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UNRCC-AP Workshop 5 October 2015

Title: *Sustainable Urban Development, Land & Resilience in Asia and the Pacific*

Abstract: The region's cities face a myriad of resilience challenges which encompass social, economic and environmental dimensions. IPCC projections clearly show the vulnerability of the region's urban areas to the projected impacts of climate change. While vulnerability can be a product of geography and of place, many of the region's cities are ill-equipped from a planning perspective to deal with the challenges at hand. Drawing on examples from across the Asian and Pacific region, this presentation will examine current land management and planning practices as a source of vulnerability for the region's cities which undermines resilience. It will conclude, however on a positive note, highlighting how land can also be an effective entry point to support urban and territorial resilience.

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**Chief, Sustainable Urban Development Section, UN ESCAP**

UNRCC-AP Opening Addresses 6 October 2015

Title: *Regional Urban transformations: Land and the New Urban Agenda*

Abstract: The Asian and Pacific region is urbanizing rapidly. The management of this transformation will be critical for the region's development prospects, and the well-being of its people. To date, much of the region's urban processes have been poorly managed, and planning has taken a back seat in an era where its role has never been more critical. Over the next twelve months there is an historic opportunity to forge a 'new urban agenda' for the region and its urbanizing populations, and land must be at the centre of that debate. This presentation explores land and land use planning in the context of the

region's urbanization and what priority areas could emerge for Habitat III in dealing with the region's 'dense sprawl', and the growing resource and land footprint of its urban areas.