



**Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on  
Housing and Urban Development**

**Agenda papers for the  
Second Meeting of the  
6<sup>th</sup> Bureau of APMCHUD**

**February 8, 2018  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

**Agenda for the Second Meeting of the Sixth Bureau of the Asia Pacific  
Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD)**

**Date: February 8, 2018**

**Venue: Impiana KLCC Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

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**Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the First Meeting of the Sixth Bureau of the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD) held at Nairobi, Kenya on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017**

The First meeting of the Sixth Bureau of APMCHUD was held at Nairobi, Kenya on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017. A copy of the minutes of the meeting was circulated to the Hon'ble Members of the Bureau and was also posted on the website of APMCHUD as well. ([www.apmchud.com](http://www.apmchud.com))

A copy of the Minutes is placed at Annexure 'A'.

The Bureau may consider the Minutes for confirmation.

**Item No. 2: Status of Actions pursuant to the First Meeting of the Sixth Bureau  
held on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 at Nairobi, Kenya**

During the First meeting of the Sixth Bureau, as part of the deliberations, it was decided that opportunities be explored to hold the second meeting of the Bureau possibly around October 2017 and the member countries may like to indicate the possibility for the same. The meeting also decided that in the context of the Sixth APMCHUD resolving in its New Delhi Declaration to actively engage in the World Urban Forum scheduled in Kuala Lumpur in February 2018, the subsequent Bureau meeting may be organised in conjunction with the World Urban Forum at Kuala Lumpur. In view of the short time gap, the Secretariat interacted with UN-Habitat for facilitatory support for organising this meeting.

The Bureau may like to register its appreciation for the facilitatory support provided by the UN-Habitat for organising this 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in Kuala Lumpur in conjunction with the 9<sup>th</sup> session of the World urban Forum.

**Item No. 3: Report by respective Lead Member countries on activities of the five Working Groups**

Currently, APMCHUD has 5 working groups on critical issues, which are led by member countries voluntarily. The details of Working Groups and their Lead countries are as under:

- **WG1** led by the Republic of India working on the theme of Urban and Rural Planning and Management;
- **WG2** led by the Islamic Republic of Iran working on the theme of Urban Upgrading;
- **WG3** led by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka working on the theme of Basic Services including Energy and Mobility for Integrated and Inclusive Development;
- **WG4** led by the Republic of Korea working on the theme of Financing Sustainable Housing and Urban Development;
- **WG5** led by the Republic of Indonesia working on the theme of Urban Development with a focus on Natural, Man-made and Climate- induced Disasters.

Various activities are being undertaken by these Working groups. The Lead countries may like to share any information on their activities, either now or may like to inform/communicate to the Secretariat at a later date, which would be further communicated to all the Hon'ble members.

**Item No. 4: Information about the already approved agenda item relating to Organizational Issues - Resource base for APMCHUD – Status and way forward**

Strengthening the Secretariat of the APMCHUD to undertake manifold activities in line with the emerging requirements has been one of the concerns of APMCHUD. A proposal for financial requirements and financing mechanisms for creating resource base for APMCHUD had been considered by the 4<sup>th</sup> APMCHUD Conference held at Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2012, and the following was adopted as part of the Amman Declaration:

*“Agree in principle to contribute a sum of US\$10,000 per member state annually to the budget of APMCHUD. However, member states are encouraged to contribute higher amounts. For those countries who agree may start contributing to the budget of APMCHUD. However, this resolution will be discussed further in the next APMCHUD conference in the Republic of Korea in 2014”*

The above was further considered in the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference of APMCHUD at Seoul, Republic of Korea during 3-5 November, 2014 which in its Seoul Declaration resolved:

*“to reiterate our commitment to strengthen the APMCHUD Secretariat, while encouraging member nations to contribute in line with the Amman Declaration”*

The 6<sup>th</sup> Conference of APMCHUD at New Delhi, Republic of India during 16-18 December 2016 further resolved in its New Delhi Declaration to:

*“Reiterate our continued commitment to strengthen APMCHUD and the Secretariat, to undertake the required activities, while encouraging member nations to contribute to the resource base in line with the Amman Declaration as reiterated in the Seoul Declaration”*

As part of the First meeting of the Sixth Bureau held at Nairobi on 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017, the Secretariat had reported, that India's contribution for the year 2017-18 amounting to USD 10,000 has been received in April, 2017, which is in addition to the initial contribution of USD 50,000 and USD 10,000 for 2016-17 already received. The Republic of Iraq has transmitted an amount of USD 10,000 which had been received in APMCHUD account in February 2017.

Further to the above, the Secretariat has been informed that the Republic of Korea has given preliminary approval of the annual financial contribution to the resource base for APMCHUD and details will be informed on completion of the procedures of depositing the amount of USD 10000 at the bank account of the secretariat. The essential account details of the APMCHUD have been communicated to the Republic of Korea by the APMCHUD Secretariat.

The Secretariat would continue to interact with the member countries in this regard.

The position is placed for information of the Bureau, and the Bureau may like to discuss the way forward in this regard.

**Item No.5: 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 – on the web-site of APMCHUD**

Towards making the APMCHUD web-site ([www.apmchud.com](http://www.apmchud.com)) more useful for the member countries, during the Third meeting of the Fifth Bureau held at Surabaya on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2016, it was requested 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. The relevant web-site addresses were also requested to be provided so that appropriate link 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.

After deliberations, the Bureau in its meeting at Surabaya 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. Further, the above request was also posed to the member countries of the APMCHUD during the Sixth Conference at New Delhi in December, 2016, as part of the item on 'Organizational matters'.

