



## ***UN Pavilion Side Event: Implementing the New Urban Agenda through National Urban Policy: Global Perspectives and Launch of a Regional Programme for Arab States***

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30 September 2016

**Date:** Monday, October 17, 16:00-17:30

**Venue:** UN Pavilion

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### ***DRAFT (first 45 minutes)***

#### **BACKGROUND**

The role of NUP in contributing to the global urban agenda, and its ability to be an important mechanism for the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda, has been recognized through the selection of National Urban Policy as one of the ten Habitat III Policy Units.

With input from the regional and local levels, a coordinated effort from the national level government through a National Urban Policy (NUP) provides the best opportunity for the development of a coordinating and thorough nation-wide urban development plan. NUP has been recognized within various international organizations, including UN Habitat, OECD, Cities Alliance, and beyond, as a tool for government to achieve a higher level of vertical and horizontal coordination and thus enable countries to capitalize on the opportunities of urbanization.

NUP touches on many essential components on the NUA, including its transformative and participatory nature. NUP works to institutionalize important parts of the policy process; particularly the augmentation of capacity and the institutionalization of participatory processes. This encourages transformative change in the processes of policy development and urban planning within the country. The participatory nature of NUP encourages the validation of the NUP by all levels of government and all relevant stakeholders. This not only makes the process more sustainable, but also helps to ensure that the voices of all stakeholders are heard and that they are included in the conceptualization of all policies and plans.



## OBJECTIVE OF THE SESSION

This event will present NUP, and its role as a tool for the implementation of the NUA, from the perspective of government officials whose countries have begun the NUP process and who are at varying stages of completion. Interventions will be invited by Ministers in a panel discussion.

## FORMAT OF THE SESSION

**Opening:** The session will begin with opening remarks and a brief outline of the overall framework and objectives of the session, with reference how NUP can be a tool for the implementation of the NUA. Remarks will be made from three global organizations working in the area of NUP, OECD and Cities Alliance.

**Panel discussion:** The panel discussion will consist of three (3) panelists discussing the role of NUP in their country for the implementation of the NUA.

**Draft Programme** (subject to change)

<b>Monday, 17 October 16:00-17:30</b>	
16:00-16:03	Opening Remarks, Moderator, UN Habitat
16:03-16:08	Opening Remarks, Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD
16:08-16:13	Opening Remarks, Clare Short, Chair of the Management Board, Cities Alliance
<b>Panel Discussion (5 mins per speaker)</b>	
16:13-16:18	Mr Daniel Chain, Secretario de Obras Públicas. Ministerio del Interior, Obras Publicas y Vivienda, Argentina
16:18-16:23	Stephen Y. Neufville, Deputy Minister of Urban Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Liberia
16:23-16:28	Emmanuelle Cosse, Minister for Housing and Sustainable Habitat, France
16:30-16:43	<b>Questions and comments</b>
16:43-16:45	<b>Panel change</b>



## GUIDING QUESTIONS

### Guiding Questions for Panelists:

- *Why NUP is important in your country context?*
- *The progress made on the NUP to date?*
- *Why/how the do you feel undertaking the process of NUP development is an important step in implementing the New Urban Agenda in their country?*