

REPORT
OF THE COMMISSION
ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
on the work of its fifth session

26 April-7 May 1982

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION
SUPPLEMENT No. 8 (A/37/8)



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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

[8 June 1982]

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	1 - 4	1
II. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION	5 - 22	2
A. Opening of the session	5 - 7	2
B. Attendance	6 - 15	3
C. Election of officers	16	4
D. Credentials	17 - 18	4
E. Adoption of the agenda	19	5
F. Organization of work	20 - 21	5
G. Adoption of the report of the Commission	22	6
III. PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION	23 - 24	6
IV. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION	25 - 26	6

ANNEXES

I. RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FIFTH SESSION	8
A. Resolutions	11
B. Decisions	29
II. LIST OF SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS	34
III. LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMISSION AT ITS FIFTH SESSION	37
IV. MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION	40
V. MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION TO THE FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION	41
VI. SUMMARIES OF STATEMENTS	43
A. Introductory remarks of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	43
B. Statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme	46

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Commission on Human Settlements was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977.
2. The report of the fifth session of the Commission is submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with section II, paragraph 6, of resolution 32/162.
3. The Commission consists of 58 members elected for a three-year term: 16 from African States, 13 from Asian States, 6 from Eastern European States, 10 from Latin American States and 13 from Western European and other States. At present, the Commission is composed of the following members:

Argentina**	German Democratic Republic*
Bangladesh***	Germany, Federal Republic of***
Barbados**	Greece***
Belgium*	Guinea**
Bolivia***	Hungary*
Bulgaria**	India***
Burundi**	Indonesia*
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic***	Iraq*
Canada*	Italy***
Chile***	Jamaica**
Colombia*	Japan**
Cuba*	Jordan***
Cyprus***	Kenya***
Denmark**	Lesotho*
Egypt*	Liberia***
El Salvador***	Malaysia*
Finland**	Mexico**
France*	Morocco***
Netherlands*	Spain**
New Zealand***	Sri Lanka***
Nigeria*	Sudan***
Norway*	Swaziland**
Pakistan**	Syrian Arab Republic**
Papua New Guinea*	Uganda*
Peru*	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics**
Philippines**	United Republic of Tanzania**
Romania***	United States of America**
Sierra Leone*	Zambia**
Somalia**	Zimbabwe***

4. The fifth session of the Commission on Human Settlements was held at the headquarters of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) at Nairobi, Kenya, from Monday, 26 April, to Friday, 7 May 1982.

* Term of office expires on 31 December 1982.

** Term of office expires on 31 December 1983.

*** Term of office expires on 31 December 1984.

II. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening of the session

5. The session was opened by the Chairman of the Commission at its fourth session, Her Excellency Mrs. Imelda R. Marcos, the First Lady of the Philippines and Minister for Human Settlements. In her opening statement, the Chairman stressed the need for the human settlements approach to assume the character of a movement for the improvement of the quality of life through the fulfilment of man's basic needs. The Chairman reported on progress made since the adoption by the Commission of resolution 4/1 of 6 May 1981, entitled "Manila Communiqué on a Human Settlements Movement", 1/ and indicated favourable and enthusiastic response to her proposals for human settlements demonstration projects. Mr. Arcot Ramachandran, Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), delivered a message marking the occasion from the Secretary-General, the text of which is reproduced in annex IV. The Honourable Mr. R. J. Ouko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kenya, delivered a welcoming address on behalf of the host country. In his address, he noted that development was about people, not about things, and that it should strive to lighten the humiliating burden of the poorest among the poor. The Government of His Excellency Mr. Daniel Arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya, had decided to give prominence to the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless within the context of its National Development Plan for 1979-1983. The Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) made a statement in which he reviewed the state of human settlements development. A summary of the statement of the Executive Director appears in annex VI.A. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/162, in accordance with which the Executive Directors of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) (UNCHS) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) address each other's governing body, the Executive Director of UNEP made a statement on collaboration between UNEP and the Centre on the development of environmentally sound human settlements. A summary of his statement appears in annex VI.B.

6. Speaking on behalf of the group of Eastern European States, the representative of the German Democratic Republic made a statement in which he noted the absence of the delegations of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics at the opening meeting of the fifth session of the Commission as a result of difficulties encountered by the delegations concerned in obtaining the requisite Kenya entry visas, and he requested the postponement of the session until the arrival of the two delegations at Nairobi.

7. The meeting was adjourned until the following day.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/36/8), annex I.

B. Attendance

8. The following States members of the Commission were represented:

Argentina	Kenya
Bangladesh	Lesotho
Barbados	Liberia
Belgium	Malaysia
Bulgaria	Mexico
Burundi	Morocco
Canada	Netherlands
Chile	New Zealand
Colombia	Nigeria
Cyprus	Norway
Denmark	Pakistan
Egypt	Papua New Guinea
Finland	Philippines
France	Spain
German Democratic Republic	Sri Lanka
Germany, Federal Republic of	Sudan
Greece	Swaziland
Hungary	Uganda
India	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Indonesia	United Republic of Tanzania
Iraq	United States of America
Italy	Zambia
Jamaica	Zimbabwe
Japan	

9. The following States not members of the Commission participated as observers:

Algeria	Mauritania
Australia	Niger
Austria	Oman
Botswana	Poland
Chad	Republic of Korea
China	Rwanda
Congo	Saudi Arabia
Czechoslovakia	Somalia
Djibouti	Sweden
Ethiopia	Switzerland
Gabon	Thailand
Ghana	Tunisia
Iceland	Turkey
Ireland	United Arab Emirates
Israel	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Lebanon	Upper Volta
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Yemen
Malawi	Zaire

10. The United Nations Secretariat was represented by the following units:

Economic Commission for Europe
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Economic Commission for Latin America
Economic Commission for Africa
Economic Commission for Western Asia
United Nations Centre for Regional Development

11. The following United Nations bodies were represented:

United Nations Industrial Development Organization
United Nations Environmental Programme
United Nations Childrens Fund
United Nations Development Programme
World Food Programme
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
United Nations Fund for Population Activities

12. The following specialized agencies were represented:

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
World Health Organization
World Bank

13. The following intergovernmental organization was represented:

League of Arab States

14. The African National Congress of South Africa, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania were also represented.

15. In addition, 21 non-governmental organizations were present as observers.

C. Election of officers

16. At the 1st plenary meeting, on 27 April, the following members of the bureau were elected by acclamation:

Vice Chairmen: Mr. Bruce Golding (Jamaica)
Mr. David Miller (Canada)
Mr. Ramalingam Paskaralingam (Sri Lanka)

Rapporteur: Mr. Salah R. El-Ashry (Egypt)

At the 6th plenary meeting, on 3 May 1982, Mr. Yuri N. Sokolov (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) was elected to the post of Chairman by acclamation.

D. Credentials

17. Under rule 11, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Commission, the bureau examines the credentials submitted by delegations and reports thereon to the Commission.

18. Pursuant to the foregoing rule, the bureau reported to the Commission at its 8th plenary meeting, on 6 May, that it had examined the credentials submitted by delegations attending the fifth session of the Commission and had found those credentials to be in order. The Commission approved the report of the bureau on credentials at the same meeting.

E. Adoption of the agenda

19. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 27 April, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document HS/C/5/1, as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Credentials.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): progress report of the Executive Director.
5. Planning for human settlements in disaster-prone areas.
6. Transportation for urban and rural areas, with emphasis on groups with limited resources.
7. International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.
8. Report on financial and other assistance provided to and among developing countries on human settlements and on the human settlements activities of the United Nations system.
9. Financial matters: report by the Executive Director.
10. Other matters.
11. Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the sixth session of the Commission.
12. Adoption of the report of the Commission.

