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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

Revised estimates under section 19, United Nations
Centre for Human Settlements

Resources for the work programme at the regional level

1. The General Assembly by resolution 34/229 requested "the Secretary-General to ensure the immediate availability of additional resources necessary to implement at the regional level the work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) for 1980-1981 as approved by the Commission on Human Settlements at its second session".
2. It is recalled that the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in an oral report 1/ to the Fifth Committee at its 85th meeting of the thirty-fourth session of the Assembly, recommended the provision of a total \$140,000 under section 19 for 1980 in respect of financial implications arising from the draft resolution 2/ contained in document A/C.2/34/L.68. In addition, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee indicated that the Advisory Committee would consider the establishment of the requested posts during the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly. The recommendation of the Advisory Committee was accepted by the Fifth Committee and the amount of \$140,000 was appropriated under section 19 in respect of the financial implications arising from adoption of resolution 34/229.
3. The Advisory Committee report was made in respect of the Secretary-General's statement of financial implications 3/ which had indicated that to enable the Centre to undertake the approved work programme at the regional level, eight new Professional posts and four local-level posts would be required, comprising four teams of one P-4, one P-3 and one local level, with each team to be deployed by the Centre to the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic and Social Commission

1/ A/C.5/34/SR.85.

2/ Later adopted as 34/229.

3/ See A/C.2/34/L.82, A/C.5/34/77 and Add.1 produced in respect of the draft resolution contained in A/C.2/34/L.68.

for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Western Asia. The financial implications were estimated at \$410,200 under section 19 of the regular budget, together with additional requirements of \$81,500 under section 31 in respect of staff assessment to be fully offset by increases under income from staff assessment in Income section 1.

4. Since the thirty-fourth session of the Assembly, the Secretary-General has again reviewed the staffing required for implementation of the regional component of the work programme of the Centre, both in relation to the subprogrammes to be undertaken, and in relation to the staff resources available to the Commissions. This review has confirmed the need for the conversion to an established post basis of the staff resources currently financed from general temporary assistance (1 P-4, 1 P-3 and 1 local-level post each in ECA, ECLA, ECWA and ESCAP).

5. The proposed established posts would be applied to the approved work programme of the Centre as follows:

A. Subprogramme I: Settlement policies and strategies
(24 work months in 1981)

The thrust of regional activities under this subprogramme will relate to:

- (i) Identification of regional policy issues;
- (ii) Development of regional guidelines on formulation of settlement policies;
- (iii) Dissemination of and exchange of information on human settlements policy and experience.

B. Subprogramme II: Settlement planning (12 work months in 1981)

Under this subprogramme, the additional resources will be utilized for:

- (i) A study on the methodological framework for human-settlements planning in Latin America with emphasis on population distribution;
- (ii) Settlement planning guidelines for the use of public officials and technicians in western Asia;
- (iii) A study on the criteria, techniques and mechanisms for integration of physical planning with economic and social planning in the ESCAP region;
- (iv) A survey of existing training facilities and programmes in Africa, to assess the training needs of the region at the professional and subprofessional levels.

C. Subprogramme III: Shelter, infrastructure and services (36 work months in 1981)

Under this subprogramme, activities will relate to:

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- (i) Development of policy guidelines for upgrading squatter settlements;
- (ii) An analysis and evaluation of innovative approaches for providing infrastructure and services to low-income urban and rural residents in slums and squatter settlements in the ECA and ECLA regions;
- (iii) An in-depth analysis of rent control in the ECWA region;
- (iv) Development of appropriate building technologies for squatter and rural settlements in Latin America;
- (v) A study on increased productivity in the construction industry in Africa through rationalization of industrial building techniques and the use of local building materials;
- (vi) Survey and studies in ECA and ECWA regions to identify appropriate targets groups for training, levels of training and appropriate training techniques.

D. Subprogramme IV: Land-use policy (six work months in 1981)

The regional activities in this area will consist of:

- (i) A programme or research and analysis of the various systems of land tenure, land use control and land problems common to countries of each region or subregion to determine the types of legislation required for control of land prices;
- (ii) Development of a capability by each region to monitor land trends and to devise suitable approaches to land reform to provide security of tenure in urban and rural settlements.

E. Subprogramme V: Public participation (six work months in 1981)

The regional activities in this area will consist of regional seminars on public participation in national human settlements programmes.

F. Subprogramme VI: Institutions and management (12 work months in 1981)

The requested resources under this subprogramme will be utilized for:

- (i) Strengthening the capability of the regional commissions in the development of appropriate institutional structures and management systems for human settlements;
- (ii) Promotion of institution building and management capabilities in all six subject areas; promotion of mobilizing resources for seed capital for shelter and infrastructure projects; and establishment of close links with regional financial institutions;

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- (iii) Preparation of regional studies on principal strength and weaknesses of current institutional frameworks for upgrading low-income settlements in urban and rural settings; and guidelines for the establishment and/or strengthening of the institutional framework for upgrading low-income settlements, including principal management procedure and legislative bases.