The Secretariat has received indication on nodal officers from few member countries and looks forward to receive the nominations of nodal officers and also the information that could be posted on APMCHUD's web-site along with linkages that could be established with the web-site.

The Bureau may like to discuss the way forward in this regard.

**Item No.6: Presentation by the Islamic Republic of Iran on preparations for the Seventh APMCHUD Conference in Tehran in 2018**

During the Sixth APMCHUD Conference at New Delhi, the Islamic Republic of Iran had graciously offered to host the next APMCHUD Conference in Tehran, which was thankfully accepted by the APMCHUD.

The preparations are underway for the event by the Ministry of Transportation and Housing, Islamic Republic of Iran. During the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Sixth Bureau held at Nairobi on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2017, Islamic Republic of Iran had made a presentation on the status of preparations which inter-alia included the following:

- (i) In view of the number of global events and developments that have taken place during the period 2012-2016, the emphasis would continue to be on implementation of various actions in the years to come.
- (ii) It was indicated that a web-site is being attempted that would provide information on various developments relating to the organization of the conference.
- (iii) It was proposed to designate focal persons for each working group and detailing activities relating to working groups in consultation with the lead countries.
- (iv) In consultation with the APMCHUD Secretariat, interactions would be held on south-south cooperation and the exchange of experiences among the regional mechanisms of APMCHUD, African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development, Regional Meeting of Ministers and High-Level Authorities of the Housing and urban Development sector in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Arab States Ministerial Forum on Housing and Urban Development, and the relevant United Nations Offices.
- (v) A tentative overall work plan for successful organization of the 7th APMCHUD was presented.
- (vi) It was further indicated that over time, the details would be firmed up and the Bureau shall be kept apprised and appropriate guidance and cooperation shall be taken from the Hon'ble Members of the Bureau.

While appreciating the early actions initiated by Iran for the organization of Seventh APMCHUD, the Bureau assured Islamic Republic of Iran, continued cooperation in all activities.

The Hon'ble Member from the Islamic Republic of Iran may like to further elaborate and share information with the Bureau on the preparations for the Seventh APMCHUD in 2018, at this stage.

**Item No. 7: Any other item with the permission of the Chair.**

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**Minutes of the 1st meeting of the 6th Bureau of the Asia Pacific  
Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development  
(APMCHUD)**

**Date: 8th May 2017**

**Venue: CR No.7, UN Habitat premises, Nairobi, Kenya**

The list of Participants is enclosed.

Welcoming the Hon'ble Chairperson and Members of the Bureau and the representative of the UN Habitat for the 1st Meeting of the 6th Bureau of APMCHUD, the Deputy Chief Coordinator Mr. Satinder Pal Singh expressed his thanks to the UN-Habitat for facilitating conduct of the meeting. The Deputy Chief Coordinator mentioned that indications have been received that the Republic of Korea and Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan would not be able to participate in the meeting due to exigencies, and submitted that they have conveyed their best wishes for the success of the meeting. Thereafter he requested the Hon'ble Chair to conduct the meeting.

Chairing the meeting, H.E Mr. M.Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Minister of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Urban Development, and Information & Broadcasting, India thanked the Hon'ble members for their participation and significant contribution for the successful organization of the 6th APMCHUD held at New Delhi, from 14th to 16th December, 2016. Conveying his special thanks to the member countries of the 5th Bureau and also the UN-Habitat for guiding at every stage of preparation and eventual successful conduct of the event, H.E Mr. M.Venkaiah Naidu especially highlighted that the Chair of the 5th Bureau — the Republic of Korea, had led the Bureau effectively from November 2014 to December 2016. On behalf of all the Hon'ble Members of the 6th Bureau, the Hon'ble Chairperson registered sincere thanks and appreciation for the guidance and lead role played by the Republic of Korea.

While pointing out that the Bureau is meeting at a very critical juncture, when all the countries in the Asia Pacific region have committed to implementation of the New Urban Agenda, the Hon'ble Chairperson underscored that the current context is very important, as the global community at large, having committed to the New Urban Agenda, is evolving mechanisms and strategies for the successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The Hon'ble Chairperson stated that, in this context, the UN-Habitat's initiative to hold the 26th session of the Governing Council on the special theme of '*Opportunities for the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda*' is very timely. The Hon'ble Chairperson hoped that the deliberations in the Governing Council would help the Asia Pacific countries in evolving methodologies for successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The Hon'ble Chairperson felt that with a longer perspective till the year 2030, the approaches and methodologies would evolve and get sharpened over time, enabling the member countries to be purposive and focused towards achieving the policy pronouncements in the New Urban Agenda. The Hon'ble Chairperson felt that with a longer perspective till the year 2030, the approaches and methodologies would evolve and get sharpened over time, enabling the member countries to be purposive and focused towards achieving the policy pronouncements in the New Urban Agenda.

The Hon'ble Chairperson further elaborated that India has already taken up a number of path breaking initiatives in the field of housing and urban development, which would lead towards sustainable development of human settlements. Elaborating on this the Hon'ble Chairperson informed that the programme of 'Housing for All' by 2022, development of Smart Cities throughout the country in a spatially balanced manner, development of cities with more than 100, 000 population with adequate infrastructure through a programme known as AMRUT, programme for revitalization and integrated infrastructure development in heritage cities, and a special programme for integrated development of Rurban areas, are some of the major initiatives taken by the Indian Government that would improve infrastructure, livability and economic productivity in urban areas. The Hon'ble Chairperson further added that integrating these initiatives with a special programme for improving the skill base of the urban population through the National Urban Livelihood Mission is an important component of this integrated strategy in India.