F. Organization of work

20. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 27 April, the Commission established two sessional committees of the whole, allocating agenda items to them as follows:

Committee I: agenda items 5 and 6;

Committee II: agenda items 7, 8 and 9.

21. Committee I held 9 meetings from 28 April to 5 May, and Committee II held 6 meetings from 30 April to 6 May. The recommendations of both Committees have been incorporated into the present report.

G. Adoption of the report of the Commission

22. The present report was adopted by the Commission at its 11th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1982.

III. PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

23. At its 11th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1982, the Commission decided that its sixth session would be held from 25 April to 6 May 1983. The Commission also decided to accept the invitation from the Government of Finland to hold its sixth session at Helsinki, in accordance with section I of General Assembly resolution 31/140 of 17 December 1976, and expressed its appreciation to the Government of Finland for its generous invitation.

24. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the following provisional agenda for its sixth session:

1. Election of officers.
2. Credentials.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): progress report of the Executive Director.
5. Land for human settlements.
6. International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.
7. Work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 1984-1985.
8. Proposed budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the biennium 1984-1985.
9. Other matters.
10. Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the seventh session of the Commission.
11. Adoption of the report.

IV. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

25. In closing statements, representatives of the regional groups expressed their appreciation to the Government and people of Kenya for the hospitality extended to all participants during the fifth session of the Commission on Human Settlements. In his closing remarks, the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) informed the Commission of his proposals for the

identification of theme topics and the preparation of theme papers for the period from the sixth session of the Commission up to the end of the period 1984-1989, in the light of the decisions taken at the fifth session. In his concluding remarks, the Chairman thanked the other members of the bureau and all participants for their contributions to the successful completion of the work of the fifth session of the Commission.

26. The Chairman then declared closed the fifth session of the Commission on Human Settlements.

ANNEX I

Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission at its fifth sessionA. Resolutions

		<u>Date of adoption</u>	<u>Page</u>
5/1	International co-operation for disaster prevention	6 May 1982	11
5/2	Implementation of measures for the prediction of seismic disasters and mitigation of their consequences in earthquake-prone countries, particularly in the North African and Mediterranean regions	6 May 1982	11
5/3	Assistance in the planning and reconstruction of human settlements in disaster-prone areas in developing countries, as exemplified by Egypt	6 May 1982	12
5/4	Development of trans-African highways	6 May 1982	13
5/5	Project information	6 May 1982	14
5/6	Closer co-operation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the African Development Bank in connexion with the establishment and operation of Shelter Afrique	6 May 1982	15
5/7	Strengthening of human settlements activities and programmes	6 May 1982	15
5/8	Implementation of General Assembly resolution 36/117 of 10 December 1981: production and circulation of publications of the United Nations Centre on Human Settlements (Habitat)	6 May 1982	16
5/9	Simultaneous distribution of documents in different languages of the United Nations	6 May 1982	17
5/10	Mobilization of financial resources for the development and improvement of human settlements	7 May 1982	17

	<u>Date of adoption</u>	<u>Page</u>
5/11 Staff and budgetary resources for the servicing of joint bureau meetings	7 May 1982	19
5/12 Creation of an Asian human settlements bank	7 May 1982	20
5/13 Co-ordination of human settlements programmes within the United Nations system	7 May 1982	20
5/14 International Year of Shelter for the Homeless	7 May 1982	21
5/15 Preparation of special themes	7 May 1982	24
5/16 Training and information	7 May 1982	25
5/17 Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination	7 May 1982	26
5/18 Follow-up action on the Manila Communiqué on a Human Settlements Movement: establishment of human settlements demonstration projects	7 May 1982	27
5/19 Assistance to victims of <u>apartheid</u> and colonialism	7 May 1982	28

B. Decisions

5/20 Planning for human settlements in disaster-prone areas	6 May 1982	29
5/21 Transportation for urban and rural areas, with emphasis on groups with limited resources	6 May 1982	30
5/22 Financial and budgetary matters of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 1982-1983	7 May 1982	31
5/23 Operational activities for development	7 May 1982	31
5/24 Report on financial and other assistance provided to and among developing countries on human settlements and on the human settlements activities of the United Nations system, and progress report on the implementation of the	7 May 1982	32

	<u>Date of adoption</u>	<u>Page</u>
recommendations for national action adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements		
5/25 Inclusion of Arabic among the official and working languages of the Commission	7 May 1982	33
5/26 Control and limitation of documentation	7 May 1982	33

A. Resolutions

5/1. International co-operation for disaster prevention

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Mindful of the dispersed and fragmentary nature of information concerning natural disasters,

Also mindful that such information as exists is not receiving the necessary circulation,

Recalling the need to co-ordinate research activities in the various fields dealing with the impact of natural disasters on human settlements,

Further recalling the need for international co-operation in this area,

Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to promote the study of a plan for linking the study and research centres dealing with the subjects.

9th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

5/2. Implementation of measures for the prediction of seismic disasters and mitigation of their consequences in earthquake-prone countries, particularly in the North African and Mediterranean regions

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Bearing in mind the disastrous effects of the earthquakes which periodically affect earthquake-prone countries, particularly in the North African and Mediterranean regions and compound the difficulties encountered in the planning and development of human settlements,

Taking into account the need to co-ordinate the efforts of the countries concerned with a view to predicting these disasters and minimizing their effects,

Mindful of the importance of the exchange of experience and information in this regard, as well as of training in the seismic field,

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to recommend, in collaboration with the Governments concerned, an appropriate policy for determining the action to be taken in order to predict and to mitigate the effects thereof;

2. Also requests the Executive Director to provide the countries concerned with the necessary technical assistance in connexion with:

(a) The understanding and monitoring of seismic activity;

(b) The preparation of vulnerability maps of potentially seismic regions;

(c) The establishment of earthquake-resistance regulations;

(d) Fostering of exchanges of information and experience for a better understanding of seismic risks;

(e) Assistance in the training of specialists in the fields of planning in earthquake engineering and engineering seismology;

(f) Assistance to the countries concerned in the drawing-up of relief plans and in the education of the population threatened by earthquakes;

(g) Assistance to these countries in the development of their broadcasting and communications infrastructure on the basis of available funds and in close co-operation with relevant United Nations organizations;

3. Further requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

9th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

5/3. Assistance in the planning and reconstruction of human settlements in disaster-prone areas in developing countries, as exemplified by Egypt

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Taking note of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade a/ which, inter alia, the significance of mobilizing financial and other resources for development in the field of human settlements, was stressed,

Noting the priority areas reflected in a report of the Secretary-General in which high priority was accorded to the mobilization of financial resources for the provision of shelter, infrastructure and services to the urban and rural poor, b/

Recalling the two themes selected by the Commission for its fifth session, one of which was planning for human settlements in disaster-prone areas,

Referring to the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to the Commission at its fifth session, describing various kinds of natural disasters that can occur throughout the world and providing an overview of approaches to disaster mitigation as an element of human settlements development planning, c/

a/ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

b/ A/36/658, annex III, sect. 19.

c/ HS/C/5/3.

