablement in urban regeneration of slums, informal settlements and deteriorated fabrics though a citywide, street-based approach; (b) Exploit the role of the provision of basic services and infrastructure, as well as public catalytic projects to stimulate development and enrich urban space; and (c) Develop policies for promoting equal opportunities in slums and creating inclusive cities without discrimination through facilitating the participation of slum-dwellers in the decision-making process. It was indicated that with regard to these items, the Ministry of

Roads and Urban Development, Islamic Republic of Iran has tried to update and revise existing slum upgrading legislation to promote economic buoyancy and social integration through urban regeneration, slum upgrading, and urban (re)development projects at different scales, including national spatial frameworks, regional planning, city-wide planning, neighbourhood design and public space design. The new bill calls for a holistic approach to upgrading and redevelopment projects with the participation of all relevant ministries in form of a National Empowerment Task Force at national, provincial and local levels. Furthermore, emphasis has been laid on community-based organizations which will take the lead in the actual upgrading or redevelopment projects. Furthermore, this legal document paves the ground for utilizing Information Technology as an effective instrument for engaging youth in slum upgrading and redevelopment projects. It was hoped that this legal document can serve as a model to be replicated in and adapted to other situations.

Elaborating further, H.E Dr.Hamed Mazaherian indicated that the Implementation Plan also requires that (d) Knowledge and experiences be shared by contributing to the best practices database and the competitive award established by the WG2 Secretariat; and (e) the experience gained by volunteer countries in pilot-testing slum indicators be scaled up across the region for inclusion in the slum upgrading database. With regard to these items, it was indicated that a series of three workshops were organized in September in 2015 in Tehran to discuss the documentation of good practices and scaling up and replication of community based successful practices. National and international experts from the region contributed to these workshops and the results have been placed in the Working Group Website.

H.E Dr.Hamed Mazaherian in his address also highlighted few more requirements of the Implementation Plan covering (f) preparation of national reports highlighting respective best practices and employing slum upgrading indicators for setting slum upgrading goals, targets, and timelines; and (g) presenting the results of this pilot-testing exercise and sharing information and experiences in upgrading slums in the Expert Working Group meeting organised by the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2015. In this regard it was indicated that the 3rd Expert Meeting of the Regional Slum Upgrading was held in Tehran, on 29th November to 1st December 2015. It was indicated that this Meeting was attended by several member countries, and the Hon'ble Minister appreciated, in particular, the contributions of India, Iraq, Korea, Pakistan and Indonesia to the deliberations and the presentations by Thailand, India, Iraq, Korea and Islamic Republic of Iran in this Expert Meeting. UN-Habitat, in particular its Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme and UN-Habitat Office in Tehran, also significantly contributed to this Expert Meeting. H.E Dr.Hamed Mazaherian further indicated that in addition to this Expert Meeting, an International Conference on Urban Slums was organized in May 2016, in the city of Sanandaj, Kurdistan Province. This conference was attended by a wide range of professionals and academia from several countries, who shared their lessons learnt and reviewed their experiences in the area of urban slums. UN-Habitat Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme and UN-Habitat Office in Tehran also contributed to this Conference. The results of this Conference have also been uploaded on the Conference Website as well as the WG2 Website.

Elaborating further, the Hon'ble Minister indicated that in respect of the last requirement of the Implementation Plan namely (h) Expanding the level and scope of participation in the Virtual Scientific Committee established by the Islamic Republic of Iran for the Slum Upgrading Working Group to share information and experiences, the WG2 Secretariat had tried to collect the experiences of countries in the Asia-Pacific region regarding urban upgrading which demonstrate that social integration, inclusion and cohesion can be promoted through urban upgrading projects. To this end, a slum upgrading database has been developed which will hold information on upgrading initiatives in all member countries. He requested for contribution of experiences and experiments of member countries to this database, underling that when completed, such a database will significantly assist all the member countries in their planning activities. H.E Dr.Hamed Mazaherian hoped to receive information from other member countries and their vigorous participation in the Virtual Scientific Committee established by the Secretariat of the Slum Upgrading Working Group.