Conveying satisfaction that the forum of APMCHUD has evolved as a vibrant mechanism for sharing of successful and innovative experiments in the field of housing and urban development, the Hon'ble Chairperson exuded confidence that the 6th Bureau would continue to contribute towards the collective growth and development of member countries in the Asia Pacific region.

In her opening remarks, Dr. Ann Nafi Aussi Balbool, Hon'ble Minister of Construction, Housing and Public Municipalities, Republic of Iraq stated that it was unfortunate that the Iraqi technical delegation Could not attend the 4th meeting of the 5th Bureau held in Quito - Ecuador, due to the exceptional circumstances in Iraq at that time when the Iraqi armed forces launched their military action against terrorists in North of Iraq. The Hon'ble Minister informed that terrorists had caused widespread damage to Iraq and other Arab countries in the region.

H.E Dr. Ann Nafi Aussi Balbool further indicated that the Government of Iraq is gathering its efforts to solve the multiple crises by mobilizing and allocating all available resources in the reconstruction process, by rebuilding and rehabilitating destroyed cities and their infrastructure affected by terrorism, before returning the displaced people to the liberated areas. These efforts, the Hon'ble Minister informed, include addressing urban distortions through the programme of rehabilitation of slums, reviewing and updating the National Housing Policy in cooperation with the United Nations Human Settlements Program in Iraq, as well as directing housing loans initiated by the Central Bank of Iraq as a priority for the reconstruction of housing units in liberated areas. The Hon'ble Minister further informed that in spite of all these efforts, there is still an urgent need to mobilize international humanitarian and technical support and assistance for Iraq in particular and all countries experiencing post-conflict situations in general, for an integrated framework that supports peace and paves the way towards growth, renewed life and sustainable development. The Hon'ble Minister from Iraq informed that in view of this, the Republic of Iraq has submitted a draft resolution to enhance the role of United Nations Human Settlements Programme in urban crises and hoped that the 26<sup>th</sup> session of the Governing Council shall adopt the same. H.E Dr. Ann Nafi Aussi Balbool underscored that this resolution shall have a positive implication for practical implementation of the 5<sup>th</sup> working group of APMCHUD, in addition to its impact on the overall activity of the program.

Thanking the Chair for the opportunity to share his initial remarks, H.E Mr. Lyn-Wannan Tawaki Kam, Hon'ble Minister for Infrastructure Development, Republic of Nauru indicated that as a single small island with a total land area of twenty one square kilometers, Nauru is 100 percent urbanized. Nauru has a dense coastal population with virtually all residential buildings and economic infrastructure located along its narrow coastline. Much of the interior island has been degraded by mining activities, thereby limiting land for agriculture and human habitation. H.E Mr. Lyn-Wannan Tawaki Kam further elaborated that uncontrolled urbanization, including an absence of long term planning and management is leading to a situation where land is fast becoming a scarce resource. The natural and cultural resources, including traditional knowledge, are rapidly declining. Limited resources such as water and marine resources are being exhausted; pollution and waste management is affecting the natural environment; and nutritional and health problems are becoming commonplace. In addition, climate variability and climate change threaten Nauru's coastal residences and infrastructures with sea level rise exacerbating coastal erosion and flooding during storm events. The Hon'ble Minister concluded that uncontrolled urbanization linked with climate change poses major challenges to Nauru's sustainable development.

The Hon'ble Minister further added that it is in this context that the current meeting being held in conjunction with the 26th session of the GC of UN-Habitat assumes significance. The Hon'ble Minister stated that Nauru notes that one of the key action points for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda is the development of national urban policies, and that the Government of Nauru is committed to developing such policies. The Hon'ble Minister pointed out that these policies must however be prepared in parallel to the development of a master land use plan to ensure a holistic union of the island's terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems, thereby ensuring Nauru's sustainable development. The Hon'ble Minister stated that Nauru welcomes the opportunity to work with the Bureau of APMCHUD, UN Habitat and other partners in designing, planning and managing appropriate urban policies and sectoral plans to address the special conditions of Nauru.

Indicating that the Government of Nauru is in the early stages of developing a project entitled "Higher Ground Project", which entails the relocation of residential and key economic infrastructure from the coastline of Nauru to the "topside" and inland area, H.E Mr. Lyn-Wannan Tawaki Kam observed that it is necessary to "climate proof Nauru's key infrastructure to withstand sea level rise and associated coastal erosion, flooding during extreme rainfall events, storm surges and fire hazards that may threaten their sustainability. The Hon'ble Minister stated that Nauru welcomes the UN Habitat's assistance in developing this project through its Urban Planning and Design Lab initiative.

H.E Mr. Lyn-Wannan Tawaki Kam further informed that Nauru is also seeking partnerships to fulfill its obligations of providing inclusive, sustainable and adequate housing to ensure a better quality of life for all Nauruan's. Currently a number of residences in Nauru are in a very poor condition, with multiple family units living in a single household, and there is a need to reassess the housing and building regulations to adapt to the existing circumstances. The Hon'ble Minister pointed out that It is also essential to develop a housing strategy and plan to ensure urban sustainability in Nauru. The Hon'ble Minister stated that as land is fast becoming a scarce resource, Nauru welcomes information and cooperation for identifying affordable, innovative and pioneering house designs, planning and technology to effectively and efficiently utilize the limited land available.