Further taking note of the conclusions of the joint project of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator d/ concerning assistance for reconstruction and flood protection in flood-stricken villages in upper Egypt, which could be viewed as a demonstration project for the planning and reconstruction of disaster-prone areas in developing countries,

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to distribute widely the conclusions of the above-mentioned project and the joint project of the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator and the United Nations Environment Programme on guidelines for disaster prevention e/ to all interested countries and parties concerned;

2. Also requests the Executive Director to intensify his co-operation with potential donors in order to mobilize technical, financial and other resources to help developing countries adopt appropriate measures in similar cases of disaster;

3. Further requests the Executive Director to advise Governments concerned as to how to mobilize the resources necessary for the implementation of the project concerning flood-stricken villages in Egypt, mentioned above, as a demonstration scheme for other countries;

4. Calls upon all States and international organizations, including international financial institutions, to extend their voluntary and other contributions in this regard to developing countries as exemplified by Egypt;

5. Requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

9th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

5/4. Development of trans-African highways

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling the proclamation by the General Assembly in its resolution 32/160 of 19 December 1977 of the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa during the years 1978-1988,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements held in Vancouver in 1976 to the effect that policies on

d/ Project No. EGY/80/004.

e/ Project No. UNDRO/10/76/vols. 1, 2 and 3.

transportation and communications should promote desired patterns of development to satisfy the needs of the majority of the population, f/

Taking note of the efforts of some African countries to link themselves through the East-West Trans-African Highway (Mombasa-Accra), the North-South Highway (Cairo-Gaborone) and the African Unity Road (Algiers-Lagos) in order to promote integration and mobility within the human settlements in the region and generate trade among Member States,

Further recalling that one of the major themes selected for discussion at the fifth session of the Commission on Human Settlements was transportation for urban and rural areas, with emphasis on groups with limited resources,

Referring to the report of the Executive Director on transportation and the points raised therein concerning the problems of co-ordination and responsibility for planning and administration, which often result in unco-ordinated and haphazard development, g/

Noting that some of the countries through which the trans-African highways pass are experiencing difficulties in terms of programming and implementation,

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to intensify contact and co-operate with the Economic Commission for Africa with a view to providing technical assistance to make the projects a reality;

Also requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

9th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

5/5. Project information

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Emphasizing the need for Governments to be sufficiently and continuously informed of the project activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),

Having regard to the establishment of a unified information service within the Centre,

f/ Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum), chap. II, recommendation C.14.

g/ HS/C/5/4, chap. V, sect. F.

Recognizing that the volume of documentation to be submitted for consideration by the Commission on Human Settlements should not be unduly increased,

Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to take the necessary measures to ensure that Governments are adequately informed of the essentials of its projects, and of the progress made in implementing them, between sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements, and to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission at its sixth session.

9th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

5/6. Closer co-operation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the African Development Bank in connexion with the establishment and operation of Shelter Afrique

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolution 4/1 of 6 May 1981 entitled "Manila Communiqué on a Human Settlements Movement",

Noting with interest that the African Development Bank is in the process of establishing Shelter Afrique to contribute to the improvement of the human settlements approach in Africa,

Recognizing that there is a need for a regional human settlements finance institution for Africa,

1. Decides to encourage close co-operation, especially for the exchange of information, technical or otherwise, between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the African Development Bank in view of the establishment of Shelter Afrique;

2. Requests the Executive Director of the Centre to take the necessary steps in this connexion and to report on progress made to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session.

9th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

5/7. Strengthening of human settlements activities and programmes

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980 containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in particular paragraphs 159 and 160 thereof on the development and improvement of human settlements,

Recognizing that human settlements constitute a basic element of social and economic development,

Recalling Commission resolution 3/9 of 15 May 1980, in which it requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to continue to give high priority to the information activities of the Centre in research, training and technical co-operation,

Appreciating the close interrelationship that exists between the man-made environment and the natural environment and the consequent need for increased co-operation between the Centre and the United Nations Environment Programme, and with particular reference to Organization of African Unity resolution CM/Res.893 (XXXVII) h/ in which the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity called upon the Secretary-General of that organization, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, and the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Centre to explore possibilities of establishing regional institutions for environmental and human settlement training and education within Africa,

1. Stresses the need for more appropriate training programmes related to human settlements, especially in developing countries;

2. Emphasizes the urgency of the need to strengthen the national agencies dealing with human settlements in order to promote an integrated approach to the planning and implementation of human settlement programmes, together with the establishment of national human settlements data banks;

3. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventh session a theme on training and information in the field of human settlements.

9th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

5/8. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 36/117 of 10 December 1981: production and circulation of publications of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Aware that the diversity of languages, cultures and knowledge of States Members of the United Nations is a source of general enrichment and of better understanding,

Recognizing the value presented by the publications produced, translated and circulated by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) or at its request, particularly for developing countries,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/117 of 10 December 1981,

h/ See A/36/534, annex I.

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to ensure that the selection of the Centre's publications reflects the diversity of languages, cultures and knowledge of Member States, and that the authors of these publications have the necessary means at their disposal to employ the working language of their choice, within the limits of existing resources;

2. Also requests the Executive Director to ensure that the circulation of the Centre's publications benefits the greatest possible number of people, having regard to the diversity of languages, particularly in developing countries;

3. Further requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

9th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

5/9. Simultaneous distribution of documents in different languages of the United Nations

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Aware that the diversity of languages of the United Nations is a source of general enrichment and of better understanding among Member States,

Recalling the resolutions already adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and particularly resolution 36/117 B of 10 December 1981,

Appreciating the efforts of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), but expressing its deep concern at the steady lengthening of delays in the distribution of documents in the different official languages, in spite of these efforts,

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to take all the necessary measures for the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 36/117 B;

2. Also requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

9th plenary meeting
6 May 1982

5/10. Mobilization of financial resources for the development and improvement of human settlements

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on the status of voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation as of 1 April 1982, i/

1. Recommends to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, the adoption at its thirty-seventh session of the following draft resolution on the mobilization of financial resources for the development and improvement of human settlements:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977 on institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements, which, inter alia, provide for the mobilization and utilization of resources in the various regions in the field of human settlements,

"Bearing in mind other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including in particular resolutions 31/109 of 16 December 1976, 35/77 D of 5 December 1980 and 36/72 C of 4 December 1981,

"Recalling also its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980 containing the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in particular paragraphs 159 and 160 thereof on the development and improvement of human settlements,

"Considering that human settlements policies are inseparable from the goals of social and economic development and that solutions to the problems of such settlements must, consequently, be conceived as an integral part of the development process of individual nations and the world community,

"Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 A of 24 July 1981, particularly paragraphs 4 and 5 thereof, on the need for adequate financing for the projected activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),

"Disturbed by the current trends affecting the resources available for the development and improvement of human settlements, resources which are clearly inadequate,

"Convinced of the need for urgent action to improve the quality of life of all people in human settlements,

"Recognizing that such action is primarily the responsibility of Governments,

"Recognizing further that the international community should provide, both at the global and regional levels, encouragement and support to Governments determined to take effective action to ameliorate conditions, especially for the most disadvantaged, in rural and urban human settlements,

"1. Expresses its appreciation to those Governments that have so far made financial contributions for the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

"2. Urges recipient countries to consider allocating an appropriate percentage of the resources of the United Nations Development Programme allotted to them in the form of indicative planning figures to the specific financing of national projects for the development and improvement of human settlements;

"3. Further urges Member States to consider the utilization of an appropriate percentage of bilateral assistance funds for the financing of human settlements activities of interest to them;

"4. Reiterates its urgent appeal to Member States, particularly developed countries and those in a position to do so, to contribute and, if possible, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in support of the activities of the Centre;

"5. Further appeals to all international financial institutions, particularly the World Bank and the regional development banks, to allocate an appropriate percentage of their total resources to the development and improvement of human settlements in the developing countries."

