

RESOLUTIONS OF THE GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARIANS ON HABITAT (GPH) FORUM DURING THE 22nd SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL IN NAIROBI ON 1ST APRIL, 2009.

We, the members of Parliaments participating, in this GC 22, under the Global Parliaments on Habitat (GPH) Forum at UN premises in Nairobi.

Drawing our mandate from Paragraph 2 of Resolution 16/12 of 7th May 1997 of the Governing Council and also drawing on Rule 64 and 65 of the Governing Council which provides for the GPH to make recommendations at an appropriate time to serve as inputs to the deliberations of the GC's

APPRECIATING the important theme of “promoting Affordable Housing finance systems in an urbanizing world in the face of global financial crisis and climate change” of the 22nd session of the GC.

SALUTING the suitability of this theme in the present day global financial crisis which has escalated the habitat challenges such as poverty and unemployment arising out of commitment layoffs.

NOTING that many families have lost their homes due to inability to meet their housing mortgage obligations which is the genesis of the whole financial crisis.

FURTHER NOTING the fast rate of urbanization and the deplorable living conditions of our people particularly those living in slums that are characterized by congestion, pollution, deforestation and floods, which exert pressure on environment impacting climate change and hindering of the fast implementation of the MDGs,

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts so far made by the various key stakeholders including UN-HABITAT, the G20 Summit to address the debilitating effects of the global financial crisis, and mitigating proposals made to redress the situation ,

COGNISANT of the undertakings made to redress this menace through reorganizing and regulating the banking sector and other financial institutions which has a direct impact on the mortgage and housing finance for housing development.

Further RECOGNIZING the fact that these undesirable situations require bold government actions and interventions by all role players including Civil Society Organization's.

And **considering** the pivotal role of Parliamentarians in interventions of both legislation and representation,

WE hereby resolve to undertake the following

1. To raise the Housing agenda on top of the National pedestal for the timely achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.
2. To support Policy interventions and institutional frameworks that promotes housing financing and proper planning of Cities and urban towns for timely implementation of housing programs.

3. To strengthen partnership and cooperation between Parliaments, regional and local authorities to ensure regulation and good governance of cities for better lives of communities.
4. To hold our governments accountable through questions to ministers, tabling motions, moving private members bills and causing amendment to obsolete housing and environment laws.
5. To strongly come out and address the land use policy and take necessary actions against massive evictions.

We further recommend to the Governing Council;

1. To urge the member states to adhere to the international labour organization laws, and devise measures to refrain from massive layoffs of employees especially in private sector.
2. To further strengthen the cooperation between UN-HABITAT and Parliamentarians to address capacity gaps and information sharing for the full realization of the Habitat agenda.
3. To encourage UN -HABITAT to strengthen the sourcing of funds for slum upgrading and settlements to urge member states to provide for the same within their budgets.

4. To promote UN-HABITAT practice of awarding prizes to best performing cities as a way of promoting good management and to be emulated and localized by countries for role modeling and best practice.
5. To encourage governments to put equally motivating facilities and housing incentives in rural areas to curb congestion resulting from rural-urban migration.
6. To foster commitment of reversing the negative effects of global warming and climate change to make positive changes irrespective of the past actions and omissions that have resulted into this phenomenon.