With regard to various activities under the aegis of the **working group 3** - Delivery of Basic Services, jointly led by Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and Republic of Maldives, Mr. Palansuriya indicated that Sri Lanka was ranked 73rd in the human development index in 2014 and has comfortably surpassed most of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) targets set for 2015. He stressed that availability of adequate infrastructure facilities and delivery of basic services is a pre-condition for economic development. It also plays a complementary role in creating a sound base for healthy urban growth and decent environment for the people.

Mr. Palansuriya observed that inadequate household access to basic services remains the most critical and widespread problem in low income settlements in Asia Pacific region. It is probably one of the most important factors in the high infant and child mortality rates encountered in so many deprived neighborhoods. The governance for basic services covers the full range of arrangements through which government and other actors work together to install and manage the basic services systems. These arrangements often fail the poor, who are at a disadvantage in both the market and in the public policy arena, and often end up using systems that are unhealthy and even illegal. He highlighted that Sri Lanka was among the first countries to commit towards securing adequate shelter for all in sustainable human settlements promoted in Habitat I and adopting the community contract system in delivering the basic services efficiently for the poor communities in undeserved settlements. He elaborated that the national Housing Policy of Sri Lanka has identified the provision of infrastructure and service facilities by local level institutions as revenue generating projects rather than operating as delivery of services. Accordingly, the infrastructure service provision strategic policy guidelines have been proposed for the poor communities and the deprived neighborhoods. Mr. Palansuriya expressed happiness that this special forum of APMCHUD Bureau is an appropriate place to highlight Sri Lanka's commitment in implementing the Seoul Declaration on housing and urban development endorsed by the member countries of APMCHUD.

Mr. Palansuriya further indicated that being organised jointly by Sri Lanka with Maldives, there have been difficulties in taking up collaborative initiatives. It was decided after due

deliberations that Sri Lanka may forward the details in this regard to the Secretariat for taking them up further.

Highlighting various activities taken up by the Republic of Indonesia as part of the **Working Group 5** on Urban Development with a focus on Natural and Climatic Change related Disasters, Ms. Rina Agustin Indriani, Secretary Director General for Human Settlement, indicated that in September 2015, the Declaration of One ASEAN One Response was signed by 9 state leaders of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) for disaster management within and beyond Southeast Asian region. In October 2016, Indonesia hosted the 4th Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management and 5th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) Day for Disaster Management.

Elaborating various activities under taken on aspects relating to Working Group 5, it was informed that the Center for Research and Development on Housing and Settlements, Ministry of Public Works and Housing had (a) set up the Center of National Earthquake Study (PUSGEN), with the main tasks of taking up research, development, dissemination, and promotion of technology and knowledge, instruments, and practices of natural disasters risks mitigation, (b) PUSGEN will update the Indonesia Earthquake Map during the current year of 2016 itself. Further, the Regional Center for Community Empowerment on Housing and Urban Development (RCCEHUD) had (a) organized a Workshop on Resilience Planning and Strategic Implementation in Surabaya, on 23 July 2016, as a part of parallel event in PrepCom3, in cooperation with Association of Indonesian Engineers (PII), University of 17 Agustus 1945 (UNTAG) Surabaya, Rutgers University and American Planning Association (APA), (b) participated in PrepCom3 exhibition in Surabaya and also participated in the side event entitled "Local Government Approaches to the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction" during the PrepCom3 in Surabaya, which was led by United Cities and Local Government (UCLG) in collaboration with United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN-ISDR). (c) building the network and cooperation with the World Bank, UN-Habitat, International Urban Training Center (IUTC) South Korea, and Indonesian Habitat Secretariat for training management, such as on resilience training and executive training in housing and urban development, and (d) providing data and information on best practices and community empowerment related with housing and urban development and updating data and information in RC-CEHUD website <http://puskim.pu.go.id/rccehud/>.

