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UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Gerhard PFANZELTER (Austria)

1. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 24 September 1976, the General Assembly decided to include in its agenda the item entitled:

"United Nations Environment Programme:

"(a) Report of the Governing Council;

"(b) Report of the Secretary-General;

"(c) Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements: report of the Secretary-General;

"(d) Election of the Executive Director"

and to allocate subitems (a), (b) and (c) to the Second Committee. The Assembly decided that subitem (d) would be considered directly in plenary meeting.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 19th to 27th, 32nd, 34th, 45th, 46th and 57th to 61st meetings, between 22 October and 7 December 1976. An account of the discussion of the Committee is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/31/SR.19 to 27, 32, 34, 45, 46 and 57 to 61).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourth session; 1/

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25).

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on material remnants of war and their effect on the environment (A/31/210);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of the environment (A/31/211);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the results of the Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (A/31/156 and Add.1-2 and Add.2/Corr.1 and Add.3);

(e) Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements; 2/

(f) Report of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning on its ninth session (Economic and Social Council decision 179 (LXI)) (E/5758);

(g) Summary records of the Economic Committee of the Economic and Social Council (E/AC.6/SR.776-780);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General on criteria governing multilateral financing of housing and human settlements (A/10225);

(i) Comments on the report of the Secretary-General on criteria governing multilateral financing of housing and human settlements (A/10225) submitted by the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme in response to the General Assembly decision taken at the 2432nd meeting on 9 December 1975 (E/5852 and Add.1);

(j) Note by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme on criteria governing multilateral financing of housing and human settlements: report of the Secretary-General (A/10225) (UNEP/GC/78);

(k) Report of the Economic and Social Council, chapter IV, sections B and D; 3/

(l) Report of the Latin American Regional Meeting on Human Settlements: note by the Secretary-General (A/C.2/31/5);

(m) Follow-up action on Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: note by the Secretary-General (A/C.2/31/8);

(n) Note by the Secretary-General circulating an extract from the report of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning of the Economic Commission for Europe on its thirty-seventh session (A/C.2/31/9);

(o) Letter dated 27 October 1976 addressed to the Chairman of the Second Committee by the Chairman of the Fifth Committee (A/C.2/31/12).

2/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/31/3).

4. At the 19th meeting, on 22 October, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme made an introductory statement and at the 21st meeting, on 25 October, the Committee heard a statement by the Secretary-General of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements. At the same meeting, His Excellency Mr. Barnett J. Danson, Minister of State for Urban Affairs of Canada and President of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, made a statement.

5. The Committee considered a number of draft resolutions and draft decisions as set forth in sections I to XII below:

I

6. At the 32nd meeting, on 4 November, the representative of the Upper Volta, on behalf of Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, the Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, India, Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, the Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, the Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Sudan, Tunisia, the United Republic of Cameroon, Uganda, the Upper Volta, Yugoslavia and Zaire, introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.14) entitled "United Nations Conference on Desertification". Subsequently, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Morocco, Senegal, Togo and Venezuela joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised.

7. At the 34th meeting, on 5 November, following a statement by a representative of the Secretariat on the financial implications of the draft resolution, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.14, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 55 below, draft resolution I).

8. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Israel, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Egypt, the Upper Volta and Argentina.

II

9. At the 25th meeting, on 29 October, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ghana, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines and Sweden, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.9) entitled "Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements". Subsequently, Argentina, Cyprus, Egypt, Grenada, Panama, Turkey, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 3301 (XXVII), 3128 (XXVIII), 3325 (XXIX) and 3438 (XXX) on the preparations for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

"Considering that solutions to human settlements problems around the world are urgently required,

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"Bearing in mind the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order 4/ and the importance for the International Development Strategy of improving human settlements around the world as a major component in improving the quality of life,

"Noting that Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements was convened in Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976:

"(a) To stimulate innovation, serve as a means for the exchange of experience, and ensure the widest possible dissemination of new ideas and technologies in the field of human settlements,

"(b) To formulate and make recommendations for an international programme in this field which will assist Governments, and

"(c) To stimulate interest in developing appropriate financial systems and institutions for human settlements among those making financial resources available and those in a position to use such resources, considering that the most appropriate and effective action for dealing with human settlements problems is action at the national level, but that such action will require assistance and co-operation between and among all States,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Conference, 5/ including the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, the recommendations for national action and the resolutions for international co-operation;

"2. Commends the Secretary-General of the Conference on the successful preparation and organization of the Conference;

"3. Urges the Governments of all States Members of the United Nations to consider, on a priority basis, the recommendations for national action contained in the report and to take these recommendations into account when reviewing their existing policies and strategies in the field of human settlements;

"4. Calls upon the regional commissions and urges all other international organizations within and outside the United Nations system to take intensified and sustained action in support of national efforts, including assistance at the request of Governments in the formulation, design, implementation and evaluation of projects to improve human settlements;

"5. Requests the Secretary-General to convene, within the framework of the regional commissions, regional meetings to establish guidelines for the

4/ General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI); see also General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) on development and international economic co-operation.

5/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7.

co-ordination, within each region, of action to be taken in order to deal with human settlements and to report to the General Assembly on the results of their deliberations no later than the thirty-second session;

"6. Takes note of the notes by the Secretary-General containing the reports on the regional meetings already held within the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Europe (A/C.2/31/5 and 9)."

10. At the same meeting, the representative of Poland orally proposed an amendment to the draft resolution which would insert a paragraph in which the General Assembly would express its gratitude to the Government and people of Canada for their contributions to the success of the Vancouver Conference and for their generosity and hospitality.

