

Habitat III

Habitat III Informal Intergovernmental Meetings

18–20 May 2016

First Session

Thank you, Madam Co-Chair.

I would like to begin by joining the statement made by Thailand on behalf of G77 and China.

Firstly, on behalf of the Brazilian government I would like to commend the Bureau for the zero draft, which was able to capture the current debates and reflect the contributions of a wide range of actors in a concise and well-organized document. We are pleased to see a document (i) that is based on human rights, (ii) in line with the recent global goals adopted in 2015 and (iii) that provides practical recommendations for the development of sustainable urban processes.

It is especially positive to see the New Urban Agenda portrayed as a universal instrument which expressly encompasses actions to be undertaken at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels. This aspect shows, from the beginning, the territorial approach that differentiates the final document of Quito from other international instruments, and we should bear this in mind as we advance in the negotiations.

At this moment, I would just like to stand out some points that could be further developed: firstly, we believe that road safety, health and the situation of slums should be more strongly incorporated in the document; secondly, we believe that besides the model of compact cities, adequate attention should be given to planned urban expansion, in order to incorporate the perspective of the fast rate of urbanization taking place in developing countries; thirdly, we would like to see a more direct language on mechanisms of social participation in the elaboration and implementation of urban policies.

We will address these and other points during the coming days. We are hoping for very fruitful discussions, as we have a very good starting point.

Thank you.