Indonesia further indicated that in addition, activities have also been taken up by the Directorate General of Human Settlements (DGHS), Ministry of Public Works and Housing (MPWH), which include (a) Emergency Response Program for disaster management – for immediate actions to prevent further impacts of disaster, which include rescue and evacuation of the victims and properties, basic needs fulfilment, protection, refugee management, infrastructure and facility restoration, (b) establishment of Emergency Response Task Force with 350 skilled and trained personnel (c) establishment of 4 (four) Emergency Response Workshops located in

Medan, Bekasi, Surabaya, and Makassar - each workshop is equipped with facilities such Mobile Water Treatment, Mobile Water Tank, Public Hydrant, Emergency Tents, Knock-down Toilets, and Knock Portable Toilets, (d) MPWH initiated Early Warning System and Mitigation Management for prevention action (e) MPWH initiated rehabilitation, reconstruction, and establishment of Temporary Evacuation Shelter (TES) for post-disaster actions, which are built in 7 locations in Indonesia with vulnerability to natural disasters. These shelters, which are equipped with basic services such as water and sanitation, can accommodate 5,000 to 10,000 people (f) all disaster management programmes, for which MPWH coordinates with National and Local Agency of Disaster Management (BNPBB/BDPBB).

Item No. 4: Enlarging the scope of the Working Group 4 : 'Sustainable Housing Finance' to 'Sustainable Smart Cities and Housing Finance' – Proposal

Detailing out the agenda, the Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated that during the course of the 3rd meeting of the 4th Bureau of APMCHUD held at Surabaya on 26th July, 2016, while reviewing the various activities under each of the 5 working groups, the Republic of Iraq had suggested that there is a need to look into the structure of the Working Groups in terms of the subjects they deal with, in light of the New Urban Agenda under evolution through the HABITAT III. Agreeing with the suggestion, Republic of Korea felt that there is a potential to add a theme on Smart Cities in its broader context of sustainable and comprehensive development of cities. The Chairperson indicated that there are two options available in this regard. Firstly, to continue with the existing structure of 5 working groups but enlarge their scope and coverage in line with the emerging New Urban Agenda and related imperatives, or, alternatively, to create new theme(s) with identification of lead country(s) for the same.

In the above context, Republic of Korea further indicated that since Republic of Korea has suggested 'Smart Cities' as a new global agenda in the PrepCom-III, the revised theme of WG 4 could be 'Sustainable Smart Cities and Housing Finance' instead of the current 'Financing Sustainable Housing'. It had been further suggested that this may be discussed in the 4th Bureau of APMCHUD so that the matter can be considered and finalized in the 6th APMCHUD. This was agreed to, and it was decided that the Secretariat may accordingly add an item for consideration of the Bureau on revised theme of Working Group 4 the agenda of the 4th meeting of the 5th Bureau to be held in Quito.

It is in this context, the current item has been placed for consideration and as the Working Groups are constituted by the biennial conference of APMCHUD, the recommendation of the Bureau shall be placed for consideration of the APMCHUD during its forthcoming 6th Conference at New Delhi in December, 2016, as part of the item on 'Organizational matters'.

During deliberations, the Republic of India opined that the themes of 'Financing Sustainable Housing' and the aspect of 'Sustainable Smart Cities' are standalone

broad themes, and combining these two to read as 'Sustainable Smart Cities and Housing Finance' would not be justified. These two themes may therefore be considered independently. During deliberations, the issue of requirement of an additional lead country for a new working group theme, or the possibility of one country taking lead in respect of two working groups was discussed. It was noted that as the working groups are led by member countries on voluntary basis, there has been no specific indication on the number of working groups one country may lead, or the total number of working groups. It was noted that the current status of working groups on five focal themes continues since the 2nd Conference in Tehran.

In the above context, after deliberations, the Bureau decided that the Republic of Korea's proposal may be taken to the 6th Conference of APMCHUD for consideration of either having a revised theme covering both housing and smart cities or having independent themes under two working groups on 'Financing Sustainable Housing' and on 'Sustainable Smart Cities'.

It was further decided that the issues of (i) Relevance of the current sub-themes of Working Groups in light of the imminent passage of the New Urban Agenda, (ii) revisiting the number of working groups, and (iii) structure and regulations for constitution of Working Groups may also be placed as an item for consideration during the 6th APMCHUD at New Delhi, as part of the 'Organizational Matters'. In the interregnum, Members of the Bureau may communicate their suggestions in this regard to the APMCHUD secretariat.