11. At the 45th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Grenada, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, introduced a revised draft resolution in A/C.2/31/L.9/Rev.1 to which Finland, Greece and Sri Lanka joined as sponsors.

12. In connexion with the revised draft resolution, the Committee had before it a statement on the financial implications of the draft resolution contained in A/C.2/31/L.9 submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.2/31/L.12) in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure, which was also pertinent to the revised draft resolution in A/C.2/31/L.9/Rev.1.

13. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.9/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 55 below, draft resolution II).

14. Following the adoption of the revised draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of China and Israel.

III

15. At the 27th meeting, on 1 November, the representative of Saudi Arabia introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.7) entitled "Special levy to save the biosphere", which was issued in A/C.2/31/L.7/Rev.1 and which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Considering that the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations were elaborated for the benefit of mankind as a whole,

"Taking into account the fact that the biosphere has no national frontiers and that its abuse may cause serious detriment to human, animal and vegetable life on mother earth,

"Recalling that the United Nations Environment Programme was established in order, inter alia, to tackle the crucial problems created by the explosion of the world's population, which may double in three or four decades and thereby bring about, through hazardous human activities to meet the needs of mankind, dangerous situations that might become irreversible unless attended to at an early stage,

"Whereas the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations organs and specialized agencies co-operating with it would not be able to cope with the global deterioration of the biosphere unless adequate financial resources were continuously made available for undertaking remedial tasks,

"Noting that, for many years to come, oil will remain the chief source of energy for the achievement of world economic progress and that as such, it affects the lives of people on a global scale,

"Noting further that economic progress cannot be divested of a multitude of physical factors that are harmful to man, unless such factors are eliminated or their impact diminished to a tolerable degree,

"1. Appeals to all oil-producing countries to consider introducing a levy of a value-added tax of one cent per barrel, which though insignificant, would amount to between 200 and 300 million dollars per annum, which shall be deposited in a special account of the United Nations Environment Programme to help save the biosphere for mankind;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with the oil-producing countries concerning the modalities for the establishment and management of such a special account, and to kindly report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session."

16. At the 45th meeting, on 17 November, on the proposal made by the representative of Saudi Arabia, the Committee decided not to proceed to a vote on draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.7/Rev.1, on the understanding that the Secretariat would take the draft resolution into account in any future relevant study.

17. Following the decision, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Mexico, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Sri Lanka.

IV

18. At the 45th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Pakistan, in his capacity as current Chairman of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.13) entitled "Living conditions of the Palestinian people".

19. At the same meeting, the Assistant-Secretary-General of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs and Officer-in-Charge of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs also made a statement on the draft resolution.

20. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the Ivory Coast, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Israel, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Egypt and China.

21. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.13 by a roll-call vote of 102 to 2, with 25 abstentions (see para. 55 below, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Kampuchea, Democratic Yemen, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Surinam, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Cameroon, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.

22. At the 46th meeting, on 18 November, statements on draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.13, adopted at the 45th meeting, were made by the representatives of Japan, India, Spain, the United States of America, the Netherlands (on behalf of the nine members of the European Economic Community), Jordan, Cyprus, Nepal, Mexico, Israel and Papua New Guinea. The observer for the Palestine Liberation Organization also made a statement.

V

23. At the 58th meeting, on 1 December, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of Bangladesh, Cyprus, Egypt, Jamaica, Kenya, the Libyan Arab Republic, New Zealand and Sweden, introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.23)

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entitled "Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourth session".

24. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 55 below, draft resolution IV).

25. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, statements were made by the representatives of China, Italy, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States of America and Brazil.

VI

26. At the 58th meeting, on 1 December, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Argentina, Canada, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Iran, Jamaica, Kenya, the Philippines, Sweden, the United States of America and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.30), entitled "Institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation".

27. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 55 below, draft resolution V).

VII

28. At the 58th meeting, on 1 December, the representative of the Dominican Republic, on behalf of Austria, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Jamaica, Japan, Kuwait, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Portugal, Spain, the Sudan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.33), entitled "Specific measures to meet the need for a decent living environment for the most vulnerable groups of society".

29. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.33 without a vote (see para. 55 below, draft resolution VI).

VIII

30. At the 59th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of Togo, on behalf of Austria, Ecuador, Mali, the Niger, Portugal, Senegal, Togo, Tunisia and the United Republic of Cameroon, introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.25/Rev.2) entitled "Collaboration between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations with regard to world-wide intercommunal co-operation".

31. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.25/Rev.2 without a vote (see para. 55 below, draft resolution VII).

32. Following the adoption of the revised draft resolution, the representative of the United Kingdom made a statement.

IX

33. At the 59th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of Canada, introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.64) entitled "United Nations audio-visual information centre on human settlements".

34. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.64, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 55 below, draft resolution VIII).

35. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics made a statement.

X

36. At the 59th meeting, on 3 December, the Committee considered a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.70) entitled "Institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements", proposed by Mr. Mohan Prasad Lohani, Vice-Chairman of the Committee, on the basis of informal consultations. Introductory statements on the draft resolution were made by the Vice-Chairman and the representative of Canada.

37. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Bolivia, Chile, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Uganda, Uruguay, the United Republic of Tanzania and Venezuela, withdrew the draft resolution which was submitted to the Committee in document A/C.2/31/L.22/Rev.1 entitled "Institutional arrangements for international co-operation on human settlements", the text of which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 6/

"Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolutions 1882 (LVII) of 31 July 1974, 1914 (LVII) of 10 December 1974 and 2040 (LXI) of 5 August 1976, as well as General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, on the rationalization of the work of the International Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and the work of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and other elements of the United Nations system,

"Having considered the report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 7/ in particular the annex to Conference resolution 1 on programmes for international co-operation, 8/

6/ A/31/156 and Add.1.

7/ United Nations publications, Sales No. E.76/IV.7.

8/ Ibid., chap. III.

"Noting that the Conference had adopted the preamble and sections I-IX of the above resolution but had left it to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session to take the final decision on the remaining section X, concerning the organizational link and location of the central human settlements secretariat,

"Recognizing that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System is considering proposals that would have implications for institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements,

"Recognizing also that the momentum generated by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements should be maintained by making decisions on the basic and directly related issues at the current session,

"Considering that co-operation in the field of human settlements is one of the important means of implementing the New International Economic Order,

"I. INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

"1. Endorses the paragraphs agreed to by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, as contained in the preamble and sections I-IX of the annex to resolution 1;

"2. Calls upon the Economic and Social Council to dissolve its existing Committee on Housing, Building and Planning at its sixty-second session, to be held in April and May 1977;

"3. Decides to replace the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning by a Commission for Human Settlements, to be composed of 58 members elected by the General Assembly initially for a one-year term and thereafter for three-year terms, pending the relevant recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System, and on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. The Commission shall carry out the objectives and functions stipulated in paragraphs 13 and 14 of the annex to resolution 1 of the Conference and shall also be the intergovernmental body for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

"4. Decides further that the Commission shall meet in 1977 and thereafter every year and report annually to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

"II. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS SECRETARIAT

"1. Decides that Habitat: United Nations Centre for Human Settlements shall be established as the Secretariat unit directly responsible for activities relating to human settlements within the United Nations system by consolidating the programmes and resources of the Centre for Housing, Building

and Planning and selected resources 9/ of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs including those of the Office of Technical Co-operation. The Centre shall co-operate closely with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and shall carry out the responsibilities laid down in paragraph 19 of the annex to resolution 1 of the Conference, within the terms of reference contained in paragraphs 29 to 31 of the annex;

"2. Decides also that at its thirty-second session, the General Assembly will consider the consolidation and strengthening of the Centre, as well as the geographical integration of the Foundation with the Centre;

"3. Further decides that the Centre shall be under the direction of an Assistant Secretary-General reporting directly to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

"4. Decides also to consider the precise location of the integrated unit at its thirty-second session, taking full account of the restructuring proposals, financial and related issues;

"5. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System to give priority consideration to the question of institutional arrangements in the field of human settlements within the United Nations system in the light of the decisions in paragraphs 1 to 4 of the present resolution and of the over-all recommendations for international co-operation in this field contained in sections I-IX of the annex to resolution 1 of the Conference, and to submit its recommendations to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council.

"III. REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

"1. Recommends that the allocation of the consolidated and available resources to the various regions should be made in light of the recommendations and requirements of the different regions;

"2. Recommends further that this question should be a priority concern for the Commission for Human Settlements at its first session in 1977;

"3. Requests the regional commissions, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme, as well as global, regional and subregional financial institutions amongst others, to give priority consideration to the questions of technical assistance and funding of human settlements programmes as recommended in paragraphs 9 to 11 of the annex to resolution 1 of the Conference.

9/ See A/31/156/Add.2 and Corr.1, annex II.

"IV. CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN THE PROGRAMMES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

"Recognizing the complexity of the interrelationship and interaction between human settlements and the environment,

"Further recognizing the need to establish a close working relationship between the programmes of the environment and those of human settlements,

"1. Decides that the executive heads of the two secretariats shall report at each meeting of the intergovernmental body of the other secretariat on the work of their own secretariats;

"2. Also decides that the staff resources of the United Nations Environment Programme now devoted to human settlements activities shall continue to remain with the United Nations Environment Programme in order to enable it to exercise effectively its catalytic and co-ordination responsibilities on the environmental aspects of human settlements."

38. In connexion with draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.22/Rev.1, the Committee had before it a revised statement of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure (A/C.2/31/L.32/Rev.1).

39. At the 59th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of Kenya, on behalf of Egypt and Kenya, withdrew the draft resolution submitted to the Committee in document A/C.2/31/L.24, entitled "Institutional arrangements for international co-operation in human settlements", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling that the convening of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements was recommended by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment,

"Recalling also its resolution 3001 (XXVII), in which it decided to hold a United Nations Conference - Exposition on Human Settlements,

"Recalling also its resolution 3131 (XXVIII), in which it reaffirmed that 'the quality of human life must constitute the central concern of the United Nations Environment Programme and that therefore the enhancement of the total human habitat and the study of environmental problems having an immediate impact on man should be given the highest priority in the over-all programme',

"Recalling further its resolution 3325 (XXIX), in which, inter alia, it provided that the reports of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference should be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly through the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

"Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on Habitat: United

/...

Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver, Canada, from 31 May to 11 June 1976 (A/31/156 and Add.1 and 2, and Add.2/Corr.1 and Add.3),

"Reiterating that the problems of human settlements should be dealt with urgently at the national, regional and international levels, with a view to improving the quality of life of all peoples, particularly in the developing countries,

"Recognizing the close interrelationship and interdependence between the natural and the man-made (human settlement) environment,

I

"1. Takes note of resolution 1 of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements 10/ regarding the programmes for international co-operation in the field of human settlements;

"2. Reaffirms that it has the ultimate responsibility for policy questions relating to human settlements and that, under its authority, as stipulated in Article 60 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Economic and Social Council will continue to deal with policy and co-ordination matters;

"3. Decides that the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme shall be the Global Intergovernmental Body for Human Settlements;

"4. Decides that the Governing Council of the Programme, in addition to its mandate in the field of human settlements as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 3327 (XXIX), will have the objectives and functions listed in paragraphs 13 and 14 of the annex to resolution 1 of the Habitat Conference;

"5. Invites the Economic and Social Council to abolish at its organizational session in January 1977 its Committee on Housing, Building and Planning;

II

"1. Decides that an effective secretariat be established as part of the United Nations Environment Programme to serve as a focal point for human settlement action and co-ordination within the United Nations system;

"2. Decides further that the head of the secretariat for Human Settlements shall have the rank of Assistant Secretary-General;

10/ See Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7), chap. III.

"3. Decides further that the secretariat for Human Settlements shall comprise the posts and budgetary resources of the following:

"(a) The United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

"(b) The Centre for Housing, Building and Planning;

"(c) The Human Settlements Section of the Division of Economic and Social Programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme;

"(d) As appropriate, selected posts and associate resources from relevant offices of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs;

"4. Decides further that the secretariat for Human Settlements, in addition to the present responsibilities of the Foundation and the Programme in the field of human settlements, shall also have the responsibilities listed in paragraph 19 of the annex to resolution 1 of the Habitat Conference;

"III

"1. Invites the governing bodies of the regional commissions to consider the establishment in their respective regions of intergovernmental regional committees on human settlements where such committees do not already exist;

"2. Recommends that the regional committees be established as soon as possible, to co-ordinate their activities with the Global Intergovernmental Body for Human Settlements and report to it through their respective regional commissions;

"3. Recommends further that the responsibility for implementing country, subregional and regional programmes should be gradually entrusted to regional organizations;

"4. Recommends that a proportion of the total human and budgetary resources available for human settlement activities should be placed at the disposal of the regional commissions for their programmes in the field of human settlements."

40. In connexion with draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.24, the Committee had before it a statement of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure (A/C.2/31/L.66).

41. At the 59th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of Sierra Leone, on behalf of Algeria, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, the Sudan, Tunisia and Yugoslavia, withdrew the draft resolution entitled "Institutional arrangements for international co-operation in human settlements", submitted to the Committee in document A/C.2/31/L.26, which read as follows:

/...

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 11/

"Taking note also of Economic and Social Council resolution 2040 (LXI) of 5 August 1976,

"Bearing in mind that the proposals under discussion in the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System will have far-reaching implications for the system as a whole,

"Reiterating that the problems of human settlements should be urgently dealt with at the international, regional and national levels with a view to improving the quality of life for all peoples, particularly in the developing countries,

"1. Requests all United Nations bodies concerned, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, to ensure that the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements are taken into account in their respective programmes related to human settlements, and to make their consultative services and resources available, as appropriate, for the implementation of national programmes of action and in strengthening regional co-operation in the field of human settlements;

"2. Requests the Economic and Social Council and the Governing Councils of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme to consider the recommendations of the Habitat Conference regarding international co-operation, including institutional arrangements, and submit their views thereon to the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System;

"3. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee to consider the recommendations of the Habitat Conference regarding institutional arrangements, together with the views of the Economic and Social Council, the Governing Councils of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme and the governing bodies of the regional commissions and to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session concrete recommendations on the institutional arrangements for human settlements within the United Nations."

42. At the 59th meeting, on 3 December, the representative of Japan, on behalf of Australia, Denmark, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, withdrew the draft resolution entitled "Institutional arrangements for international co-operation and human settlements", submitted to the Committee in document A/C.2/31/L.41, which read as follows:

11/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7.

"The General Assembly;

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 12/

"Taking note also of Economic and Social Council resolution 2040 (LXI) of 5 August 1976,

"Having considered the report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, in particular the annex 13/ attached to Conference resolution 1 on programmes for international co-operation,

"Noting that the Conference had adopted the preamble and sections I-IX of the above resolution by consensus but had left it to the General Assembly at its thirty-first session to take the final decision on the remaining section X, concerning the organization link and location of the central human settlements secretariat,

"Noting further the report of the Secretary-General on the financial implications of the alternative institutional arrangements proposed in resolution 1 adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 14/

"Recognizing that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System is considering proposals that would have implications on institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements,

"Recognizing also that the momentum of Habitat should be maintained,

"Considering that the most appropriate and effective action for dealing with human settlements problems is action at the national level, but that national action will require to be supported by the international community, both at the global and regional levels,

"I. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HABITAT CONFERENCE FOR INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

"1. Takes fully into account the paragraphs agreed to by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, as contained in the preamble and sections I-IX of the annex to resolution I;

"2. Decides to defer to its thirty-second session any final decision on the type of intergovernmental body for human settlements and on the

12/ A/31/156 and Add.1.

13/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7, pp. 93-112.