10th plenary meeting
7 May 1982

5/11. Staff and budgetary resources for the servicing of joint bureau meetings

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling section VI of General Assembly resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977 establishing joint meetings of the bureaux of the Commission on Human Settlements and the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 36/117 of 10 December 1981 concerning the use of languages and the distribution of documents,

Recalling further resolution 4/11 of the United Nations Commission for Human Settlements,

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to take into account the exact needs of the joint meetings and to ensure that they are held in conjunction with other meetings, preferably the informal consultations of the United Nations Environment Programme at Nairobi, in order to implement the above-mentioned resolutions as economically and effectively as possible;

2. Also requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

10th plenary meeting
7 May 1982

5/12. Creation of an Asian human settlements bank

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolution 4/14 of 6 May 1981 in which it requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to conduct a feasibility study on the creation of an Asian human settlements bank,

Noting with satisfaction that the Executive Director has implemented that resolution by convening an Ad Hoc Group of Experts, whose recommendations are contained in a report of the Executive Director to the Commission, j/

Recognizing that a regional institution in the field of human settlements finance for Asia and the Pacific, which has the largest concentration of the world's population, could have useful functions in relation to the critical shelter situation,

Convinced that the system and mechanism identified by the aforementioned Ad Hoc Group of Experts for such an Asian human settlements finance institution are deserving of further and thorough study with a view to establishing the said system,

Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to continue and accelerate the conduct of the said feasibility study with a view to its early completion and to report on the matter to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session.

10th plenary meeting
7 May 1982

5/13. Co-ordination of human settlements programmes within the United Nations system

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolution 3/5 of 15 May 1980, in which it recommended to the General Assembly that the Secretary-General be invited to arrange, in consultation with the members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to become a member of that body and its relevant subsidiary machinery, and General Assembly resolution 35/77 C of 5 December 1980 on the same subject,

Noting that the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) is still not participating as a member in all aspects of the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its subsidiary machinery, as contemplated in the above-mentioned resolution of the General Assembly,

j/ HS/C/5/8, annex.

Decides to recommend to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 35/77 C of 5 December 1980 in which it invited the Secretary-General to arrange, in consultation with the members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to participate in all aspects of the work of that Committee and its subsidiary machinery,

"Recalling also section III, paragraphs 5 (a) and (b), of its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, in which it called upon the Centre to ensure the harmonization at the intersecretariat level of human settlements programmes planned and carried out by the United Nations system and to assist the Commission on Human Settlements in co-ordinating human settlements activities in the United Nations system, to keep them under review and to assess their effectiveness,

"Recalling in particular section VI, paragraph 4, of its resolution 32/162, in which it decided that the existing mechanisms of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination must be strengthened to ensure that co-ordination in the field of human settlements is effective throughout the United Nations system,

"Convinced that the implementation of the mandates of the Commission on Human Settlements and the Centre with respect to the co-ordination and harmonization of human settlements activities in the United Nations system can be most efficiently ensured through the Centre's participation in all aspects of the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its subsidiary machinery,

"Requests the Secretary-General to accelerate his efforts to arrange consultations with the members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination with a view to arranging for the Centre to participate in all aspects of the work of the Committee and its subsidiary machinery and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the results of these efforts."

10th plenary meeting
7 May 1982

5/14. International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolution 4/2 of 6 May 1981 and General Assembly resolution 36/71 of 4 December 1981 on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) containing specific proposals regarding the

objectives, guidelines, programme of activities and measures and the time-table and follow-up for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, k/

1. Welcomes and endorses the objectives, strategies and criteria, as well as the guidelines for national, regional and international action, subject to its comments and to annual reviews;

2. Takes note of the institutional and administrative arrangements proposed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) as a cost-effective way to organize and co-ordinate activities prior to and during the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

3. Requests the Executive Director to transmit his report, with the Commission's comments, to the Economic and Social Council for review at its second regular session of 1982;

4. Recommends to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, the adoption at its thirty-seventh session of the following draft resolution:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 35/76 of 5 December 1980 and 36/71 of 4 December 1981 in which it decided, in principle, to designate 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, on the understanding that the criteria for financing and organizing international years set out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 were complied with,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on the Year k/ and the comments of the Commission on Human Settlements and the Economic and Social Council on that report,

"Seriously concerned that, despite the efforts of international organizations and of Governments at the national and local levels, the living conditions of the majority of the people in slums and squatter areas and rural settlements, especially in developing countries, continue to deteriorate in both relative and absolute terms,

"Convinced that a special effort to address this fundamental issue will strengthen over-all national economic and social development, in furtherance of the goals of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade,

"1. Proclaims the year 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

"2. Decides that the objective of activities before and during the Year will be to improve the shelter and neighbourhoods of some of the poor and

disadvantaged by 1987, according to national priorities, and to demonstrate by the year 2000 ways and means of improving the shelter and neighbourhoods of all of the poor and disadvantaged;

"3. Decides that special attention will be given, during the Year and its preparations, to ways and means of:

(a) Securing renewed political commitment to the improvement of the shelter and neighbourhoods of the poor and disadvantaged, especially those living below the poverty line, as a matter of priority;

(b) Consolidating and sharing all new knowledge and relevant experience gained since Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held in 1976, in order to provide a full range of tested and practical alternatives for improving the shelters and neighbourhoods of the poor and disadvantaged;

(c) Developing and demonstrating new approaches and methods in order to assist directly and augment the present efforts of the poor and disadvantaged to secure their own shelter and in order to provide a basis for new national policies and strategies for improving the shelter and neighbourhoods of all of the poor and disadvantaged by the year 2000;

(d) Exchanging experience and providing support among countries to meet the objectives of the Year;

"4. Welcomes and endorses the objectives, strategies and criteria, as well as the guidelines for national, regional and international action subject to the comments of the Commission on Human Settlements and of the Economic and Social Council and subject to annual reviews;

"5. Takes note of the institutional and administrative arrangements proposed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) as a cost-effective way to organize and co-ordinate activities prior to and during the Year;

"6. Designates the Commission on Human Settlements to act as the United Nations intergovernmental body responsible for organizing the Year;

"7. Designates the Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) as the secretariat for the Year and as the lead agency for co-ordinating the relevant programmes and activities of other organizations and agencies concerned;

"8. Invites all States, specialized agencies and other organizations and units of the United Nations system, as well as other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to collaborate in support of the work of the Commission on Human Settlements and to make special efforts through existing and new programmes during the period 1983-1987 to help fulfil the objectives and goals of the Year;

"9. Appeals to all States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the public at large to make generous contributions in support of the programme for the Year.

"10. Requests the Commission on Human Settlements, during the period 1983-1987, to submit annual reports to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the approved programme of measures and activities to be undertaken prior to and during the Year;

"11. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of the regular sessions of the General Assembly during the period 1983-1987 an item entitled 'International Year of Shelter for the Homeless' and to undertake at its forty-second session, in 1987, a special review of national and international efforts for improving the shelter and neighbourhoods of the poor and disadvantaged."

10th plenary meeting
7 May 1982

5/15. Preparation of special themes

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, and recommendations for national action adopted at Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements l/ and, in particular, the importance of the recommendations to Governments concerning the fulfilment of tasks at the national level,

Referring to the report of the fourth session of the Commission on Human Settlements with regard to the long-term selection of specific themes to be considered at sessions of the Commission, m/

Bearing in mind the view of many delegations that the discussion of specific themes by the Commission is of high value in terms of elaborating basic guidelines for development in the field of human settlements, guidelines to be regarded as recommendations for the Governments of the States Members of the United Nations,

Recognizing the importance of the careful selection and in-depth preparation of specific themes and of the elaboration of corresponding conclusions and recommendations,

Being aware that the opinions and recommendations of all countries and regions should be considered when analysing and formulating recommendations,

1. Decides in the future to designate the subject of the special-theme items two years in advance of the discussion;

l/ Report of the Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum), chaps. I and II.

m/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/36/8), para. 273.

2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to ensure for each special theme a thorough preparation process in which there is room for extensive consultations and substantive contributions from interested Governments and relevant organizations within and outside the United Nations system;

3. Requests the Executive Director, without extending the duration of the sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements, to allow for meetings during sessions of the Commission at which the draft documents can be discussed.

