Towards Sustainable Housing and Urban Development through alignment with the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda in the UNECE Region

4-5 October 2018

Cities Panel, 4th of October 2018, Geneva

Susanne Bauer, Wiener Wohnen, Vienna
VIENNA CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE HOUSING:

„Promoting access to affordable and decent housing through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda and the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing“, 12 - 13 April 2018, Vienna, Austria

• International Framework – Urbanisation as a main challenge: Economic, environmental and societal issues, such as migration and an ageing society, put huge pressure on the housing sector.

• Expert Group which developed the Geneva UN Charter on Sustainable Housing over several years
Key points:

1. Housing has often been seen merely as a commodity, but in the conference it was stressed that it is more than that

2. The Charter is based on a very broad understanding of sustainability: economic, social AND ecological sustainability; this requires a new way of thinking in politics and in administration

3. To implement the Charta, civil society has to be included
First Conference Day:

• The conference was attended by more than 300 delegates representing UNECE member States as well as local authorities, academia and international organizations.

• The first day was an UN event to continue the discussion in the Committee.

• Vienna Message was adapted:

**VIENNA MESSAGE**

QUALITY LIVING FOR ALL: ON ACCESS TO ADEQUATE, AFFORDABLE AND DECENT HOUSING

Adopted by the Vienna Conference on Sustainable Housing on 12 April 2018
Second Conference Day:
Main conclusions:

1. Sustainability of housing should be understood in a threefold way:
   1) economically — meaning the creation of long-term financing instruments
   2) socially — meaning a good social mix in residential areas
   3) ecologically — by stressing the contribution of housing to environmental and climate protection.

• 2. Housing programmes developed by member States should address large parts of the population while keeping in mind the specific needs of vulnerable groups.

• 3. Implementation of the Charter requires the participation of all stakeholders.

• 4. Participants also stressed the importance of the state as the leader in this process.
Establishing the links:

Sustainable Development Goals
Implementation of the SDGs in Vienna

The 17 UN goals were signed in Vienna in April 2016 by former Mayor Michael Häupl and former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

- Many objectives from the 2030 Agenda are already covered by the strategies and activities of the City of Vienna.

- By the middle of 2019, the Smart City Wien framework strategy will be updated in an interactive process, with the SDGs integrated across all target areas of the strategy.
Multi Level Approach:

Framework Strategy

Cities and Communities