

# Enhancing Resource Allocation to Urban Development in Africa

Report of African Regional Seminar on Enhancing Resource Allocation to Cities to Strengthen their Role as Engines of Economic Growth and Development

Nairobi, Kenya, 2-3 November 2005



UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME



UN-HABITAT







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## PREFACE

During the Third International Fair and Congress of Cities (URBIS III) held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, from 14-18 June 2004, UN-HABITAT organized a seminar on Cities-Engines of Economic Development. The objective of the seminar was to identify, underline and share experiences on the significance of cities to national and regional economic and social development and to discuss the sources of financing urban development and management within the context of an increasingly urbanizing world. UN-HABITAT has subsequently published a monograph entitled Cities – Engines of Economic Development, containing a few selected papers presented at the seminar.

As a follow-up to this monograph and to further enhance the importance of allocating adequate resources to urban development and management in Africa, UN-HABITAT organized an African Regional Seminar on Enhancing Resource Allocation to Cities to Strengthen their Role as Engines of Economic Growth and Development. The seminar was held in the UN Complex in Nairobi from 2 to 3 November 2005. The main objective of this regional seminar was to promote awareness among and thus sensitize African policy-makers – notably in the planning, budget or finance ministries and departments – of the need to enhance resource allocation to African cities as a means to accelerating national economic growth and development, generating greater employment and increasing incomes. This report documents the proceedings of the seminar.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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