6. The above enumerated programme requirements and associated work month requirements are summarized below.

<u>Subprogramme No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Professional work months</u>
1	Policies and strategies	24
2	Settlement planning	12
3	Shelter infrastructure and services	36
4	Land use policy	6
5	Popular participation	6
6	Institutions and management	<u>12</u>
	Total	<u>96</u>

The total of 96 work months, equivalent to eight Professional posts for 1981 would be supported by four local-level staff.

7. The regional components of the Commission on Human Settlements work programme comprise essential elements of and inputs to the Centre's global activities. Each of the Centre's regional activities or projects serves one or more of the following global purposes:

(a) The monitoring of trends in a particular region as part of a global strategy to compile information on the world human settlement situation which Habitat would distribute regularly to all countries so that the priorities of individual countries can take into account these patterns and developments;

(b) Undertaking applied research on topics of global importance where for reasons of economy and effectiveness a global effort is required. This includes topics which require a global analysis in order to establish a critical framework and to produce significant results. Thus, regional components constitute elements of a larger research effort;

(c) Accumulating the experience and expertise of the several regions in order to organize and structure certain training activities into a global approach and at a scale that would not be possible at regional or national levels, therefore, producing programmes of greater value to participating nations;

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(d) Undertaking projects which are either at a critical threshold or are uncertain and where a global initiative taken within the context of a regional institution would provide a stimulus for subsequent national and regional actions;

(e) Attacking problems which have transnational spill-over effects at regional level and which are best examined in the context of a global programme and by a global organization.

8. The regional component of the Centre's work programme described above in paragraphs 5-7 represents specific elements of the global programme which are best addressed through disaggregation into a network of regional level activities. These activities which constitute a unique set of global projects are distinct from, but complementary to, the work programmes of the regional commissions. Therefore, these activities require resources which are additional to those available to the regional commissions through their own sections of the programme budget. For purposes of information, details are provided in the annex of those staffing resources in the regional commissions but it should be noted that these exist to undertake distinctly different tasks than those outlined in paragraph 5.

9. In view of the urgent need to implement the programme of work approved by the second session of the Human Settlements Commission, action was taken early in 1980 to recruit staff against the temporary assistance funds appropriated by the thirty-fourth session of the Assembly. Recruitment action has proceeded so that while not all positions are yet occupied it is expected that six out of eight Professional positions will be occupied by the end of October and all eight will be occupied by the end of December. Therefore it is proposed that the conversion of temporary assistance to established posts should be on the basis of normal turnover factor (95 per cent costing) rather than new post turnover factor (50 per cent costing). The estimated cost in 1981 of such conversions is estimated as follows:

<u>Duty Station</u>	<u>Posts</u>			<u>Total</u> \$
	<u>1 P-4 level</u> \$	<u>1 P-3 level</u> \$	<u>1 local level</u> \$	
Addis Ababa	46,900	39,200	9,200	95,300
Baghdad	42,500	36,600	14,500	93,600
Bangkok	43,300	36,600	7,900	87,800
Santiago	<u>53,500</u>	<u>42,700</u>	<u>13,600</u>	<u>109,800</u>
Total	<u>186,200</u>	<u>155,100</u>	<u>45,200</u>	<u>386,500</u>

10. The total appropriation requested in respect of these revised estimates would therefore amount to \$386,500 under section 19 of the regular budget together with \$74,500 under section 31 in respect of staff assessment which latter amount would be offset by addition of the same amount under Income section 1.

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Annex

Staffing resources currently available to regional commissions for implementation of their respective programmes in Human Settlements

	ECLA	ECWA	ECA		ESCAP		Total	
	RB	RB	RB	XB	RB	XB	RB	XB
L/P-5	1	1	1	5	1	2	4	7
L/P-4		2	1	1	1	-	4	1
L/P-3		1	1	-	1	-	3	-
L/P-2		1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Subtotal	1	5	3	6	3	2	12	8
L.L.	1	3	2	1	2	-	7	2
Total	2	8	5	7	5	2	19	10

1. The human settlements programmes of the regional commissions have been presented in the context of the proposed programme budget a/ for the 1980-1981 biennium as follows:

- (a) ECLA, paragraph 12.24 covering the following subprogrammes
 - (i) Social aspects of the human environment
 - (ii) Settlement planning
 - (iii) Shelter infrastructure and services
 - (iv) Land-use policy
 - (v) Public participation
 - (vi) Institutions and management.
- (b) ECA, paragraph 13.30 covering the following subprogrammes:
 - (i) Policy development and institution building
 - (ii) Efficient resource development and utilization.

a/ A/34/6.

(c) ECWA, paragraph 14.22 covering the following subprogramme:

(i) Human settlements planning.

(d) ESCAP, paragraph 11.30 covering the following subprogramme:

(i) Development of human settlements.

2. The extrabudgetary resources shown in the above table relate primarily to the support of technical assistance co-operation and partially to separate trust fund activities. In the case of ECLA additional extrabudgetary resources were envisaged at the time the programme budget was formulated. These have not yet materialized but negotiations are presently proceeding with UNEP on the matter.