

Open-Ended Consultative Meetings on the New Urban Agenda

Statements submitted by the representative of the Government of Indonesia
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NOTES ON PU3 NATIONAL URBAN POLICIES

Thank you Moderator.

Indonesia views that the New Urban Agenda will be effective when it is embedded in the interests of the National Urban Policy. Indonesia's experience shows that the effectiveness of national urban policy will depend on THE serious intention of the national government to:

- 1) develop the NUP in consultation with local governments and other stakeholders;
- 2) develop the capacity of institutions, organisations and personnel of the national, and local governance (provincial and municipality). In this process, it is key to share an urban perspective - thinking holistic and integrated, while also acknowledging local culture, local values and local processes that work.
- 3) providing funds through transfers or fiscal policy that can support regions that are less productive or disadvantaged;
- 4) better control of the utilization of resources that includes anti corruption policies, better land administration and management, and balanced territorial development (between regions, urban- rural, hinterland - coastal areas)

NOTES ON PU4 URBAN GOVERNANCE, CAPACITY AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Thank you Madame Moderator and panel for their presentations.

There are two main points that Indonesia would like to highlight in this topic, referring to the working paper.

First, on the concept of "territoriality" – quoted here, "in new urban governance, cities must be seen and understood **as a system of relationships between urban and rural areas operating as an urban ecosystem.**" This is an important message that the New Urban Agenda should put as one of the basic principles of what the sustainable urbanization should be.

It is not only about urban-rural ecosystem conceptually, but the New Urban Agenda should make clear that it has both "institutional" and "territorial" dimensions coherently. The New Urban Agenda should make a clear breakthrough of a paradigm shift to end the urban-rural dichotomy, both in thinking and in their governance and institutional forms. To reiterate what has been stated, "encourage appropriate

regulatory frameworks and support local governments in partnering with the **private sector and communities** [we underline these two: private sector and communities collaboration] to promote integrated national urban and territorial policies.”

For Indonesia and other archipelagic countries including SIDS in the Pacific, territorial coherence as socio-ecological entities is essential to ensure “balanced territorial development” (quoted from the previous panel) between land-based urban centers and coastal-/small-island settlements. Without a paradigm shift of an integrated land/sea perspective of territorial planning then the fate of 42 millions inhabitants of coastal cities in Indonesia would be in danger and will be very vulnerable to climate change. The New Urban Agenda should clearly underline this in its new urban governance policy.

Secondly, “balanced territorial development” in the New Urban Agenda should be understood to also include land-and-water balanced development as a coherence ecological entity where both the urbanizing delta cities/settlements and upper-land cities/settlements should be given a special attention in an inclusive multi-stakeholder governance system by which all levels of government and all socio-ecological communities should be able to negotiate and build consensus on how to share the use of common resources of land and of water in a sustainable way.

Thirdly and the last point, related to the above statement, institutional changes should not only address the formal governmental institutions but also “social institutions” in which most of local leaderships are born and community’s self-help services are provided.

The New Urban Agenda should underline this two approaches in the making of urban governance reform.

NOTES ON PU6 URBAN SPATIAL STRATEGIES, LAND MARKET AND SEGREGATION

Indonesia would like to highlight one of proposed priority policy options of urban spatial strategies stated in the paper, on the urgency to have a “Global Dialogue of Sustainable Planning” with the argument that (quoted here) “The continuation of a global dialogue on the sustainable organization of urban and rural space will be vital for the successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The processes put in place by Habitat III could usefully be translated into continuous activities devoted to networking and the exchange of ideas, experiences, information and good practices.”

Indonesia endorses the idea, and should be put as one of the main New Urban Agenda.

However, it brings a big question: what are the common universally accepted norms that the dialogue should be based on? – Otherwise such a “dialogue,” whatever it is, would only be a cross-talk between actors on its individuality.

Secondly, it is also related to the first priority policy options previously stated in the topic of “National Urban Policy” on “international agreements” to mainstream and implement the New Urban Agenda in the country’s National Urban Policy. Meanwhile, it is well understood that Habitat III and the New Urban Agenda is an unbinding document, and it will a challenge to make an effective “international agreements”

To answer those concerns, how to make such dialogue more effective and how to encourage kind of “international agreement” Indonesia would like to propose the following statement.

It is urgent and essential that there should be a kind of “normative base” agreed upon internationally and recognized as a “binding ethical norm” among member states.

Indonesia calls for collaborative efforts among member states that during the implementation years of the New Urban Agenda, in the shortest time possible, Habitat III should demand all member states and all urban stakeholders to come to an agreement to assign a drafting commission and to document all the best agreeable principles on as what it might seen as the new "Urban Charter" – to borrow what the world has achieved after the Rio Summit in 1992 to produce what we all now has subscribed as the Earth Charter.

This effort should not be considered as a redundant or simply to having "another" document, but more as a complement, continuation, extension and enrichment of what the Earth Charter (and other international charters) has been written, as our collective respond to the more recent phenomenon of the increasing urbanizing world that Habitat III acknowledges.

Indonesia understands that in order to produce a global consensus statement of values and principles for a sustainable urbanization in the future needs hard work among all urban stakeholders over reasonable extensive processes of international consultation, with perhaps takes thousand meeting hours among all people involved. But Indonesia strongly believes this is worth the effort. It is the only sensible way to ensure that the National Urban Agenda and National Urban Policy of any country would resonate globally and could mobilize all urban actors and governments to work together with clear common normative values for a better urban future.