



7 October 2020 from 14:00 to 15:00 (Time – Geneva, Switzerland)

Panel discussion “Improving housing affordability in the UNECE Region”

The UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management at its eightieth session invited the Bureau to develop the study “#Housing 2030 - Improving Housing Affordability in the UNECE region” in cooperation with UN-Habitat and Housing Europe and reiterated its request made at its seventy-ninth session in 2018 to conduct a survey of member States to identify their challenges and priorities in relation to housing affordability. The Committee will be informed on progress made in the development of the study and will be invited to discuss its preliminary findings.

Representatives of the countries will exchange experiences and lessons learned in addressing challenges of the housing affordability.

The meeting is part of [the 81st session of the UNECE Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management](#). It will take place in a hybrid mode (in-person at the Palais des Nations in Geneva and online) with simultaneous translation in three languages – English, French and Russian.

To participate, please register by 30 September 2020 under the [link](#).

Draft programme

14:00-14:15 Introduction and an update on the study

Ms. Elena Szolgayova, #Housing2030 Initiative Co-Chair at UNECE

Ms. Julie Lawson, Lead Writer

14:15-14:50 Panel discussion:

Questions for the panel discussion:

- What are the key affordability challenges and how your country is addressing them?
- What lessons have you learned that you can share with other countries?
- In a post pandemic recovery, what role will the housing sector play to ensure a better housing future?
- Given the importance multi-level governance to housing policies, what role can national and city level partnerships play?

Panellists (5 min presentations)

H.E. Mr. Hon. Roderick Galdes, The Minister for Social Accommodation, Malta - tbc

Mr. Nikita Stasishin, Deputy Minister of Construction, Housing and Utilities of the Russian Federation - confirmed

Ms. Aša Rogelji, Deputy Director General, Directorate for Spatial Planning, Construction and Housing, Ministry of the Environment and Social Planning of Slovenia - confirmed

Ms. Paige Esterkin, Deputy Assistant Secretary, The Office of Policy Development, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA - confirmed

Mr. Bent Madsen, President of Housing Europe - tbc.