While concluding, the Hon'ble Minister stated that for Nauru, sustainable urban development will necessitate capacity building at the national and sub-national level with respect to urban planning, data collection, policy formulation, institutional strengthening, development of frameworks and legislation. The Hon'ble Minister welcomed the initiative of the Bureau to share experiences and information on policies, programs, innovative approaches, best practices in the field of housing and urban development through its website. The Hon'ble Minister also welcomed the assistance in identifying dedicated financial resources to support Nauru's efforts in realizing SDG Goal 11 "making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable".

H.E Hudi Farajvand, Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to UN-Habitat & UNEP thanked the Chair and also the UN-Habitat and the Secretariat of APMCHUD for holding the 1st meeting of the 6th Bureau of APMCHUD at Nairobi.

Thanking APMCHUD for approving the hosting of the 7th APMCHUD in Iran, H.E Hudi Farajvand solicited the continued cooperation of the Bureau member countries, and indicated that a detailed presentation shall be made in the meeting at a later stage, delineating the plan of action.

H.E W.K.K. Athukorala, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Construction, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka thanked the Chair for the opportunity to share initial remarks. Conveying special appreciation and thanks to the UN-Habitat and the APMCHUD Secretariat for facilitating conduct of the 1st meeting of the 6th Bureau, H.E W.K.K. Athukorala outlined various recent initiatives in the field of housing and urban development in Sri Lanka, and assured that as a lead country for the working group on basic services, Sri Lanka would continue to take up a number of initiatives and share the same among the Asia Pacific countries at an appropriate time.

H.E Tri Dewi Virgiyanti, Director of Urban Affairs, Housing and Settlement, National Development Planning Agency, Ministry of National Development Planning, Republic of Indonesia thanked the Chair for the opportunity. Congratulating India for the successful organization of the 6th APMCHUD at New Delhi, H.E Tri Dewi Virgiyanti elaborated on various initiatives of Indonesia in the field of housing and urban development. It was further indicated that a detailed report on the activities of the working group on building urban resilience related aspects shall be presented in the meeting as part of the item on activities of the working groups.

Mr. Srinivas Popuri, Senior Human Settlements Officer, UN-HABITAT Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific — Fukuoka thanked the Chair for the opportunity and congratulated India for the successful organization of the 6th APMCHUD in New Delhi. Mr. Popuri expressed appreciation on behalf of UN-Habitat for the depth of deliberations on various aspects by the Working Groups during the 6th APMCHUD, particularly the special session on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Mr Popuri underscored that the discussions already initiated in New Delhi would be taken up in the Governing Council session, which would offer an opportunity for the member countries to gain a wider perspective on the important requirement of evolving country specific implementation strategies. Mr Popuri reiterated the UN-Habitat's commitment to continue to help and associate itself in the activities of APMCHUD. Mr. Popuri also conveyed his appreciation for the coordinating role being played by the secretariat of APMCHUD.

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 4th Meeting of the 5th Bureau of the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development (APMCHUD) held at Quito, Ecuador on 18th October, 2016**

The Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated that the 4th meeting of the 5th Bureau of APMCHUD was held in Quito, Ecuador on 18th October, 2017 and a copy of the minutes of the meeting was circulated to the Hon'ble Members of the Bureau, posted on the website of APMCHUD ([www.apmchud.com](http://www.apmchud.com)), and a copy of which is placed at Annexure 'A' as part of the agenda.

The Bureau considered the above and confirmed the Minutes.

**Item No. 2: Action Taken subsequent to the 4th Meeting of the 5th Bureau held on 18th October, 2016 at Quito, Ecuador - Report by the Chief Coordinator**

A report on the actions taken on the decisions of the 4 Meeting of the 5th Bureau held on the 18th October, 2016 at Quito, Ecuador was presented by the Deputy Chief Coordinator.

The Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated that there were 4 items in the meeting of the 5<sup>th</sup> Bureau viz. Item Nos 4, 5, 6 and 7, in respect of which actions were to be taken by placing the same for the consideration during the 6th APMCHUD. In line with this decision, the respective items had been placed and duly considered in the 6<sup>th</sup> Conference of APMCHUD. It was also indicated that separate items on these 4 aspects have been placed for consideration of the Bureau in its current meeting.

The Bureau noted the actions taken.

**Item No. 3: Presentation of Report to the Bureau on the 6th APMCHUD by the Host country — Republic of India**

The 6th Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development was held from 14th to 16th December, 2016 at New Delhi. The Deputy Chief Coordinator requested India, the host of 6th APMCHUD and Chair of the 6th Bureau of APMCHUD to present a report on the 6th APMCHUD.

Presenting India's report, Mr. Rajesh Swamy, Deputy High Commissioner of India at Nairobi, indicated that the theme of the conference was 'Emerging Urban Forms — Policy Responses and Governance Structure in the context of the New Urban Agenda. Mr Swami informed that 31 member countries from the Asia Pacific region participated in the conference, with over 1000 delegates from various member countries, Embassies/High Commissions of Member countries located in Delhi, various Ministries of Government of India, State Government representatives, Inter-National Institutions such as World Bank, ADB, GIZ, etc., Academia, private sector representatives from housing and urban development, etc. attending the event.

