

Eighty-fifth session of the UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management

2 October (10 a.m.) – 4 October (6 p.m.) 2024

Room XVII, Palais des Nations, Geneva (In-person only)

(2-3 October: UN web TV broadcasting at: <https://webtv.un.org/en>)

Draft detailed programme (- as of 27 September)

The detailed draft programme provides information on the schedule and speakers of the 85th session of the UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management. It complements the [draft annotated provisional agenda for the Committee's 85th session](#) (ECE/HBP/2024/1). The meeting documents and other information on the session are available at <https://unece.org/info/events/event/391140>.

Wednesday, 2 October 2024

Time (CET)	Agenda items, interventions and speakers of the session
10:00- 10:15	<p>1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Stephanie Fürer (Switzerland), Chair, UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management</i> • <i>Ms. Tatiana Molcean, Executive Secretary, UNECE</i>
10:15- 13:00	<p>2. Workshop on housing affordability</p> <p><i>See draft workshop programme (ECE/HBP/2024/Inf.1)</i></p>
13:00- 15:00	<p><i>Lunch break</i></p>
13:15- 14:15	<p>Side event – Strategic Urban Foresight: Learning from Paris, Geneva and Luxembourg (<i>Room 200, at the entrance of the H-building</i>)</p> <p>Organized by Fondation Braillard Architectes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Panos Mantziaras, Director of Fondation Braillard Architectes</i> • <i>Mr. Bertrand Lemoine, Director General of the Atelier International du Grand Paris (online)</i> • <i>Mr. Sylvain Ferretti, Director General of the Geneva Canton Planning Services (on-site)</i> • <i>Ms. Marie-Josée Vidal, Secretary General of the Luxembourg Ministry for Housing and Territorial Planning (online)</i>
15:00- 18:00	<p>2. Workshop on housing affordability (continued)</p>

Thursday, 3 October 2024

Time (CET)	Agenda items, interventions and speakers of the session
10:00- 11:00	<p>3. Forum of Mayors: outcomes of the fourth meeting, mandate and terms of reference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the fourth Forum of Mayors’ meeting (Geneva, 30 September– 1 October 2024), <i>Ms. Ahn Thu Duong, Co-director, Global Cities Hub, Geneva</i> • Presentation of the draft decision on the mandate and the revised terms of reference of the Forum of Mayors, and any proposed changes to it, <i>Ms. Paola Deda, Director, Forests, Land and Housing Division, UNECE</i> <p>Deliberations and decisions by the Committee</p>
11:00-	<p>4. Matters arising since the last Committee session</p>
11:15	<p>4 (a) Recent developments in the United Nations and the Economic Commission for Europe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparations for the 71st UNECE Commission session (Geneva, 9–10 April 2025); outcomes of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the ECE Region (Geneva, 13–14 March 2024) and of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (New York, 8–17 July 2024); and expected participation of UNECE in the 12th session of the World Urban Forum (Cairo, 4–8 November 2024) – <i>Ms. Tea Aulavuo, Secretary to the Committee, UNECE</i> <p>Deliberations and decisions by the Committee</p>
11:15-	<p>4 (b) Recent developments in other organizations</p>
11:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on the 12th session of the World Urban Forum and the 1st meeting of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All (Nairobi, 9–11 December 2024), <i>Mr. Graham Alabaster, Head of Geneva Office, UN-Habitat</i> • Information on recent activities on cities in scaling up nature-based solutions in urban areas, <i>Mr. Charles Karangwa, Global Head of Nature-based Solutions, International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</i> <p>Deliberations and decisions by the Committee</p>
11:30-	<p>5. Review of the implementation of the programmes of work 2023 and 2024</p>
12:30	<p>5 (a) Voluntary Local Reviews: measuring progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals at the local level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised and updated Guidelines for the Development of VLRs in the ECE region– <i>Mr. Oleg Golubchikov, Professor, Cardiff University, the UK; and Mr. Matteo Tarantino, Senior Researcher, University of Geneva</i>

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- Update on the assistance to Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan); Dushanbe (Tajikistan); Nis (Serbia) and Tbilisi (Georgia) in the elaboration of voluntary local reviews – *Ms. Katja Schäfer, Inter-Regional Advisor, UN-Habitat*
 - Report on the voluntary local review of Tbilisi – *Mr. Vakhtang Lomjaria, Head, Municipal Department of Economic Development, Tbilisi city government*
 - Report on the voluntary local review of Dushanbe – *Mr. Abdurahmon Abdurahmonzoda, Deputy Mayor, Dushanbe*
 - Planned activities under the project “Empowering Bishkek Stakeholders for Sustainable Development: Awareness and Capacity Building for SDG Action” – *Ms. Thamara Fortes, Regional Advisor, UNECE*
 - Webinars to promote online training courses on voluntary local reviews (25 April and 23 May 2024) – *Ms. Tea Aulavuo, Secretary to the Committee, UNECE*

Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

12:30- **5 (b) Implementation of the United for Smart Sustainable Cities initiative**

- 13:00
- Activities of the United for Smart Sustainable Cities (U4SSC) initiative, including outcomes of the U4SSC annual meeting (Madrid, 19 September 2024) – *Ms. Cristina Bueti, International Telecommunication Union, U4SSC secretariat*
 - Update on the UNECE activities under the U4SSC initiative – *Mr. Vahid Khatami, Associate Economic Officer, UNECE*

Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

13:00–
15:00

Lunch break

15:00– **5 (c) Building urban resilience through action plans, nature-based solutions, and innovative and green financing**

- 15:45
- “Supporting Member States in urban economic resilience building for inclusive responses and recovery regarding natural, man-made disasters, climate change, internal and external shocks” project activities and next steps; presentation of the UNECE component focusing on Podgorica, Montenegro – *Dr. Lorenzo Kihlgren Grandi, Founding Director, City Diplomacy Lab (Paris)*
 - Report on the webinar to promote on the implementation of the “UN Principles for Green Financing for Sustainable Real Estate, Infrastructure and Urban Transformation Projects” – *Mr. Luca Bianchi, Deputy Head of the Regional Branch of the Bank of Italy in Milan*
 - Report on Webinar on Fashion and the City (5 February 2024), *Ms. Katia Dayan Vladimirova, Researcher, University of Geneva*
 - Work on nature-based solutions conducted under the UNECE Committee on Forests and Forest Industry *Trees in Cities Challenge* and the *Trees in Dry Cities Coalition* – *Ms. Liliana Annovazzi-Jakab, Chief of the joint ECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section, Forests, Land and Housing Division, UNECE*
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Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

15:45– **5 (d) Activities of the network of the Geneva UN Charter Centres for sustainable**
17:15 **Housing and Smart Sustainable Cities**

Supporting Cities' implementation of Agenda 2030, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing, and the Regional Action Plan 2030: Examples from the Geneva UN Charter Centres of Excellence.

Introduction by the moderator: *Mr. Alexandre Hedjazi, Centre of Excellence on Smart Sustainable Cities, Director, Global Environmental Policy Program, Geneva University*
Panellists:

- Putting Place and Communities at the heart of the Regional Action Plan 2030, *Mr. Raffaele Esposito, Glasgow Urban Lab (Glasgow School of Art + Glasgow City Council), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*
- Youth Homelessness and Homelessness Prevention in the UNECE Region: Member States' responsibilities under the 2030 Agenda, the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing, and the Regional Action Plan 2030 Strategy, *Ms. Emily Kellway, Centre of Excellence & Policy Coordinator and Ms. Amanda Buchnea, Strategy, Policy & Innovation Specialist at the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (Toronto, Canada)*
- Opportunities and challenges of city diplomacy for urban resilience, *Dr. Lorenzo Kihlgren Grandi, Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Urban Development and City Diplomacy, Founding Director, City Diplomacy Lab (Paris)*
- Financing Sustainable Development Goals: challenges and mitigation strategies, *Mr. Michele Lertora, Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Finance for Cities and Infrastructure, LIUC Business School (Casellanza, Italy)*
- Integrating Sustainable Development Goals into Urban Planning: Insights and Innovations from Albania's context, *Ms. Sadmira Malaj, Centre of Excellence on Sustainable and Resilient Settlements, Polis University and co-PLAN institute (Tirana)*
- Promoting data cultures at the city level: A precondition for SDG development, *Mr. Matteo Tarantino, Senior Researcher, University of Geneva*

Establishment of a new Geneva UN Charter Centre of Excellence on Sustainable Spatial and Urban Planning, Architecture and Housing, within the National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia

- *Mr. Manuk Barseghyan, Rector, National University of Architecture and Construction of Armenia*
 - *Mr. Avetik Arzumanyan, Head, Production of Construction materials, Products and Structures*
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Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

17:15- **5 (e) Land administration and management**

18:00 Activities of Working Party on Land Administration (WPLA) and preparations for its 14th session (Geneva, 28-29 April 2025)

- General Introduction to the programme of work – *Ms. Victoria Abbot, Head of External Affairs, Customer and Strategy Group, HM Land Registry (the UK), WPLA Chair*
- Activities related to ensuring tenure security – *Ms. Pilar Verdejo, Land Property Registrar, Valencia (Spain), WPLA Vice-Chair*
- Webinar “Informal Settlements: Formalization and Build Back Better Projects” (14 June 2024) – *Ms. Chryssy A. Potsiou, Professor, School of Rural, Surveying & Geoinformatics Engineering, National Technical University of Athens, WPLA Bureau member*
- Webinar on "Ecosystems in Land Administration" (18 April 2024) - *Ms. Kirsikka Riekkinen National Land Survey, Assistant Professor, Aalto University (Finland), WPLA Vice-Chair*
- Global Property Rights Index (Prindex) 2024 survey results for selected ECE countries – *Mr. Denys Nizalov, Senior Land Governance Adviser (the UK)*