10th plenary meeting

7 May 1982

5/16. Training and information

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolution 3/9 of 15 May 1980, in which it requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to continue to give high priority to the information activities of the Centre in research, training and technical co-operation,

Recalling its resolution 4/9 of 6 May 1981, in which it emphasized the need to integrate information into technical co-operation activities,

Welcoming the fact that the specific programme of measures and activities for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless n/ puts special emphasis on demonstration projects in the field of training,

Recognizing the unique role of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) with respect to the promotion and co-ordination of activities in the field of training and information, in particular through and in collaboration with appropriate regional and national institutions,

Recalling the offer made by the Government of Greece at the third, fourth and fifth sessions of the Commission to give every possible aid and assistance to the establishment of a United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) training centre in Greece,

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to continue, within the context of the activities of the Centre, to give priority to promoting the integration of training and information into the various sectors of human settlements development, in particular with a view to enhancing the capacity of the developing countries to formulate and implement human settlements policies, programmes and projects;

n/ HS/C/5/5.

2. Decides to select as a special theme for its seventh session the question of a systematic and comprehensive approach to training and information as part of over-all human settlements policy and to request the Executive Director to prepare a report on the subject on the basis of extensive consultations with Governments and relevant organizations within and outside the United Nations system;

3. Requests the Executive Director to continue his consultations with the Government of Greece and other parties concerned to clarify the possibilities and implications for the establishment of a United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) training centre in Greece;

4. Also requests the Executive Director to examine the possibility of establishing training institutions elsewhere;

5. Further requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

10th plenary meeting
7 May 1982

5/17. Report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Noting the recommendation by the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, in its report on the work of its twenty-first session, that, because subprogramme 1 (Settlement policies and strategies) and subprogramme 2 (Settlements planning) of the work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) overlap, they should be merged and the resources released should go towards strengthening the capacities of the regional commissions in the field of human settlements, o/

Noting further the report of the Secretary-General on the special review of the ongoing work programme of the United Nations in which reduced activity is recommended in subprogrammes 1 and 2, p/

Welcoming the statement made by the Secretary-General in his report on the administrative and financial implications of the recommendations of the Committee Programme and Co-ordination to the effect that he saw subprogrammes 1 and 2 as being conceptually distinct and as relating to different sets of issues and that, as there was no overlap of activities, no savings would accrue from simply joining two subprogrammes under one title, q/

o/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/36/38), para. 502.

p/ A/36/658, annex II, sect. 19.

q/ A/C.5/36/40/Add.1, para. 3.

Recalling that, in view of the Centre's limited resources, the Commission on Human Settlements, in its discussions and decisions on the 1980-1983 and 1984-1989 medium-term plans, while underlining the importance of maintaining the two subprogrammes, has already reduced the activities therein to the minimum acceptable level, giving relative priority to activities in the field of shelter, infrastructure and services, r/

Convinced that merging or further diminishing the scope of subprogrammes 1 and 2 would constitute a serious disruption of the work of the Centre and an unacceptable retreat from the conceptual approach to human settlements development that prevailed even before Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held in Vancouver in 1976,

1. Re-emphasizes the importance of both subprogrammes 1 and 2 and the consequent need to maintain them as two distinct subprogrammes at no less than the present level of activity, which represents the minimum acceptable level;

2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to transmit the present resolution, together with the views expressed by the Commission on Human Settlements, to the members of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, requesting that they take them into account when considering the report of the Secretary-General; s/

3. Recommends that the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly take into account the views and concerns of the Commission on Human Settlements, as reflected above, when considering the relevant sectors of the report of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination on the work of its twenty-second session.

10th plenary meeting

7 May 1982

5/18. Follow-up action on the Manila communiqué on a Human Settlements Movement: establishment of human settlements demonstration projects

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974 containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order,

Also recalling General Assembly resolution 35/56 of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, with particular reference to paragraphs 159 and 160 thereof concerning human settlements,

r/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/35/8; and *ibid.*), Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/36/8).

s/ A/36/658.

Further recalling its resolution 4/1 of 6 May 1981 entitled "Manila Communiqué on a Human Settlements Movement",

Reaffirming that a comprehensive human settlements approach is essential for integrated economic and social development,

Noting with satisfaction that one such demonstration project has been launched, and that there are indications of contributions for others,

Convinced that the human settlements demonstration projects can constitute useful inputs and preparatory activities for the successful observance of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless planned for 1987,

1. Recommends to the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) that demonstration projects should be promoted, where appropriate, integrating basic human services within the framework of its working programme and funds available,

2. Calls upon Governments and international development and financial institutions within and outside the United Nations system to respond positively to this initiative by providing counterpart resources, particularly sites, funds and trained manpower and expertise,

3. Authorizes the Executive Director to undertake the necessary steps in connexion with these demonstration projects and to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

11th plenary meeting
7 May 1982

5/19. Assistance to victims of apartheid and colonialism

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/80 of 9 December 1981 on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity,

Further recalling the provisions of Commission on Human Settlements resolution 4/12 of 6 May 1981,

Taking note of the efforts made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to implement the above resolution, as described in his report to the Commission at its fifth session, t/

1. Strongly condemns the Pretoria racist régime for its inhuman repression in South Africa and its illegal occupation of Namibia, as well as for its acts of aggression against the front-line and other neighbouring States;

t/ HS/C/5/2/Add.2.

2. Commends the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the efforts made so far in implementing Commission resolution 4/12 of 6 May 1981;

3. Further commends members of the Organization of African Unity, particularly the front-line States and all other supporting members of the international community for their unwavering efforts in support of the struggle against apartheid and colonialism;

4. Urges the Executive Director to continue and intensify his efforts for the provision of assistance to victims of apartheid and colonialism, pursuant to Commission resolution 4/12;

5. Requests the Executive Director to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General the request of the Commission that all necessary steps be taken to enable national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity to be represented by more than one representative with a view to enabling them to participate effectively in future sessions of the Commission;

6. Further requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

11th plenary meeting
7 May 1982

B. Decisions

5/20. Planning for human settlements in disaster-prone areas

At its 9th plenary meeting on 6 May 1982, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee I:

(a) Commended the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for his well-prepared and comprehensive analysis of a very complex topic; u/

(b) Took note of the statement of the Executive Director to the effect that the Centre would only provide technical assistance in connexion with the design of replicable demonstration programmes for disaster-prone countries on the basis of the work programme of the Centre and within the limits of available resources;

(c) Noted that poorer populations suffered disproportionately from the effects of natural disasters and that long-range planning efforts intended to promote safer human settlements were not sufficient to reduce current vulnerability;

(d) Recommended that, in developing policies, programmes and plans to minimize disaster vulnerability, governmental, non-governmental and intergovernmental agencies should place special emphasis on techniques that could

reduce loss of human life and property among the poorer segments of their populations;

(e) Further recommended that governmental, non-governmental and intergovernmental agencies should accord high priority to immediate action programmes, especially in the field of low-income shelter, in order to reduce disaster-related loss of life and damage to property; such programmes should include research to identify low-cost, country-specific methodologies for improving the performance of indigenous structures likely to be subjected to disasters and the promotion of appropriate technology, as well as the preparation of educational materials and training programmes to upgrade the skills and knowledge of the informal construction sector, including local builders and residents; in reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, particular efforts should be made in connexion with indigenous construction in slums and squatter and rural settlements;

(f) Requested the Executive Director of the Centre to pay special attention to disaster-mitigation measures in relevant ongoing activities of the Centre, with particular reference to the aspects mentioned in the above paragraphs.