The Deputy High Commissioner further indicated that the 'Country Statements' session, which was introduced first time during the 6th APMCHUD, facilitated sharing of country experiences, experiments, views and visions on housing and urban development by the

member countries. In the overall programme, this Ministerial segment was positioned on the first day of the event, that is, on 14th December 2016, immediately after the inaugural session. The session received a significant positive response from the participating countries. Of the 31 countries which participated, 17 Hon'ble Ministers/Leaders of Delegations presented their country statements during the session. Broadly, the country statements highlighted the significant measures being taken by the respective countries for utilising the positive aspects of urbanisation towards improving the quality of life of citizens at large. The participating Hon'ble Ministers/Leaders of Delegations from the Member countries committed to continue the cooperation and collaboration among the Asia Pacific Countries and march forward together towards achieving sustainable housing and urban development in the region; which is the true spirit of the APMCHUD

The Deputy High Commissioner further informed that to focus on developmental issues under a structured framework, the APMCHUD had constituted 5 Working Groups on critical themes, which are voluntarily led by member countries. The conference deliberated in detail in 5 parallel working group meetings in 3 sessions on related aspects of the conference theme. The sessions had presentations from member countries. Experts from India and International Institutions also shared innovative experiments and experiences and best practices in different areas. The working groups framed action points and recommendations that formed inputs for the New Delhi Implementation Plan.

Elaborating further, the Deputy High Commissioner informed that the 6th APMCHUD had a special session on 'Implementation of the New Urban Agenda'. This session on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2016 aimed at developing a regional commitment to implement the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, while also summarizing the thematic issues of implementation in relation to expanding cities and urban-rural linkages. The session was also addressed by the Dr Joan Clos, Executive Director, UN-Habitat (through Video). While the Habitat III was the first United Nations Global summit after the adoption of the post 2015 development agenda - the Sustainable Development Goals, the 6th APMCHUD gained significance as it was the first regional level conference after the world adopted the New Urban Agenda. The session discussed various pro-active actions required and approaches to be followed for effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda. While appreciating the complexity of the issues involved, this session underlined the need to evolve a comprehensive, systematic and time-bound action plan. The session also highlighted the need for intense collaboration among the member countries of Asia Pacific Region for evolving country specific strategies based on a larger understanding of successful strategies and approaches in varied contexts.

The Deputy High Commissioner further stated that the conference adopted the 'New Delhi Declaration' and the 'New Delhi Implementation Plan' on 16th December, 2016 in which the member countries resolved, inter-alia, to develop policies at national sub-national and local levels where they do not exist and review and strengthen the current policies, towards integrated development of cities, towns and their peripheral areas; encourage the adoption of approaches that promote cities, towns and their peripheral areas as an urban-rural continuum and for strengthening their complementarity for mutual advantage and growth; ensure that the emerging urban forms are appropriately recognised and managed through effective governance structures so that these areas economically and spatially drive sustainable development; and strengthen the sharing of information on innovative policies and successful practices relating to housing and urban development through all possible

approaches, including by regularly updating and interlinking the online information resources with the assistance of specified nodal contacts. The 6<sup>th</sup> Conference also endorsed the composition of the 6<sup>th</sup> Bureau of APMCHUD. The Conference also approved the gracious offer of the Islamic Republic of Iran to host the 7<sup>th</sup> APMCHUD in Iran in 2018. The Deputy High Commissioner informed that this was not part of the resolution as the proposal was considered and approved subsequent to finalisation of the New Delhi Declaration. Thanking the all the member countries and the Hon'ble members of the Bureau for the successful conduct of the Conference, India also presented a printed volume of proceedings of the 6<sup>th</sup> APMCHUD to the Hon'ble members of the Bureau.

The Bureau registered its appreciation to the Republic of India for the successful conduct of the 6<sup>th</sup> APMCHUD, which had new features such as the Country Statements session and also for the early finalisation and presentation of the volume on the proceedings of the Conference, which would be helpful for the future events. The Bureau also assured all help and cooperation to the Islamic Republic of Iran for the successful hosting of the 7<sup>th</sup> APMCHUD.

**Item No. 4: Working Groups — Consideration by the 6th APMCHUD on various aspects of Working Groups, including the focus of the themes and Action Plan thereof.**

The Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated that the 6<sup>th</sup> APMCHUD in its New Delhi Declaration and New Delhi Implementation Plan resolved to continue with the Working Groups as WG1 led by the Republic of India working on the theme of Urban and Rural Planning and Management; WG2 led by the Islamic Republic of Iran working on the theme of Urban Upgrading; WG3 led by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka working on the theme of Basic Services including Energy and Mobility for Integrated and Inclusive development; WG4 led 'by the Republic of Korea working on the theme of Financing Sustainable Housing and Urban Development; and WG5 led by the Republic of Indonesia working on the theme of Urban Development with a focus on Natural, Man-made and Climate-induced Disasters.

The Deputy Chief Coordinator also indicated that the focus areas of these working groups, in line with the New Delhi Implementation Plan adopted by the 6<sup>th</sup> APMCHUD, would be:

- WG1- Urban and Rural Planning and Management — Integrated Planning, Management and Governance Structure Imperatives;
- WG2- Upgrading of Urban Areas, Slums and Informal Settlements — Unorganized growth in Peripheral Areas and Slum Upgrading Aspects;
- WG3- Basic Services including Energy and Mobility for Integrated and Inclusive development;
- WG4- Financing Sustainable Housing and Urban Development including Ensuring access to Housing and Smart City Development in the Urban — Rural Continuum; and
- WG5- Urban Development with a focus on Natural, Man-made and Climate-induced Disasters — Building Urban resilience.

Accordingly, the Deputy Chief Coordinator requested the Lead countries to share the plan of action/information on various activities proposed under each Working Group, either during the current meeting or at a later date, so that the same are shared with the member countries.

