



PERMANENT MISSION
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Malta statement delivered by Hon. Owen Bonnici, Minister for Accommodation and Lands, Malta

Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Guests,

Malta welcomes this opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to the New Urban Agenda and to the shared Sustainable Development Goal of creating inclusive, safe, sustainable, and resilient settlements and cities.

For us, housing is more than a physical structure. It is a foundation for dignity, for wellbeing, for opportunity, for improved quality of life and for social cohesion. As one of the most densely populated countries in Europe, Malta understands the importance of balancing urban development, responsible land stewardship and the housing needs of present and future generations.

Ensuring access to adequate and affordable housing remains a national priority. Malta continues to provide social accommodation, rental support, assistance to first-time buyers and targeted schemes that support vulnerable households in accessing suitable housing solutions. These measures reflect our commitment to ensuring that no one is left behind and that housing remains accessible to those most in need.

We also recognise that addressing housing challenges requires strong partnerships. We believe that public institutions, local councils and civil societies can and should work together to expand social and affordable housing opportunities for individuals and families who face difficulties in various degrees in accessing the property market. Initiatives such as those reflect our belief that sustainable development is built on solidarity, inclusion and shared responsibility.



Our commitment is further reinforced through Malta Vision 2050, which provides a long-term national framework centred on sustainable development, social cohesion and quality of life. Within this vision, housing is recognised as a key pillar of wellbeing and inclusion. We want to shape Malta's long-term conversation on housing, ensuring that the needs of young people, families, older persons and vulnerable groups remain at the centre of future policy development.

Distinguished Guests,
Your Excellencies,

As we review progress under the New Urban Agenda, Malta reaffirms its conviction that access to adequate housing is fundamental to dignity, opportunity and resilience. Guided by Malta Vision 2050, Malta remains committed to advancing affordable housing, social inclusion and sustainable communities for present and future generations.

Because, yes, small island states can lead and can push forward the concept of people-centred cities which remain places of culture, of technology, of opportunity, of dignity, of inclusion, where no one is left behind.

We stand ready to continue sharing our experiences and working with international partners to advance the goals of the New Urban Agenda and build more inclusive, resilient and sustainable futures.

The midterm review is not about measuring how far we have come. It is about deciding how far we are prepared to go. The new Urban Agenda has given us the roadmap. It is now our collective responsibility to deliver on it with urgency, ambition, and results.

Thank you so much.