14/ A/31/156/Add.2.

organizational link and location of the human settlements secretariat, until the guidelines from the Ad Hoc Committee on Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System are in hand, the financial implications of alternative institutional arrangements are worked out and studied in greater depth, and the regional consultations have been completed;

"II. INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

"1. Decides in the interim that the Economic and Social Council shall assume responsibility for monitoring human settlements activities in the United Nations system and for providing the intergovernmental forum for continuing the dialogue on human settlements problems;

"2. Further decides to this end that the Council shall hold a special session on the subject at an appropriate time during 1977 and report to the General Assembly at the thirty-second session;

"III. HUMAN SETTLEMENTS SECRETARIAT

"1. Decides that, in the interim period, a Centre for Human Settlements be established at United Nations Headquarters by consolidating the programmes and resources of the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and selected resources of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, including those of the Office of Technical Co-operation. The Centre shall carry out the responsibilities laid down in paragraph 19 of the annex to Conference resolution I within the terms of reference and functions contained in paragraphs 29-31;

"2. Decides also that, in the interim period, the Centre for Human Settlements be headed by an Assistant Secretary-General who shall be nominated by the Secretary-General, subject to further review in the light of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System;

"3. Decides further that, in the interim period, the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation shall continue to function, as at present, at Nairobi, but that its activities shall be co-ordinated with those of the Centre for Human Settlements at Headquarters and of the regional commissions in this field under the over-all direction of the interim intergovernmental body, that is, the Economic and Social Council, in accordance with Council resolution 1914 (LVII) of 10 December 1974,

"4. Requests the Secretary-General, as an interim arrangement, to establish an interagency co-ordination sub-committee on human settlements under the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, to assist in effecting interagency co-ordination between the organizations concerned with human settlements, including those at Headquarters, at Nairobi and in the regional commissions;

"5. Decides to consider in the second stage, at the thirty-second session, the total consolidation, under a single administrative structure, of the activities, programmes and resources of the Centre for Human Settlements, the Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and the appropriate section of the Division of Economic and Social Programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme directly concerned with human settlements, with the exception of the posts required by the United Nations Environment Programme to exercise its responsibilities for the environmental aspects and the consequences of human settlements planning;

"6. Decides also to consider at the thirty-second session the type of intergovernmental body and the precise location of the integrated unit, taking full account of any relevant proposals from the Ad Hoc Committee on Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System and financial and related issues;

"IV. REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

"1. Requests all the relevant United Nations organizations concerned with human settlements, including the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme to make their consultative services and resources available, as appropriate, towards the implementation of national programmes of action and in strengthening regional co-operation in the field of human settlements;

"2. Also requests the interim intergovernmental body to consider intensification of the programmes of the regional commissions dealing with human settlements problems and the allocation of a proportion of the total human and budgetary resources available with the existing institutions to the regional commissions for this purpose;

"V. RESTRUCTURING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS

"1. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System to convey to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session any conclusions it has reached in the light of its over-all responsibilities which might have implications for the institutional arrangements for work in connexion with human settlements."

43. In connexion with the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.41 the Committee had before it a statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure (A/C.2/31/L.67).

44. At the 59th meeting, on 3 December, the Committee agreed that since draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.70 would defer until the thirty-second session of the General Assembly a decision on the possible location of the Habitat unit, and draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.26 had been withdrawn, the issuance of a further addendum

/...

to the report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 3438 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 (A/31/156 and Add.1 and 2, Add.2/Corr.1 and Add.3) was no longer required at the current session.

45. At the 60th meeting, on 6 December, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.70 without a vote (see para. 55 below, draft resolution IX).

46. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom, Italy, the Federal Republic of Germany and Argentina.

XI

47. At the 57th meeting, on 30 November, the representative of the Philippines introduced and orally revised a draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.19) entitled "United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation", which was later issued in A/C.2/31/L.19/Rev.1 and which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1914 (LVII) of 10 December 1974,

"Recalling further the objectives of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation as set out in the annex to resolution 3327 (XXIX), particularly with regard to its innovative character, as well as its capacity to provide financial assistance and contribute services, technical assistance, equipment and materials for the improvement of human settlements and the management of the human habitat,

"Conscious of the need to maintain the integrity, flexibility and functional capacity of the Foundation,

"Desirous of promoting greater co-operation between the Foundation and the non-governmental organizations and appropriate financial or other institutions in implementing the objectives of the Foundation,

"Recognizing the importance of disseminating information and mobilizing public opinion among peoples and Member States in support of the objectives and policies of the Foundation, as called for in General Assembly resolution 3434 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

"Noting the priority accorded to national action and regional and international co-operation for the improvement of human settlements, as a result of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976,

"1. Affirms the significant role of the Foundation in promoting the implementation of the objectives and recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

/...

"2. Invites the Foundation to promote regional co-operation for the improvement of human settlements;

"3. Invites further non-governmental organizations, financial and other institutions, as appropriate, to collaborate with the Foundation, to facilitate the effective expansion of its services, information activities and programmes for human settlements;

"4. Urges Governments, especially those of developed countries, to support the Foundation on a voluntary basis, to enable it to become a more effective instrument for the improvement of human settlements and for the promotion of the implementation of the objectives and recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

"5. Affirms that the Foundation should be appropriately strengthened so that it may achieve the full potential envisaged for it by the General Assembly."

48. At the 61st meeting, on 7 December, the representative of the Philippines introduced a revised draft resolution (A/C.2/31/L.19/Rev.2) which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 which sets out in its annex the objectives of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1914 (LVII) of 10 December 1974,

"Desirous of promoting greater co-operation between the Foundation and the non-governmental organizations and appropriate financial or other institutions in implementing the objectives of the Foundation,

"Recognizing the importance of disseminating information and mobilizing public opinion among peoples and Member States in support of the objectives and policies of the Foundation, as called for in General Assembly resolution 3434 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

"Noting the priority accorded to national action and regional and international co-operation for the improvement of human settlements, as a result of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976,

"1. Affirms the significant role of the Foundation in promoting within its sphere of competence the implementation of the objectives and recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

"2. Invites non-governmental organizations, financial and other institutions, as appropriate, to collaborate with the Foundation, to facilitate the effective implementation of its services, information activities and programmes for human settlements;

/...