5/21. Transportation for urban and rural areas, with emphasis on groups with limited resources

At its 9th plenary meeting, on 6 May 1982, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee I:

(a) Commended the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for his comprehensive report on transportation; v/

(b) Took note of the recommendations contained in the report of the Executive Director; w/

(c) Requested the Executive Director to continue work on transportation in human settlements, concentrating on:

- (i) Promoting the greater consideration of transportation issues in the formulation of human settlements policies, strategies and plans, with special attention being paid to the reduction of transportation needs through the appropriate design of human settlements;
- (ii) Promoting appropriate transport technologies and intermediate transportation systems such as paratransit services and non-motorized vehicles;
- (iii) Communicating the experience acquired to developing countries through training and the dissemination of information;

(d) Requested the Executive Director to co-operate fully with other United Nations bodies working in the field of transportation and to avoid any duplication of activities.

v/ HS/C/5/4.

w/ Ibid., chap. VI.

5/22. Financial and budgetary matters of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 1982-1983

At its 10th plenary meeting on 7 May 1982, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee II:

(a) Took note of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on the use of extrabudgetary resources during the biennium 1980-1981 and projections for such use during the biennium 1982-1983 and beyond; x/

(b) Requested the Executive Director to prepare, for the next session of the Commission and every session thereafter, a report on the availability and use of all extrabudgetary resources, including those of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, broken down by source and activity;

(c) Endorsed the appeal of the Executive Director for additional contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and requested every Member State in a position to do so to consider not only contributing but increasing its contribution to the Foundation to ensure the Foundation's continued viability as a major source of funding for the activities of the Centre.

5/23. Operational activities for development

At its 10th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1982, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee II:

(a) Recalled General Assembly resolution 35/81 of 5 December 1980 on a comprehensive review of operational activities for development, particularly paragraphs 8 and 9 thereof, and General Assembly resolution 36/199 of 17 December 1981 on operational activities for development, particularly paragraph 8 thereof;

(b) Took note of the fact that the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), being considered a part of the United Nations for the purpose of reimbursement of agency overheads, was not eligible for the support-cost flexibility arrangement provided by the United Nations Development Programme to smaller agencies y/ under which the Centre, based on its current volume of delivery, would have been entitled to the reimbursement of actual support costs or a minimum of 16 per cent of agency overheads, instead of the 13 per cent currently received by the Centre,

x/ HS/C/5/7.

y/ See the report of the Budgetary and Finance Committee of the Governing Council of UNDP at the twenty-eighth session of the Governing Council (DP/L.343/Add.10, annex).

(c) Expressed its satisfaction that the Executive Director had already taken appropriate measures to keep administrative and overhead costs to the minimum consistent with efficiency;

(d) Took note of the fact that the Commission had already requested the inclusion in the Centre's technical co-operation projects of a built-in evaluation element and other steps in that connexion, for which no separate additional resources had been provided;

(e) Requested the Executive Director to continue his efforts to keep administrative and overhead costs to the minimum consistent with the efficient discharge of the Centre's responsibilities in the area of operational activities for development and to keep the Commission informed periodically of the results of those efforts.

5/24. Report on financial and other assistance provided to and among developing countries on human settlements and on the human settlements activities of the United Nations system, and progress report on the implementation of the recommendations for national action adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements

At its 10th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1982, the Commission, on the recommendation of Committee II, decided:

(a) To commend the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the extensive information presented in his report on financial and other assistance provided to and among developing countries on human settlements and on the human settlements activities of the United Nations system z/ and to take note of the list of ongoing human settlements activities; aa/

(b) To endorse the Executive Director's proposals in respect of:

- (i) The data collection methods to be used for the 1984 report on financial and other assistance provided to and among developing countries on human settlements and on the human settlements activities of the United Nations system;
- (ii) The recognition of the close links existing between human settlements needs, policies, programmes and expenditures at the national level and the role of financial and technical assistance to and among developing countries in the field of human settlements; bb/

(c) To request the Executive Director to harmonize the methodological approach, data collection methods and presentation of these reports, to be

z/ HS/C/5/6.

aa/ HS/C/5/INF.10.

bb/ HS/C/5/6, paras. 91-95

submitted for consideration by the Commission on Human Settlements every two years starting from 1984, taking into account the importance of qualitative rather than quantitative comparisons.

5/25. Inclusion of Arabic among the official and working languages of the Commission

At its 10th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1982, the Commission on Human Settlements recalled its resolution 3/4 of 15 May 1980 on Arabic as an official and working language of the Commission and also General Assembly resolutions 35/219 A and 35/217, section XXI, of 17 December 1980, on Arabic language services, and Economic and Social Council decision 1982/147 of 15 April 1982 on the inclusion of Arabic, and decided to include Arabic among the official and working languages of the Commission by inserting the word "Arabic" before the word "Chinese" in rule 24 (1) of the Commission's rules of procedure. The Commission also decided for that purpose to suspend the operation of rule 63 of its rules of procedure, requiring the setting-up of a working group to report on a proposed amendment to the rules of procedure, and to waive the requirement of notice provided for under rule 62 of its rules of procedure, noting that the Commission had itself initiated the steps leading to the inclusion of Arabic among its official and working languages.

5/26. Control and limitation of documentation

At its 10th plenary meeting on 7 May 1982, the Commission on Human Settlements, having considered the proposals of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on the control and limitation of documentation, cc/ and recalling General Assembly resolution 36/117 of 10 December 1981 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/83 of 24 July 1981 on the control and limitation of documentation, decided to approve the recommendations of the Executive Director cc/ on the preparation of the reports of the Commission on Human Settlements to the effect that the official report of the Commission, to be forwarded to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council, should be action-oriented, containing only information on organizational matters and the resolutions and decisions of the Commission, and that another report containing a full account of the proceedings should be prepared for circulation to participants and other interested parties.

cc/ See HS/C/5/CRP.6

ANNEX II

List of special presentations

A. Audio-visual presentations

1. Presentations relating to agenda item 5

Chile

"Grado 9 Escala Mercalli"

Duration: 14 minutes (NTSC)

France

"Les risques géologiques"

Duration: 12 minutes (PAL)

Hungary

"Defence against natural disasters"

Duration: 20 minutes (PAL)

India

"The full circle"

Duration: 20 minutes (PAL)

Jamaica

"New market, new beginnings"

Duration: 17 minutes (NTSC)

Japan

"The prediction and prevention of disaster - the Tokai earthquake"

Duration: 30 minutes (NTSC)

Malaysia

"Green, amber, red"

Duration: 15 minutes (NTSC)

Mexico

"Inundación en Tijuana"

Duration: 12 minutes (NTSC)

New Zealand

"Living in a restless land"

Duration: 13 minutes (PAL)

Philippines

"To sway with the wind"
Duration: 15 minutes (NTSC)

United States of America

"Building for safety in hazardous areas"
Duration: 11 minutes (NTSC)

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

"Disasters and settlements" (not finally edited)
80-minute slide lecture (PAL)

2. Presentations relating to agenda item 6

Kenya

"Transport for urban and rural poor"
Duration: 21 minutes (PAL)

Papua New Guinea

"Linking the nation"
Duration: 31 minutes (PAL)

Philippines

"Transport in Metro Manila"
Duration: 14 minutes (NTSC)

Upper Volta

"Moyen de transport pour les zones d'habitat urbaines à faible revenue"
Duration: 20 minutes (PAL)

3. Presentation on other themes

Burundi

"The Musaga Project"
Duration: 15 minutes (PAL)

B. Photographic exhibits

Algeria

"Sur la reconstruction d'Ech-Chelef (ex El-Asnam) - le seisme du 10.10.80"

Canada

"An alternative technology - electrified light rail transit"

France

"Les risques géologiques"

Japan

"Natural disasters in Japan"

Kenya

"Models of transportation for groups with limited resources in Kenya"
"Some of the natural and man-made disasters in Kenya"

Sri Lanka

"On disasters"
"On transport"

United Arab Emirates

"Urban and rural transportation"

