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Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Arab Regional Conference in Preparation for the Ten Year Review and Appraisal
of the Outcome of Habitat II
Beirut, 11-13 April 2006

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the Conference:
 - Welcoming addresses;
 - Opening of the regional exhibition "Ten years after Istanbul: Call for equality". Innovative approaches by Arab countries towards implementing the Habitat agenda for the period 1996-2006.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda.
4. Proposed organization of work.
5. The Habitat Agenda; policies, procedures and achievements – regional perspective:
 - (a) The regional Arab report on the 10 year review and appraisal of implementation of Habitat II in the countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) region;
 - (b) Review of the achievements of the countries of the Arab region in implementing the Habitat agenda in the period 1996-2006;
 - (c) Critical revision: "Ten years after Istanbul: Call for equality" – regional perspective.
6. Prospects for monitoring implementation of the Habitat Agenda, towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the Arab region:
 - (a) Improving standards of living for the inhabitants of unplanned settlements in the Arab region: mechanisms and working methodologies – a review of several proposed national projects;
 - (b) General debate.
7. Issues related to secure housing and land tenure and good urban governance in the Arab region:

- (a) The Cairo Declaration and launching of the Regional Campaign on Secure Housing and Land Tenure and Good Urban Governance in the Arab region;
 - (b) Review of the regional framework for action in respect of the Campaign and the national plan of action: roles of partners.
8. Urban observatories: towards strengthening partnership in development:
- (a) Urban observatories and the strengthening of the role of local authorities in development in the ESCWA region;
 - (b) Review of the report on the status of national and local urban observatories: regional perspective;
 - (c) Review of experiences of national and local urban observatories in the countries of the ESCWA region.
9. Habitat Agenda 1996-2006: regional and international activity.
10. Discussion of recommendations and final statement.