Presenting its plan of action at this stage, India as the lead country of Working Group 1: Urban and Rural Planning and Management, indicated that in the context of the theme of the 6th APMCHUD i.e. 'Emerging Urban Forms — Policy Responses and Governance Structure in the context of the New Urban Agenda', a study has been conceived on the subject of 'Rurban Planning Frameworks in Selected cities of the Asia Pacific Countries'. This study would help in developing a better understanding of rurban planning frameworks for the APMCHUD countries. The study is to be conducted by the Human Settlements Management Institute (HSMI), the coordinating institution for Working Group I on behalf of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India, under the technical guidance of UN-Habitat, India.

The scope of work of the study would include (i) Documentation of current urban policy frameworks towards integrated development of cities; (ii) Showcasing of the Integrated planning approaches adopted for strengthening rurban continuum; (iii) Highlighting emerging urban forms and innovative policies and practices related to integrated rurban and metropolitan planning that meet the International guidelines on urban and territorial planning; and (iv) Identifying key findings and learnings for dissemination for the APMCHUD working group on planning. In order to give a spatial balance within the Asia Pacific region, it is proposed to take one case study from each of the six sub-regions of the Asia Pacific region.

The Bureau registered its appreciation for India's initiative under the Working Group I.

Presenting its report on the activities and action plan in respect of the working group V on Urban development focusing on natural, man-made and climate change induced disasters — Building Urban resilience, Indonesia highlighted various achievements on related areas in Indonesia from 2016 to early 2017. In 2016, Indonesia experienced 1,985 disaster events, in which flood incidents were the most frequent - 659 incidents, followed by windstorms - 572 incidents, landslide - 485 incidents, forest and land fires - 178 incidents, combination of floods and landslides - 53 incidents, tidal wave and abrasion - 20 incidents, earthquakes - 11 incidents, and volcano eruptions - 7 incidents. Until April 2017, the National Disaster Mitigation Agency of Indonesia— in short BNPB — recorded 654 disaster incidents throughout Indonesia. These incidents caused casualties of 161 people, 174 people injured and displacement of 584,173 people. In response, the Government of Indonesia has taken the following eight measures to minimize and mitigate the impact:

**1. Housing and infrastructure development for displaced households:** The Ministry of Public Works and BNPB have cooperated in infrastructure and housing development and technical assistance in the disaster affected areas, which include, (i) building 350 units of temporary houses for the victims of Sinabung eruption. An additional 2,500 units are being planned to be built in 2017. The first construction phase is to be finished by the end of May 2017. (ii) building Temporary schools and hospitals in Pidie Jaya, Aceh which have been destroyed during recent earthquakes and (iii) building 350 houses for ex East Timor refugees in three villages in Atambua, a border area between Timor Leste and East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.

**2. BNPB disaster evacuation simulation campaign:** The BNPB held a national multi-stakeholders campaign on April 26, 2017, the date declared as the National Disaster Preparedness Day, which also marked the 10th anniversary of Law 24/2007 on Disaster Management. The campaign took the theme of 'Building Awareness and Vigilance to face



Disaster'. In this event, simultaneous evacuation simulations were carried out throughout Indonesia with the involvement of the community, private sector, local governments, and disaster relief organizations. This was followed by massive campaigns at local level (village level) with the tagline of #SiapUntukSelamat (Ready for Safety). Before the evacuation simulation, BNPB also launched a portal-based disaster information system called InaSAFE, InAWARE, and InaMHEWS. The portal serves, among other things - MHEWS for an accurate and real-time disaster prediction; InaSAFE as a tool to create scenarios in case of disaster, while InAWARE serves as a tool for data and information integration and information. All these tools are expected to support better prediction and coordination for all parties.

**3. Training on Incident Command System (ICS) to increase disaster preparedness:** The BNPB along with its stakeholders were trained as trainers on ICS from United States Forestry Department (USFS), supported by USAID. This program was an attempt to introduce the BNPB to the ICS concept and produce master trainers. These master trainers would later introduce ICS to BNPB partners in the region. ICS has been proven as an effective management concept and incidence management at the in operational and tactical level. BNPB and its partners in the region, in particular Regional Disaster Management Agency (BPBD) at county/city levels, can strengthen disaster emergency handling systems via adaptation of ICS.

**4. Emergency response for flash flooding in Southeast Aceh:** High-intensity long duration rain caused flash floods in two sub-districts of South-east Aceh Regency on Tuesday (11/4/2017 at 18.00). Flash flooding carried mud and wood, causing casualties and damage. Eight villages in two sub-districts were directly affected by this incidence. About 298 homes suffered damage, 60 homes were severely damaged, and houses were damaged. The BPBD South-east Aceh has been coordinating with the Indonesian Armed Forces - national police for emergency response. Communities have been evacuated to the mosque of Simpang Semadam, four heavy equipment were deployed to clear the mud on the road-field Kutacane. The Aceh disaster management agency had sent aid to help citizens to safety. Currently, access road to Suka Makmur Semadam is operational. Urgent logistics needed were food, clean water, clothes, tools, tents, and building materials for home improvement. Meanwhile, floods also hit 11 villages in Kecamatan Arongan Lambalek Woylasub district of West and West Aceh Regency of Aceh Government on Wednesday (12/4/2017 at 13.35). About 588 households i.e 1,784 people were affected by the flood. Documentation of the impact of the floods is being done by the West Aceh BPBD.

