



Press release

CMHC to host Habitat III Dialogue on Affordable Housing Finance

OTTAWA, October 6 2016 – The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) in partnership with United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) will host ***Bridging The Affordability Gap: Inclusive Housing Finance In The New Urban Agenda***, a networking event at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito, Ecuador. The event, exploring sustainable approaches to financing housing for moderate and low-income households throughout the world, will take place on **Wednesday, 19 October 2016, from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm.**

This event on inclusive approaches to housing finance is timely as promoting access to affordable housing finance is one of the most pressing issues that countries and communities around the world have to face. *‘With housing as a basic human need, we need strong housing finance systems to help support low-income households and others who need access to affordable housing,’* said Evan Siddall, President and CEO of CMHC, who will host the event.

Given the importance of promoting affordable housing finance, the event’s discussions will focus on innovative solutions to expand the reach of housing finance, particularly among vulnerable households. The event will feature presentations as well as discussion and Q&A sessions with global housing finance leaders and prominent practitioners from North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia-Pacific regions across public, private and non-profit sectors.

“Affordable housing at the centre of cities requires sustainable and inclusive housing finance approaches to ensure the realization of adequate housing for all,” said Christophe Lalande, Leader of the Housing Unit at UN-Habitat.

Bridging The Affordability Gap will be a unique opportunity to share knowledge and exchange best practices on possible approaches to achieve housing goals, including those related to the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Target 11.1 to *“ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums”* by 2030.

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