"3. Urges Governments, especially those of developed countries, to support the Foundation on a voluntary basis, to enable it to become a more effective instrument for the improvement of human settlements, particularly in the developing countries."

49. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uganda, Italy, the Netherlands, Ecuador, Japan, Sweden and Spain.

50. At the same meeting, the representative of the Philippines withdrew draft resolution A/C.2/31/L.19/Rev.2 and orally proposed the following draft decision:

"The General Assembly decides to transmit to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its sixty-third session the revised draft resolution submitted by the Philippines in A/C.2/31/L.19/Rev.1, the text of which reads as follows: (For text of revised draft resolution, see para. 19 above.)

51. At the same meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland orally proposed an amendment to the draft decision proposed by the Philippines which would insert after the words "the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its sixty-third session", the words "together with the relevant parts of the report of the Second Committee on item 60". The representative of the Philippines accepted the draft amendment proposed by the representative of the United Kingdom.

52. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft decision proposed by the Philippines, as orally amended (see para. 56 below, draft decision I).

53. Following the adoption of the draft decision, the representative of Uganda made a statement.

XII

54. At the 61st meeting, on 7 December, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on criteria governing multilateral financing of housing and human settlements (A/10225) and of the comments and note thereon, contained in documents E/5852 and Add.1 and UNEP/GC/78 (see para. 56 below, draft decision II).

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

55. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

/...

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

United Nations Conference on Desertification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3337 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974, in which it decided to initiate concerted international action to combat desertification,

Recalling further its resolution 3511 (XXX) of 15 December 1975 on the United Nations Conference on Desertification,

Having considered the relevant parts of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fourth session relating to the implementation of General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX), 15/

Noting decision 73 (IV) of 13 April 1976 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme acting in its capacity as the intergovernmental preparatory body for the Conference,

Noting also Economic and Social Council resolution 2013 (LXI) of 3 August 1976,

1. Urges Member States to continue to co-operate with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Desertification in the preparation for the Conference, including the case studies and the proposed transnational activities to combat desertification;

2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, in addition to his other responsibilities as Executive Director, to assume the responsibility of Secretary-General of the Conference;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to invite:

(a) All States to participate in the Conference;

(b) Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the session and the work of all international conferences convened under its auspices in the capacity of observers, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3237 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974;

(c) Representatives of the national liberation movements recognized in its region by the Organization of African Unity, in the capacity of observers, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 3280 (XXIX) of 10 December 1974;

15/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25), chap. VII and annex II.

- (d) The United Nations Council for Namibia to participate as an observer;
- (e) The specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency, as well as interested organs of the United Nations, to be represented at the Conference;
- (f) Interested intergovernmental organizations to be represented by observers;
- (g) Interested non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council to be represented by observers;
4. Authorizes the Secretary-General to invite other interested non-governmental organizations that might have a specific contribution to make to the work of the Conference to be represented by observers;
5. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary arrangements are made for the effective participation in the Conference of the representatives referred to in paragraph 3 (b) and (c) above, including the requisite financial provisions for their travel expenses and per diem;
6. Decides to include Arabic as a language of the Conference;
7. Approves the provisional agenda for the Conference annexed to the present resolution;
8. Requests the Secretary-General to report on the results of the Conference, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session.

ANNEX

Provisional Agenda for the United Nations Conference on Desertification

1. Opening of the Conference and election of the President
2. Organization of the work of the Conference
 - (a) Adoption of the rules of procedure
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda
 - (c) Establishment of committees and other sessional bodies
 - (d) Election of officers other than the President
 - (e) Credentials of representatives to the Conference: appointment of the Credentials Committee
3. General debate
4. Processes and causes of desertification
5. Plan of action to combat desertification
6. Credentials of representatives to the Conference: report of the Credentials Committee
7. Adoption of the report of the Conference

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3128 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973, 3325 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 and 3438 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 on the preparations for Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

Considering that solutions to human settlements problems around the world are urgently required,

Bearing in mind the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order 16/ and the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States 17/ and the importance for the International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade of improving human settlements around the world as a major component in improving the quality of life,

Noting that Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements was held at Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976:

- (a) To stimulate innovation, serve as a means for the exchange of experience and ensure the widest possible dissemination of new ideas and technologies in the field of human settlements;
- (b) To formulate and make recommendations for an international programme in this field which will assist Governments;
- (c) To stimulate interest in developing appropriate financial systems and institutions for human settlements among those making financial resources available and those in a position to use such resources, considering that the most appropriate and effective action for dealing with human settlements problems is action at the national level, but that such action will require assistance and co-operation between and among all States,
 1. Expresses its appreciation and thanks to the Government of Canada for the excellent organization, facilities and generous hospitality rendered for the Conference; Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;
 2. Expresses appreciation to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme for the guidance as well as the generous support it provided for the Conference;

16/ General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI); see also General Assembly resolution 3362 (S-VII) entitled "Development and international economic co-operation".

17/ General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX).