**5. Indonesia cast off leadership at a meeting of the 30th ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM):** Strengthening ASEAN's resilience becomes a shared agenda as a form of cooperation, collaboration and solidarity among countries in the region. Learning from the experience of the Indian Ocean Tsunami (2004), Cyclone Nargis (2008), and Typhoon Haiyan (2013) and others, ASEAN realized the importance of building a collective resilience in its readiness to face the disaster. In its 30th meeting of the ACDM, ASEAN member countries continued to discuss various issues for disaster relief in accordance with the priority corridors embodied in the work programme of the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) 2016-2020. After 2016, Indonesia was appointed as chair at the 28th and 29th meeting of the ACDM. At the 30th meeting on 4 April 2017, Indonesia handed over the chair to the Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR) in Vientiane.

**6. Dissemination of Qlue, Portal MHEWS, and National Disaster Preparedness to BPBD district/city in Yogyakarta:** In order to improve the ability of the region to manage disaster risk, BNPB conducted dissemination of Qlue, "Geladi" National disaster alert and Multi Hazard Early Warning System (MHEWS) in Yogyakarta. This is one of many events for dissemination planned to be done by BNPB to the provinces as well as to the counties and cities.

**7. International Workshop:** The Regional Center for Community Empowerment on Housing and Urban Development (RCCEHUD) in its support to the Working Group V will initiate Workshop on Disaster and Mitigation Management. Some resource persons from member countries will be invited to share their knowledge on the matter. This topic will also widely cover in online media such as email or website of RCCEHUD.

**8. Formulation of ministerial decree on using disaster risk data for spatial planning:** In response to formulation of disaster risk plans in all counties and cities, Ministry of Agrarian and Spatial Planning, in coordination with BNPB, has formulated the draft of the above ministerial decree. The main idea is to encourage counties, cities and provinces to formulate their spatial plans based on the disaster risk plans made by BNPB and BPBD. The spatial plans formulated will also serve as disaster mitigation and adaptation plans for those administrative areas. Therefore, the future spatial plans take into account all risks associated with natural and man-made disaster in those areas.

With the above details, Indonesia assured that various activities undertaken as part of the disaster mitigation efforts would continue to be shared with the Hon'ble members of the Bureau.

The Bureau registered its appreciation for the various initiatives being taken by Indonesia in the field of disaster reduction, mitigation and management, including for the initiatives under the aegis of the Working Group 5.

#### **Item No. 5: Organizational Issues - Resource base for APMCHUD — Status**

The Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated the status of efforts towards strengthening the resource base of APMCHUD. He explained that India's contribution for the year 2017-18 amounting to USD 10,000 has been received in April, 2017, which is addition to the initial contribution of USD 50,000 and USD 10,000 for 2016-17 already received. He further indicated that the Republic of Iraq has transmitted an amount of USD 10,000 which had been received in APMCHUD account in February 2017.

The Bureau registered its appreciation to the Republic of Iraq and the Republic of India for their contribution to the resource base of APMCHUD. The Deputy Chief Coordinator further added that the Secretariat would continue to pursue the member countries through communications in line with the New Delhi Declaration on this aspect. The Bureau agreed to the same.

**Item No. 6: 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 towards enhanced and effective 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, requested had been made that such details may be forwarded to the Secretariat for posting on the APMCHUD web-site. The relevant web-site addresses and also details of a nodal officer nominated with whom the Secretariat may interact had also been requested. It was highlighted that as part of the New Delhi Declaration, the 6th APMCHUD resolved to 'strengthen the sharing of information on innovative policies and successful practices relating to housing and urban development, through all possible approaches, including by regularly updating and interlinking the online information sources with the assistance of specified nodal contacts'.

In the above context, the Chief Coordinator indicated that it is proposed to communicate the request for early nomination of nodal contacts and for further information as above, to the member countries. The Bureau agreed with the same.

**Item No. 7: The 26th Session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat — Statement by APMCHUD**

The Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated that the 6th APMCHUD had resolved in its New Delhi Declaration to 'actively engage in the 26 Session of the Governing Council of the UN-Habitat in 2017....'. In line with the same, and as per the past practice, the UN-Habitat Governing Council Secretariat was approached by APMCHUD Secretariat for allotting time to make a statement by APMCHUD during the 26th Session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, which has been agreed to. It was indicated that the statement focuses on the resolve of APMCHUD and reaffirms the commitments made with regard to implementation of the goals in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, especially Goal 11 to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; and the transformative commitments for sustainable urban development agreed to in the New Urban Agenda. The statement also highlights the resolve of the Asia Pacific countries for respective as well as joint actions towards the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda. A copy of the Statement was enclosed as part of the agenda.

The Bureau noted the above and appreciated the efforts of the APMCHUD Secretariat in this regard.

**Item No. 8: Action Plan for meetings of the 6th Bureau of APMCHUD**

The Deputy Chief Coordinator indicated that the 6th Bureau, as per the past practice, may hold at least 4 meetings during 2017-18, and that it has been an endeavour in the past to hold the Bureau meetings, to the extent possible, in conjunction with related major events in the field of housing and urban development, which helps in the participation of the Hon'ble

members. Accordingly, the current i.e. the 1st meeting of the 6th Bureau has been kept in conjunction with the 26th Session of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat.

He further indicated that the World Urban Forum (WUF) organised by UN-Habitat is scheduled to be held in February, 2018. The 6th APMCHUD had also resolved in its New Delhi Declaration to 'actively engage in the World Urban Forum scheduled to be held in Kuala Lumpur in February 2018'. In line with the same, possibly the 3rd meeting of the 6th Bureau could be held in conjunction with the World Urban Forum.