ANNEX III

List of documents before the Commission at its fifth session

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
HS/C/5/1	Provisional agenda	3
HS/C/5/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda	3
HS/C/5/2	Activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/5/2/Add.1	Role and contribution of the construction industry in human settlements programmes and national economic and social development: report of the Executive Director on the <u>Ad Hoc</u> Expert Group Meeting on the Development of the Indigenous Construction Sector	4
HS/C/5/2/Add.2	Assistance to victims of <u>apartheid</u> and colonialism: report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/5/2/Add.3	Assistance to Dominica: report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/5/2/Add.4	Assistance to the Palestinian people: report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/5/2/Add.5	Co-operation at the regional level: report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/5/3	Planning for human settlements in disaster-prone areas	5
HS/C/5/4	Transportation for urban and rural areas, with emphasis on groups with limited resources	6
HS/C/5/5	International Year of Shelter for the Homeless: report of the Executive Director	7
HS/C/5/6	Financial and other assistance provided to and among developing countries on human settlements and on the human settlements activities of the United Nations system: report of the Executive Director	8
HS/C/5/7	Financial matters - use of extrabudgetary resources of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): report of the Executive Director	9

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
HS/C/5/7/Add.1	Staff and budgetary resources for the preparation and servicing of the joint meetings of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the bureau of the Commission on Human Settlements with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Bureau of its Governing Council: report of the Executive Director of UNEP	9
HS/C/5/7/Add.2	Financial matters: use of extrabudgetary resources of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): report of the Executive Director	9
HS/C/5/8	Feasibility study on the proposal to establish an Asian human settlements bank: report of the Executive Director	9
HS/C/5/CRP.1	Main resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council (second regular session of 1981) and the General Assembly (thirty-sixth session) of relevance to the work of the Commission	9
HS/C/CRP.2	Section 19 of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983 (<u>Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/36/6), vol. II</u>)	9
HS/C/5/CRP.3	Extract from the first report of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983 of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (<u>Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-Sixth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/36/7)</u>)	9
HS/C/5/CRP.4	Revised estimates under section 19 (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983: report of the Secretary-General on resources for the work programme at the regional level (A/C.5/36/15)	9
HS/C/5/CRP.5	Revised estimates under section 19 (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1982-1983: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning the report of the Secretary-General on resources for the work programme at the regional level (<u>Official Records of the General Assembly, Supplement No. 7A (A/36/7/Add.1-21), document A/36/7/Add.4</u>)	9
HS/C/5/CRP.6	Control and limitation of documentation	

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
HS/C/5/INF.1	State of preparedness of documents for the fifth session of the Commission on Human Settlements as at 2 March 1982	
HS/C/5/INF.2	List of documents before the Commission	
HS/C/5/INF.3	Report of the fourth joint meeting of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the bureau of the Commission on Human Settlements with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the bureau of its Governing Council	4
HS/C/5/INF.4	Report of the <u>Ad Hoc</u> Expert Group Meeting on Appropriate Infrastructure Services, Standards and Technologies for Upgrading Slums and Squatter Areas and Rural Settlements	4
HS/C/5/INF.5	Co-operation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system and of non-governmental organizations	8
HS/C/5/INF.6	Follow-up to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) contribution to the United Nations Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy	4
HS/C/5/INF.8	Status of voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation as of 1 April 1982	9
HS/C/5/INF.9	Report of the <u>Ad Hoc</u> Expert Group Meeting on the Development of the Indigenous Construction Sector	4
HS/C/5/INF.10	Financial and other assistance provided to and among developing countries on human settlements: list of ongoing human settlements activities	8
HS/C/5/INF.11	Publications distributed as of 3 May 1982	
HS/C/5/INF.12	Selection of themes for future sessions of the Commission	
HS/C/5/INF.13	Arrangements for the sixth session of the Commission on Human Settlements: provisional list of participants	11

Message from the Secretary-General to the fifth session of the Commission

1. It is with much pleasure that I convey my greetings to the participants in the fifth session of the Commission on Human Settlements being held in the lovely city of Nairobi. Thanks to the generosity of the Government and the people of the Republic of Kenya, Nairobi is host city not only to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) but also to another major programme of our Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme.

2. In the past few years, the Commission on Human Settlements and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) have made solid accomplishments in helping the Governments of developing countries tackle the enormous problems of human settlements. The Commission has formulated positive and dynamic recommendations not only to the General Assembly but also to national Governments in order to assist their individual efforts to improve the quality of life of their peoples in accordance with the objectives and guidelines of the Vancouver Declaration and recommendations for national action.

3. At the session, the Commission is called upon to make recommendations on a specific programme of measures and activities to be undertaken prior to, and during, the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, which the General Assembly has decided in principle to observe in 1987. In view of the crucial importance of this subject to the poor, the homeless and all who care for them, it is certain to engage the attention of the Commission and the world community during the coming years.

4. I welcome the selection of the two key themes for specific review at this session of the Commission namely "Planning for human settlements in disaster-prone areas", and "Transportation for urban and rural areas". The first theme is particularly timely in view of the tragic loss of life and the severe damage to property that is frequently caused by natural disasters. While earthquakes, floods, hurricanes and droughts have been regular features of the environment, the extent of damage and loss of lives they cause can be reduced by appropriate decisions made in the process of human settlements development. I am sure, therefore, that Governments will be most interested in any recommendations which you may make on how best their countries can minimize their disaster vulnerability and enhance the benefits of desirable patterns of settlements.

5. Transportation, the second key theme, not only enhances growth in other sectors of the economy but also largely determines the social and economic integration of the population as a whole. Unfortunately, the inadequacy of the transportation system in many developing countries continues to impede their development plans, denying to the urban and rural poor easy access to their place of work or to marketing centres for their produce. The Governments, on their part, are hampered by this same factor in their efforts to provide their communities with essential services such as emergency relief, schools and other amenities. Your choice of this subject for in-depth review at this session is, therefore, most appropriate.

6. In conclusion, may I say that the past performance of your Commission contains the promise of your successfully meeting the challenges that lie ahead. I wish you a rewarding session.

ANNEX V

Message from the Director-General for Development and International
Economic Co-operation to the fifth session of the Commission

1. It gives me great pleasure to convey my best wishes and greetings to the participants of the fifth session of the Commission on Human Settlements.
2. I have been following the work of your Commission with interest since its inception, and am happy to note that the Commission, within the short period of its existence, has fully assumed its primary role as the main co-ordinating and policy instrument of the United Nations system in the field of human settlements, as mandated in General Assembly resolution 32/162. This Commission has recognized and acted on the need to consider human settlements development within the context of over-all economic and social development.
3. The Commission will be interested to know that a report by the Secretary-General containing an analysis of the over-all socio-economic perspective of the world economy to the year 2000 will be considered by the Economic and Social Council in July this year and by the General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session. Amongst the critical areas covered by this report requiring international as well as national policy action is human settlements, and within human settlements, the provision of basic shelter, water and sanitation; development of the indigenous building industries; energy use, transportation and spatial planning; and institutional development, have been identified as priority areas for action. I am pleased to note that these issues are included on your agenda. I wish to thank Mr. Ramachandran and his colleagues for the useful contribution made by the Centre to this analytical report.
4. In the light of the concerns of the International Development Strategy, I should like to suggest that the agenda item on transportation for urban and rural areas, with emphasis on groups with limited resources, should be considered in relation to the broader context of the transportation system required for the efficient functioning of a country's whole network of human settlements. Human settlements must be linked by a technically sound, economically efficient system for freight and passenger transportation, based on the best available knowledge and forecasts regarding transportation technology and energy costs. This is particularly important in countries in which the transportation system mainly serves a few large cities and towns while many small towns and villages are still relatively isolated. A crucial issue here is the extent to which it is efficient, or even possible, to provide roads or other transportation facilities to link all of the existing settlements, and to what extent a country should, or must, be more selective in its transportation investments. Current rural transportation policy, oriented mainly towards the provision of rural trunk roads and feeder roads, often built to a high standard of design, may be inappropriate and perhaps should be reformulated.
5. With regard to the issue of shelter, I must congratulate the Commission on its initiative last year in proposing the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and look forward to receiving the results of your deliberations on the Executive Director's proposals. In this connexion, the current conditions and the projections made in the study on perspectives to the year 2000 are quite depressing. During the 1970s, less than half of the new households formed in the developing countries