3. Takes note of the report of the Conference, 18/ including the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, the recommendations for national action and the resolutions for international co-operation;
4. Commends the Secretary-General of the Conference on the successful preparation and organization of the Conference;
5. Urges the Governments of all Member States to consider, on a priority basis, the recommendations for national action contained in the report and to take those recommendations into account when reviewing their existing policies and strategies in the field of human settlements;
6. Calls upon the regional commissions and urges all other international organizations within and outside the United Nations system to take intensified and sustained action in support of national efforts, including exchanges of information and assistance, at the request of Governments, in the formulation, design, implementation and evaluation of projects to improve human settlements;
7. Requests the Secretary-General to convene regional meetings, as appropriate, within the framework of the regional commissions, to establish guidelines for the co-ordination, within each region, of action to be taken in order to deal with human settlements and to report to the General Assembly on the results of their deliberations no later than at the thirty-second session;
8. Takes note of the notes by the Secretary-General containing the reports on the regional meetings already held within the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Economic Commission for Europe. 19/

18/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7.

19/ A/C.2/31/5 and 9.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Living conditions of the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements of 1976 and the recommendations for national action adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976, 20/

Recalling also resolution 3 of the recommendations of the Conference for international co-operation, on living conditions of the Palestinians in occupied territories, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2026 (LXI) of 4 August 1976,

Recalling further the recommendation adopted at the Regional Preparatory Conference for Asia and the Pacific, held at Teheran from 14 to 19 June 1976,

1. Requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the relevant United Nations organs and specialized agencies, to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session a report on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories;
2. Requests the Secretary-General, in preparing the above-mentioned report, to consult and co-operate with the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people;
3. Urges all States to co-operate with the Secretary-General in this matter.

20/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment
Programme on the work of its fourth session

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourth session, 21/ and the statement of the Executive Director introducing the report, 22/

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972,

Recalling also the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 23/ as well as the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, 24/ which lay down the foundations of the new international economic order,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2013 (LXI) of 3 August 1976 relating to the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its fourth session,

Reaffirming that there can be no sustained development or meaningful growth without a clear commitment at the same time to preserving the environment and promoting the rational use of natural resources, with an eye to the needs of the future generations,

1. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on the work of its fourth session;
2. Endorses paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2013 (LXI) on decision 55 (IV) of the Governing Council, concerning the active participation of the United Nations Environment Programme in the preparations for the United Nations Water Conference;
3. Reaffirms the belief expressed by the Governing Council in section III, paragraphs 1 and 2, of its decision 47 (IV) of 14 April 1976 that environment should be a major consideration in international discussions on development;

21/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25).

22/ A/C.2/31/SR.19.

23/ General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI).

24/ General Assembly resolution 3281 (XXIX).

4. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Executive Director on the status of the United Nations Environment Fund 25/ and urges Governments to extend their continuing financial support to the Fund;

5. Notes the report of the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Executive Director on the study of the material remnants of war, particularly mines, and their effects on the environment 26/ and requests the Governing Council to ensure its completion, taking into account the views expressed in the course of considering this matter;

6. Notes the report of the Secretary-General on international conventions and protocols in the field of environment 27/ and reiterates the concern expressed in resolution 3436 (XXX) of 9 December 1975 that existing international conventions and protocols in the field of environment have not yet received the wide acceptance and application they deserve.

25/ UNEP/GC.57 and Corr.1.

26/ A/31/210.

27/ A/31/211.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Institutional arrangements for international
environmental co-operation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, particularly section IV thereof, in which it decided to review as appropriate, at the thirty-first session, the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation,

Taking note of decision 78 (IV) of 14 April 1976 of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, 28/

Recalling that in its resolution 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 it established the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System,

1. Endorses the view of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme that the institutional arrangements for international environmental co-operation, as stipulated in General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), namely, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Environment Secretariat, the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Environment Co-ordination Board, appear adequate and sound;

2. Endorses also the view of the Governing Council in part B of its decision 78 (IV) that, in any decision about the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system, the following elements relating to the place of environmental considerations within the system should be observed, strengthened and given institutional visibility:

"The United Nations system shall maintain, within a clearly identified institutional arrangement, focused on the essential catalytic and co-ordinating role in the field of the environment, the capacity to:

"(a) Take responsibility for environmental issues of a global nature;

"(b) Provide guidance and leadership in international environmental affairs;

"(c) Offer suitable forums and facilities for treaty-making in the field of the environment at the global and regional levels;

28/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/31/25), p. 145.

"(d) Identify, through the programmatic approach, emerging environmental problems and propose solutions;

"(e) Manage a separate environment fund as an integral part of the programmatic process;

"(f) Advocate and articulate the interdependence of environment and development;

"(g) Respond to the environmental problems of both developed and developing countries;

"(h) Respond to the environmental problems of human settlements, which are an integral part of the human environment;"

3. Decides to maintain at this stage the present arrangements, without prejudice to any decision the General Assembly might take as regards the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VI

Specific measures to meet the need for a decent living environment
for the most vulnerable groups of society

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, in its recommendations A-4, B-3, B-12, C-4, C-14, C-15 and E-4, recommended that specific measures should be taken to meet the need for a decent living environment for the most vulnerable groups of society, 29/

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

1. Requests Member States and the Secretary-General, when planning the implementation of the aforementioned recommendations adopted at Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, to bear in mind the measures that protect the decent living environment of the most vulnerable social groups, such as children, youth, the elderly and the handicapped, so that they may live in an environment which is equally accessible to all individuals;

2. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the measures taken and the results obtained.