It was further proposed that that the member countries may like to indicate the possibility of holding the 2nd meeting of the 6th Bureau possibly around October 2017 so that the same is announced well in advance, to enable the Hon'ble members to plan their participation.

The Bureau agreed to the above approach and holding of the 3rd Bureau meeting at Kuala Lumpur in February, 2018 in conjunction with the World urban Forum. The Secretariat was advised to inform the members on the 2nd meeting as and when the details are finalised, and also interact with the UN-habitat with regard to the 3rd meeting of the Bureau as above.

**Item No. 9: Any other item with the permission of the Chair.**

i) **Preparatory actions for the 7th APMCHUD in Iran:** Dr Farzin Fardanesh, member of the Iran delegation made a detailed presentation on the preparatory actions being taken up for the 7th APMCHUD to be organised in Iran in the latter part of 2018. Dr Fardanesh indicated that a number of global events and developments have taken place during the period 2012-2016 which, inter-alia, include the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, IFCCC Paris Agreement, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk reduction, Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing countries, Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Istanbul Programme of Action for the least Developed Countries for the decade 2011-2020, World Summit on Sustainable Development, World Summit for Social Development, Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, Beijing Platform for Action, UN Conference on Sustainable development, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Accordingly, the emphasis would continue to be on implementation of various actions in the years to come.

Elaborating on the preparatory activities taken up for successful organisation of the 7th APMCHUD, it was indicated that a web-site is being attempted that would provide information on various developments relating to the organization of the conference. The additional key actions proposed include designation of focal persons for each working group and detailing activities relating to Working groups in consultation with the lead countries. In addition, in consultation with the APMCHUD Secretariat, interactions would be held on south-south cooperation and the exchange of experiences among the regional mechanisms of APMCHUD, African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development, Regional Meeting of Ministers and High Level Authorities of the Housing and urban Development sector in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Arab States Ministerial Forum on Housing and Urban Development, and the relevant United Nations Offices. The presentation also included a tentative overall work plan for successful organization of the 7th APMCHUD. It was further indicated that over time, the details would be firmed up and the Bureau shall be kept apprised and appropriate guidance and cooperation shall be taken from the Hon'ble Members of the Bureau.

The Hon'ble Members of the Bureau appreciated the early actions that have been initiated by Iran for the organization of 7th APMCHUD, and assured Iran the Bureau's continued cooperation in all activities.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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**1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the 6<sup>th</sup> Bureau of the  
Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development  
(APMCHUD)**

**Date: May 8, 2017 (6.00 PM to 7.30 PM)**

**Venue: Nairobi, Kenya**

**Hon'ble Members of delegations and distinguished Participants**

**Heads of the Delegations**

**Republic of India**

H.E Mr M.Venkaiah Naidu

Chair

Hon'ble Minister, Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation,  
Urban Development, and Information & Broadcasting

**Republic of Iraq**

H.E Dr. Ann Nafi Aussi Balbool,

Hon'ble Minister of Construction, Housing and Public Municipalities,

**Republic of Nauru**

H.E Mr. Lyn-Wannan Tawaki Kam MP,

Hon'ble Minister of Infrastructure Development

**Islamic Republic of Iran**

H.E Hudi Farajvand,

Permanent Representative of Islamic Republic of Iran to  
UN-Habitat & UNEP

**Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**

H.E W.K.K.Athukorala,

Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Construction

**Republic of Indonesia**

H.E Tri Dewi Virgiyanti,

Director of Urban Affairs, Housing and Settlement,

National Development Planning Agency,

Ministry of National Development Planning

**UN-Habitat**

Mr. Srinivas Popuri,

Senior Human Settlements Officer,

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 and Deputy Chief Coordinator, APMCHUD

## **Members of delegations and distinguished Participants**

### **Republic of Iraq**

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

Eng. Zana Mustafaaga Al-Uzeri  
Director General of Technique & Planning  
Kurdistan Regional Government,  
Ministry of Construction & Housing

Dr. Huda A.Jaaffer,  
Ministry of Construction & Housing

### **Islamic Republic of Iran**

Mr. Majid Rousta,  
Member of Board,  
Iranian Urban Development & revitalization Corporation  
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Dr Farzin Fardarz,  
Consultant, UDRC

Mr. Sadegh Sadeghpur,  
Human Settlements Officer,  
Ministry of Roads and Urban Development

### **Republic of Nauru**

H.E Ms Chitra Jeremiah  
Ambassador of Nauru to Taiwan

### **Republic of India**

Mr. Rajesh Swamy,  
Dy High Commissioner,  
High Commission of India, Nairobi

Mr. Saurav Gaur,  
PS to Hon'ble Minister

### **Republic of Indonesia**

Lr.Edward Abdurrahman,  
Head of Sub-Directorate of Integration on Planning and  
Partnership, Directorate General of Human Settlements,  
Directorate of Integration on Settlements Infrastructure

Firman Napitupulu  
Deputy Director of Urban Settlements  
Ministry of Public Works

Mr Arvi Argyantoro  
Head of Division on R&D in Built Environment  
Research Institute for Housing & Human  
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Krisno Yuwono  
Deputy Director of Public Relation,  
Ministry of Public Works and Housing

Mia Amalia  
Deputy Director of urban Development  
Ministry of National development Plan (Bappenas)

**Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**

Mrs. A.N.R.Weerasekara,  
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**APMCHUD Secretariat, New Delhi**

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