Item No. 5: Organizational Issues - Resource base for APMCHUD – Status

The Deputy Chief Coordinator apprised the Members about the latest status of contributions made by member countries to the resource base of APMCHUD. It was informed that on 31st March, 2016, the Secretariat has received from the Republic of India, a total of US\$ 60,000, covering a one-time amount of USD 50,000 and annual contribution of USD 10,000 for APMCHUD, which was reported to the Bureau in its 3rd meeting held at Surabaya. It was further informed that in continuation of the receipt of USD 60,000 reported already, the Republic of India vide its letter dated 1st September, 2016 has communicated the sanction of USD 10,000 towards annual contribution of annual to APMCHUD for the period 2016-17. It was also informed that the Republic of Iraq has given its preliminary approval for the annual financial contribution to the resources base for APMCHUD and that it will inform the Secretariat on completion of the procedure for depositing the amount of USD 10,000 in the bank account of the secretariat. The details of the bank account of APMCHUD maintained at Delhi were also indicated in the agenda.

The Deputy Chief Coordinator further proposed that the status of the resource base may be reported to the APMCHUD during the forthcoming 6th Conference at New Delhi in December, 2016, as part of the item on 'Organizational matters', which was agreed to by the Bureau.

Item No.6: Information/Report by the Host country of 6th APMCHUD - Republic of India on preparations for the 6th APMCHUD in 2016

The details on the status of preparations for the 6th APMCHUD Conference in 2016 were presented by Mr Satinder Pal Singh, Director (Housing), Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India (GoI) and Deputy Chief Coordinator of Bureau of APMCHUD. The Director (Housing), GoI indicated that the status of preparations was presented during the 3rd meeting of the 5th Bureau held at Surabaya on 26th July, 2016, which included the following:

- (i) Date(s) of the 6th Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD) - 14th – 16th December, 2016 at New Delhi;
- (ii) the theme of the Conference is “Emerging Urban Forms - Policy Responses and Governance Structure”,
- (iii) Sub-themes for the Working Groups in line with the main theme of the Conference are as follows:

Main theme of the 6th APMCHUD in New Delhi:
“Emerging Urban Forms-Policy Responses and Governance Structure”

Working Group	<u>Sub-themes for the Working Groups, in line with the main theme of the Conference of “Emerging Urban Forms – Policy Responses and Governance Structure”</u>
I. Urban and Rural Planning and Management (Lead country - Republic of India)	Integrated Planning, management and governance structure Imperatives
II. Upgrading of Slums and Informal Settlements (Lead country - Islamic Republic of Iran)	Un-organised growth in peripheral areas and slum upgradation aspects
III. Delivery of Basic Services (Jointly led by Sri Lanka and Maldives)	Ensuring basic services including mobility for integrated development
IV. Financing Sustainable Housing (Lead country - Republic of Korea)	Ensuring access to housing and housing finance in the urban-rural continuum
V. Urban development with reference to Natural and Climate Change related Disasters. (Lead country - Republic of Indonesia)	Ensuring sustainable and natural disaster resilient urban development including climate change

- iv) A Steering Committee under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA) and an Organizing Committee under the Chairpersonship of Joint Secretary (Housing)/ Chief Coordinator, APMCHUD have been constituted.

While approving the above and registering its appreciation, the Bureau had decided that in the 4th meeting of the 5th Bureau scheduled to be held in Quito, Ecuador, India may present the details on further progress, and accordingly this presentation is being made.

Elaborating on further progress in the preparations for the 6th Conference in New Delhi, the Director (Housing), GoI, while circulating the details, provided highlights of the proposed 3-day programme. The overall 3 day programme and details of each days programme were circulated in the meeting/was part of the presentation as well. The broad composition of the sessions on the three days is as follows:

1st Day: Forenoon would have 2 sessions covering the inaugural plenary, followed by the session on country statements by the Hon'ble Ministers/Leaders of Delegation of the participating countries. The session on country statements is a new addition. The post lunch sessions would include a meeting of Senior Official to deliberate on 'Organizational matters', followed by parallel meetings of the 5 Working Groups. A cultural programme-cum-dinner has been planned in the evening on the first day.