were able to find durable shelter in so-called "conventional dwellings". A conventional dwelling is not necessarily a dwelling of good quality; it may even lack water and sanitation. And only about 25 per cent of the new households obtained shelter with a safe water supply and sanitation. The majority, therefore, have had to provide their own shelter, typically in squatter settlements and rural areas lacking safe water and sanitation. According to these projections, should the world economy continue to grow slowly during 1980-2000, over half of the new households will live in similarly inadequate shelter in the medium-income developing countries, and the situation will be far worse in the low-income countries. On the other hand, if the goals of the International Development Strategy for income growth and investment are achieved, the situation in the year 2000 will be better in the medium-income countries - about 60 per cent of the new households would have access to conventional dwellings by 1990, and about three fourths by the year 2000. But in the low-income countries, the situation would still not improve dramatically for most of the new households.

6. These projections point to continued rapid growth of squatter settlements and slums in most of the developing countries. The issues before this Commission, therefore, as it formulates the proposals for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, are of great significance to the hundreds of millions of people throughout the developing world. In this connexion, the initiative to establish demonstration projects on integrated human settlements is of great importance.

7. Likewise, the issue of planning for human settlements in disaster-prone areas is of importance to a large share of the world's people. Considering the scarcity of resources available to build and rebuild human settlements, the potential value of planning them so as to prevent or reduce the impact of disasters is enormous.

8. I wish you every success in your deliberations.

Summaries of statementsA. Introductory remarks of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

1. In his introductory remarks at the inaugural meeting of the session, the Executive Director reviewed current trends and prospects in the field of human settlements in order to indicate where co-operative national and international action could have the greatest impact. He noted that the impact of urbanization was more acute and dramatic in developing countries than in developed ones. In the coming 20 years, developing countries would have not only to meet the human settlements needs of the existing urban population but also to provide housing, infrastructure and services for 1,000 million more urban dwellers, many of whom would be poor and unemployed migrants from rural areas. Moreover, in the year 2000, the majority of the people in developing countries would be living in rural areas, confronted by isolation, undernourishment, poor housing conditions, shortage of water and lack of transport, electricity, health and educational services. The Executive Director emphasized that although those problems had been recognized by Member States at Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver in 1976, the subsequent response of Governments had not been commensurate with the needs that existed.

2. The Executive Director called the attention of the representatives to General Assembly resolution 33/193 and stressed its relevance to human settlements programmes, which could help to achieve both the economic and social goals of national development. Referring to the failure to improve living conditions for millions of low-income people during the first and second United Nations development decades, the Executive Director noted that that failure had occurred largely because targets for social development had not been specified and physical development programmes had not been made an integral part of economic and social development. He suggested that Governments should recognize the need for the integration of social, economic and physical development programmes in order to bring about balanced progress for all socio-economic groups in their living, working and recreational environment. Emphasis should be given to programmes which provided moderate benefits for many low-income people rather than to those which provided large benefits for the affluent few.

3. Human settlements could and should be used as a means of achieving the fundamental goals of the new International Development Strategy, namely the expansion and equitable distribution of employment and incomes, and the importance of the building industry and indigenous building materials should be emphasized in that connexion.

4. The Executive Director pointed out that institutions and personnel in the developing countries often lacked the procedures and skills necessary to discharge even existing responsibilities, not to mention taking on broader ones. The international community could promote training programmes in the fields of physical planning, settlements finance and management, making use of both technical co-operation among developing countries and financial and technical assistance from the developed countries. Action by the international community could be crucial in

terms of establishing public and private institutions that would distribute the benefits of development more fairly and also increase total savings, investment and income.

5. With respect to popular participation, the Vancouver Conference had recognized that such participation was a right that must be accorded to all sections of the population, including the most disadvantaged groups, and that Governments should promote the development of institutions and procedures for popular participation at the local level.

6. With regard to the energy requirements of human settlements, most countries recognized the critical need for energy planning, which should lead to the conservation of conventional energy supplies and the substitution of renewable energy sources for the increasingly scarce non-renewable ones. Adoption of appropriate energy technologies in low-income rural settlements could slow down deforestation, soil erosion and desertification.

7. The Executive Director suggested that each country could design a pattern for its economic activities and population which would minimize wasteful patterns of movement through co-ordinated planning of locations and development densities for living, working and recreational areas. He also noted that energy-efficient systems for producing indigenous building materials and components and more economical processes for constructing and operating buildings could be developed.

8. With regard to the environment of settlements, little had been done in either the developed or the developing countries, to plan the built environment so as to minimize the generation of pollution. To prevent environmental degradation, physical, social and economic planning should be integrated in order to achieve harmony between the built environment and the natural environment. National development agencies should therefore make the necessary analyses and adopt strategies to achieve the optimal distribution of economic activities, population and services.

9. Referring to the achievement of the goal of adequate shelter in a decent living and working environment for all people everywhere, the Executive Director said that it would require a concerted effort by every member of the global community. Achievement of that goal demanded that developing countries make the development of human settlements an integral part of economic and social development, establish institutional structures for human settlements planning and development, mobilize human and material resources for the execution of human settlements programmes, allocate an adequate share of national investment to human settlements development and participate in human settlements programmes within the context of technical and economic co-operation among developing countries.

10. Achievement of that goal also implied that the developed countries must provide financial assistance for settlements projects on a substantially larger scale than they had hitherto done and on terms suitable to the financial situation of the assisted countries, provide technical assistance to developing countries, particularly for institution building and training, and encourage increased trade in such items as building materials produced by developing countries.

11. In conclusion, the Executive Director underlined the role and responsibility of the United Nations and in particular of the Commission on Human Settlements with

regard to providing leadership to the international community in unifying and harmonizing all decisions relating to the settlement aspects of human life and in laying down the principles on which settlements actions should be taken.

B. Statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme

1. In accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 32/162, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) made a statement to the Commission. He noted that the natural and man-made environments were intimately connected and that the concerns and responsibilities of UNEP and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) intermeshed. Accordingly, since the establishment of the Centre the two organizations had taken the utmost care to evolve a strategy whereby the work of one complemented the work of the other.
2. The year 1982 was a special one for UNEP and the world environment movement, and a session of a special character of the Governing Council of UNEP would be held to review trends that had developed during the ten years that had elapsed since the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held at Stockholm in 1972. One of the points to be made at the session of a special character would be that, while conditions in villages and cities might not have improved much, they would have been a great deal worse if there had been no institutional response.
3. UNEP had identified certain critical areas of danger and opportunity with regard to the environmental aspects of human settlements, account being taken of the extremely high growth rates of urban population and the deteriorating conditions in rural settlements. Those critical areas related to water supply and sanitation, the issue of the unnecessary loss of prime farming land as a result of the horizontal growth of cities, energy and urban pollution.
4. In conclusion he referred to a project being carried out jointly by the Centre and UNEP in the valley of Mexico City in order to develop mechanisms for air-pollution monitoring. UNEP and the Centre could do a great deal to promote environmentally sound human settlements development through such activities as self-help programmes and community development, the aim being to offer hope to the millions of people for whom life in 1982 was a daily ordeal of deprivation and despair.

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