Achievements of Uzbekistan in Developing Land Administration – *Mr. Bekhzod Nishanov, Head of the Methodological Department of the Cadastre Agency (Uzbekistan)*

Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

4 October 2024, Friday

Time (CET)	Agenda items and titles of the session
10:00–10:30	<p>5 (f) Activities of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group for Sustainable, Climate-Neutral and Energy-Efficient Buildings and Cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of activities of the Real Estate Market (REM) Advisory Group; and the draft programme of work and terms of reference of the Advisory Group for 2025-2026 – <i>Ms. Paloma Taltavull de la Paz, Professor, Department of Applied Economic Analysis, University of Alicante, Spain, and REM Chair</i> • Update on activities of the International Fire Safety Standards Coalition – <i>Mr. Gary Strong, Fire Safety Lead, Global Building Standards Director, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors</i> • The global challenge of housing affordability – <i>Prof. Conor O’Toole, Associate Research Professor, Economic and Social Research Institute</i>

Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

10:30– **5 (g) Country profiles on urban development, housing and land management**

- 11:30
- Presentation of the joint UNECE – UN-Habitat Country Profile on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management of Armenia – *Mr. Oleg Golubchikov, Professor, Cardiff University, the UK*
 - The Country Profile of Armenia and related cooperation – *Ms. Nune Petrosyan, Deputy Chairman of the Urban Development Committee of Armenia*
 - Planning of the Country Profile on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management of Montenegro – *Ms. Tea Aulavuo, Secretary to the Committee, UNECE*
 - Planning of the Country Profile on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management of Uzbekistan – *Mr. Diyor Ergashev, Land reforms implementation Institute for Macroeconomic and Regional Studies under the Cabinet Ministers*

Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

11:30 – **5 (h) Affordable, carbon-neutral and energy-efficient housing in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe**

- 11:45
- Update on the implementation of the *#Housing2030: Effective policies for affordable housing in the UNECE region (ECE/HBP/204)* – *Ms. Edit Lakatos, Senior Policy Officer, Housing Europe*
 - Activities of the UNECE Joint Task Force on Energy Efficiency Standards in Buildings of the ECE Region – *UNECE secretariat*
 - Implementation by Georgia of spatial and urban development projects and innovative and new approaches, including in light of *Place and Life in the ECE – A Regional Action Plan 2030 (ECE/HBP/215)* – *Mr. Ioane Menabde, Head of the Spatial and Urban Development Agency of Georgia*

Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

11: 45 – **6. Update on technical cooperation activities**

13:00 **UN4UkrainianCities Project**

- Project overview–*Ms. Tamara Fortes, Regional Advisor, Project Manager, UNECE*
 - UNECE Cooperation in the Housing Policy – *Ms. Vita Pavliv, Head of the Recovery Department, Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine*
 - Component 1: Housing Policy; and Urban Cadaster – *Mr. Serhii Komnatnyi, Project Housing Expert*
 - Component 1: Urban Cadaster – *Mr. Denys Nizalov, Project Land Governance and Urban Cadaster Expert*
 - Component 2: Economic and Demographic Assessment – *Ms. Olga Demianenko, Economy and International Relations Expert*
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- Component 3: Kharkiv pilot projects – *Mr. Alejandro Neira, Norman Foster Foundation*
 - UNECE and One Works Foundation support on Mykolaiv concept masterplan – *Ms. Tetiana Shulichenko, Mykolaiv City Council*
 - Component 3: Mykolaiv concept masterplan – *Ms. Francesca Pintus, One Works Foundation*
 - Component 5: City Plan Tracker – *Mr. Enkel Leskaj, Project Management Assistant*

Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

13:00 – *Lunch break*

15:00

15:00 – **7. Programmes of work of the housing and land management component of the Housing, Land Management and Population subprogramme for 2025 and recommendations on key components of the programme of work for 2026**

16:30

- Presentation of activities under the draft programme of work 2025 and of publications and promotional materials planned for 2026 – *Ms. Tea Aulavuo, Secretary to the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, UNECE*

Deliberations and decisions by the Committee

16:30 – **8. Election of the Bureau**

17:00

- Presentation of the list of Bureau candidates
 - Election of Bureau members
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17:00 – **9. Other business**

17:30

- Any other issues brought to the attention of the secretariat ahead of the meeting
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17:30 – **10. Adoption of the report and closing of the session**

18:00

- Summary of the major decisions taken by the Committee
 - Adoption of the report
 - Presentation of the place and date of the next Committee session
 - Closing – *Ms. Stephanie Fürer, Chair, UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management*
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