2nd Day: The forenoon sessions would cover a special session on 'Implementation of the New Urban Agenda', followed by the second parallel meetings of the 5 Working Groups. The post lunch sessions would include the third parallel meetings of the 5 Working Groups, which would be followed by a visit to select innovative projects covering new town development, innovative technology park, and a redevelopment project in the city. The drafting Committee would hold parallel discussions for formulating the draft New Delhi Declaration and Implementation Plan. Subsequent to the site visits, the teams would converge at Purana Qila (Old Fort) for a light-and-sound show, subsequent to which a dinner would be hosted at a nearby venue.

3rd Day: The forenoon sessions would include presentation of the New Delhi Declaration and Implementation Plan by the Drafting Committee and finalization of the same. This shall be followed by the Ministerial Plenary which would consider and adopt the New Delhi Declaration and Implementation Plan, after which the concluding Plenary session would be held. This would be followed by a Press Conference and lunch.

With regard to the conduct of parallel working group sessions, Director (Housing), Government of India solicited cooperation of the Lead countries of the working groups for the following: (i) The working group parallel sessions would be Chaired by the respective Lead countries, (ii) A short theme paper (5 to 10 pages) on the respective sub-themes of the working groups would be required to be prepared and uploaded on the web-site (iii) A presentation on the sub-theme of the working group shall be made in the first parallel session of the working groups by the respective lead countries, (iv) The lead countries may solicit member countries to make presentations in the parallel sessions on respective working group sub-themes. There can be 2 to 3 such presentations in each of the three parallel sessions. This would include the lead presentation as well as a presentation by the UN-Habitat in each working group, and (v) the finalized recommendations of the working groups and the corresponding Action Plans would be given to the Committee drafting the New Delhi Declaration and Implementation Plan.

During deliberations, the Republic of Indonesia indicated that the 6th APMCHUD would be the first major multi-country event after the adoption of the New Urban Agenda and,

accordingly, it would be a good opportunity to discuss issues relating to implementation of the New Urban Agenda and that the same should be reflected in the main theme of the conference. It was also indicated that it may be time that the titles and focus of the working groups are reformulated in the current context. With regard to the sub-theme of working group 5, it was indicated that rather than reading as 'urban development with a focus on natural and climate change related disasters', the sub-theme of working group 5 could be revised to highlight Resilient Cities.

Concurring with the view that it may be time that the focal themes could be considered for revision, the Islamic Republic of Iran suggested that the theme of the Working Group could focus on 'regeneration of cities'. It was felt that, as already decided while deliberating on Agenda Item No. 4, further clarity would be desirable on aspects like the number of working groups a member country may lead, the number of working groups APMCHUD may have, etc.

Responding to the suggestion on the main theme, Republic of India indicated that the main theme of the conference as approved by Government of India indeed focuses on the New Urban Agenda and, in case required, this could be explicitly highlighted with the theme reading as 'Emerging Urban Forms – Policy Responses and Governance Structure in the context of the New Urban Agenda'.

After deliberations, the Bureau decided the following: (1) the theme proposed by the Host country – Republic of India may explicitly highlight the context of New Urban Agenda and may thus read as 'Emerging Urban Forms – Policy Responses and Governance Structure in the context of the New Urban Agenda'. (2) For the 6th Conference, all the sub-themes as proposed by India may continue, with the overall context of New Urban Agenda in focus. (3) In the context of 10 years of APMCHUD and also in the context of the New Urban Agenda, the Bureau member countries may like to provide their considered views/suggestions on addition of working group(s) on new themes, restructuring of the existing working groups, including reviewing the number of working groups one country may lead. (4) The first parallel session of the working groups during the 6th APMCHUD may focus on the state of progress of the working groups on the existing sub-themes. During the subsequent sessions, the working groups may deliberate on issues such as the need for restructuring of the working groups and review of the respective sub-themes. (5) The member countries may formalize their suggestions in this regard, if any, and forward the same to the Secretariat at the earliest, and certainly before 31st November, 2016, so that the issues/suggestions are appropriately incorporated in the items for consideration as part of 'organizational matters'. (6) The drafting Committee, on which the respective working groups would also be represented, may consider all these issues in its final recommendations.

