Economic and Social Council

Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Housing and Land Management

Seventy-sixth session
Geneva, 14-15 December 2015
Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda
Review of the implementation of the programme of work 2014-2015
Sustainable housing and real estate markets

Draft Programme of Work of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group for 2015-2016

Note by the Bureau of the Committee

Summary

The Committee on Housing and Land Management endorsed the new terms of reference of the Real Estate Market Advisory Group (REM) at its seventy-fifth session in October 2014. The Committee recommended to the UNECE Executive Committee to extend the mandate of the Advisory Group for two years. The Executive Committee approved the renewal of the mandate of the REM and its revised terms of reference until 31 December 2016.

The REM members discussed proposals for its programme of work for the years 2016 and 2017 at their meeting on 9 May 2015. This document contains the draft programme of work, developed based on the discussions at that meeting and with the Committee Bureau.

The Committee is invited to adopt the REM programme of work 2015-2016.

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A.   Objectives

1.   The REM assists the Committee and the Working Party on Land Administration to develop stronger housing real estate markets. The Advisory Group reports to the Committee and the Working Party on Land Administration.

2.   The Advisory Group supports the Committee and the Working Party in the implementation of their programmes of work, with special attention to cluster one of the Committee's programme of work, "Sustainable Housing and Real Estate Markets".

B.   Activities

3.   The activities of the Advisory Group address, according to its terms of reference (ECE/HBP/2014/5)[1], the following thematic priorities:

- • Energy efficient housing

- • Affordable and social housing

- • Housing finance

- • Property valuation and registration, and

- • Land markets and land administration.

C.   Proposed activities for the programme of work 2015–2016

4.   The Advisory Group will:

4.1.   Organize, in cooperation with the Committee on Housing and Land Management and its Working Party on Land Administration, international workshops and side events, which will promote the implementation of the Committee's programmes of work and the dissemination of information about the Committee's and Working Party's activities, including on the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing.

4.2.   Support the dissemination of information on the Charter through presentations at international meetings, and the preparation of articles in books, journals and other mass media, including social media.

4.3.   Provide its input into the Committee's activities on smart cities, which include the preparation of smart city indicators and standards, and the development of smart city profiles.[2] REM members will participate in events and capacity building workshops and as experts in the preparation of smart city profiles, and will also support the UNECE secretariat with fundraising for future activities under this topic.

4.4.   Participate in the Committee's activities on energy efficient housing, including workshops, training sessions, the preparation of studies as agreed by the Committee, and fundraising for future activities under this topic.

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[1] http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/2014/ECE_HBP_2014_5.en.pdf

[2] http://www.unece.org/housing/smartcities.html

4.5.   Update and publish a new version of its study, the Policy Framework for Sustainable Real Estate Markets[3], for the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development – HABITAT III.

4.6.   Prepare and implement other studies under the above-mentioned thematic priorities. Proposals for possible new activities should be submitted to the secretariat for further consideration by the Committee's Bureau.

5.   The Committee is invited to adopt the REM programme of work 2015-2016.

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[3] http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/hlm/documents/Publications/policy.framework.e.pdf