The Chairperson solicited the cooperation of the member countries for their early response.

Item No. 7: Sharing of Information on Policies/Programmes/Innovative approaches/best practices in the field of Housing and Urban Development including Conferences/Seminars organized by the member countries of Asia Pacific Region – in the web-site of APMCHUD

The Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated that during the 3rd meeting of the 5th Bureau held at Surabaya on 26th July, 2016, it was proposed that information on Policies/Programmes/ Innovative approaches/ best practices in the field of Housing and Urban Development, including Conferences/Seminars organized by the member countries of Asia Pacific Region may be forwarded to the Secretariat, for posting on the web-site of APMCHUD Secretariat. In addition, the relevant web-site addresses were also requested to be provided so that appropriate links could be incorporated in the APMCHUD web-pages. It was also requested that it would be ideal if a nodal officer is nominated with whom the Secretariat may interact in this regard, and the details may be forwarded to the Secretariat. It was therefore decided that as a first step, all the Bureau countries may nominate a nodal officer with whom the Secretariat may interact in this regard, and that the member countries may like to provide details on the web-sites for which a link could be established in the web-site of APMCHUD.

It was informed that the Secretariat is interacting with the member countries in this regard. It was further proposed that towards enlisting the cooperation of the member countries in strengthening the information base on Asia Pacific region maintained through the web-site of Secretariat of APMCHUD, the above request may be posed to the member countries of the APMCHUD during the forthcoming 6th Conference at New Delhi in December, 2016, as part of the item on `Organizational matters`. The Bureau approved the same.

Item No. 8 : Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

The Republic of Iran, with the permission of the chair, raised the issue of establishing a network for sharing experiences with respect to disaster mitigation and disaster resilience.

It was decided that further discussion can be held in this regard during the 6th APMCHUD at New Delhi.

**4th Meeting of the 5th Bureau of the
Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development
(APMCHUD)**

**Date: October 18, 2016 (4.30 PM to 6.30 PM)
Venue: Quito, Ecuador**

Hon'ble Members of delegations and distinguished Participants

Heads of the Delegations

Republic of Korea

H.E Dr. Kim, Kyoung-Hwan - In Chair
Hon'ble Vice Minister,
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MoLIT),

Islamic Republic of Iran

Dr. Hamed Mazaherian,
Deputy Minister for Housing and Construction,
Ministry of Roads and Urban Development

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

H.E Indika Bandaranayake,
Hon'ble Deputy Minister of Housing and Construction,
Ministry of Housing and Construction, Sri Lanka

Republic of India

Dr. Nandita Chatterjee,
Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation,

Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

H.E Mohammad Salem Al-Junaidi Faris,
Director General of Public Works and Housing

Republic of Iraq

H.E Mr. Arshad Omar Esmaeel,
Ambassador of Iraq to Brazilia/Brasil &
Head of Iraqi Delegation to Habitat III

Republic of Indonesia

Dr.Lana Winayati,
Deputy for Housing Finance Evaluation,
Ministry of Public Works and Housing,

UN-Habitat

Mr. Yoshinobu Fukasawa,
Director, UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific – Fukuoka

APMCHUD Secretariat

Mr. Satinder Pal Singh,
Director (Housing), Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of
India & Dy. Chief Coordinator, APMCHUD

Members of delegations and distinguished Participants

Republic of Korea

Mr. Kim Yi-Tak,
Director, Housing Policy Division, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MoLIT),
Mr. Choi Chul-seung
Deputy Director, Housing Policy Division, MoLIT

Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

Mr. L.S.Palansuriya,
Chairman, National Housing Development Authority (NHDA)

Republic of India

Mr. Saurav Kumar,
Second Secretary,
Embassy of India for Colombia and Ecuador

Republic of Indonesia

Ms.Rina Agustin Indriani,
Secretary Director General for Human Settlement

APMCHUD Secretariat, New Delhi

Dr. P.Jayapal, Senior Executive Director
Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd (HUDCO)

Mrs. Kamlesh Padmanathan,
Deputy General Manager, HUDCO