29/ Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7), chap. II.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VII

Collaboration between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations with regard to world-wide intercommunal co-operation

The General Assembly,

Recalling the results of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

Aware of the importance and global nature of the phenomenon of urbanization,

Noting that uncontrolled urbanization is one of the causes of the deterioration in living conditions in human settlements,

Stressing the need for harmonization of intergovernmental action and intercommunal action with regard to human settlements,

Recognizing the role that the competent non-governmental organizations can play in solving the problems facing local communities,

Noting that non-governmental organizations such as the United Towns Organization and the International Union of Local Authorities, which are in consultative status, in category I, with the Economic and Social Council, have offered their collaboration with the United Nations in the field of human settlements,

Recalling its resolution 2861 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 on world-wide intercommunal co-operation, which stressed the role played in that sphere by the United Towns Organization,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1738 (LIV) of 4 May 1973 on international co-operation between municipalities,

1. Invites the Secretary-General to ensure that the international bodies responsible for implementing the relevant recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements:

(a) Study the specific possibilities and effective conditions for collaboration between the United Nations and concerned non-governmental organizations;

(b) Draw up with those organizations programmes of collaboration;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-fifth session on the evolution of those programmes.

DRAFT RESOLUTION VIII

United Nations audio-visual information centre on
human settlements

The General Assembly,

Noting resolution 5 of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements on post-Conference use of audio-visual material,

Expressing its appreciation for the support and assistance in preparing the audio-visual material for the Conference provided by national and international organizations, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme,

Convinced that the audio-visual and related material prepared for the Conference constitute an information resource of continuing value for the effective implementation of recommendations for national action, programmes of international co-operation and the realization of goals in the field of human settlements established by the Conference,

Recognizing that prompt and effective utilization of the information resource created for the Conference is essential if maximum benefit is to be derived from the considerable investment in that resource, particularly its audio-visual component,

Bearing in mind the possibility of evolving regional audio-visual centres associated with regional arrangements for training, education, research and information exchange,

Expressing its appreciation also for the undertaking by Canadian authorities regarding the post-Conference use and dissemination of the audio-visual material prepared for the Conference,

1. Decides to establish a United Nations Audio-visual Information Centre on Human Settlements;

2. Invites all participants in Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements to transfer as appropriate to the Secretary-General or his designated agents the internegatives and international copyright of their audio-visual materials prepared for and made available to the Conference, including material prepared with the assistance of the United Nations Environment Programme,

3. Invites Governments of Member States, as an important part of a programme of augmenting the audio-visual material on human settlements, to make available to the United Nations Audio-visual Information Centre on Human Settlements new or enriched audio-visual presentations prepared for their programmes of national action;

4. Authorizes the Secretary-General to conclude an agreement with the appropriate Canadian authorities for the latter to provide the facilities and financial support to the United Nations Audio-visual Information Centre to carry out the Centre's responsibilities for the custody, reproduction and international distribution, to ensure the widest possible use of the material by Governments and other interested bodies, for the period up to March 1980, of the audio-visual materials prepared for the Conference and calls for a review of the agreement in 1979.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IX

Institutional arrangements for international co-operation
in the field of human settlements

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, 30/ in particular the annex to Conference resolution 1 on programmes for international co-operation,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2040 (LXI) of 5 August 1976,

Recognizing that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System is considering proposals that would have implications for institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements,

Considering that the most appropriate and effective action for dealing with human settlements problems is action at the national level, but that action is also required at the regional and global levels with a view to improving the quality of life for all peoples, particularly in the developing countries,

Recognizing also that the momentum of the Conference must be maintained through further action and decisions in the United Nations system,

Considering also that co-operation in the field of human settlements is one of the important means of fostering the goals of over-all social and economic development,

Taking into account that further consideration is required with respect to definitive institutional arrangements for human settlements activities within the United Nations system,

I

Recommendations of the Habitat Conference for
International Co-operation

1. Takes into account the paragraphs agreed to by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, as contained in the preamble and sections I to IX of the annex to resolution 1, with due respect to foot-note b/ of section X of that annex;

2. Decides to defer until its thirty-second session the decision on the type of definitive intergovernmental body for human settlements and on the organizational

30/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7.

link and location of the human settlements secretariat, when the guidelines from the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System will be in hand, the financial implications of alternative institutional arrangements will be worked out and studied in greater depth, and the regional consultations will have been completed;

II

Intergovernmental body for human settlements

1. Requests the Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System to make available to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session any conclusions it has reached in the light of its over-all responsibilities which might have implications for institutional arrangements for human settlements;
2. Requests the Economic and Social Council to devote the necessary time at the outset of its sixty-third session to the examination of the developments in human settlements and the follow-up to Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;
3. Recommends that this meeting should be at the expert or highest appropriate level and with the active participation of all interested delegations and that the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session for 1977 should arrange the necessary modalities to this end;
4. Requests the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session, as part of its agenda, to consider the report of the Secretary-General referred to in section III, paragraph 1, together with the views of the Ad Hoc Committee and of the regional commissions, with a view to taking action on the recommendations of the Conference regarding institutional arrangements, bearing in mind the terms of reference contained in paragraphs 29 to 31 of the annex to resolution 1 of the Conference;
5. Further requests the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session concrete recommendations on definitive institutional arrangements for human settlements within the United Nations;
6. Decides to take action on those recommendations, at the latest at its thirty-second session, taking into account the conclusions of the Ad Hoc Committee;

III

Secretariat arrangements

1. Requests the Secretary-General, as an interim arrangement, to ensure, through the appropriate machinery of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, the co-ordination of the work of all the United Nations bodies concerned with respect to their activities in the human settlements field and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session on the progress made;

2. Requests that, since definitive arrangements for human settlements are yet to be decided upon, the Secretary-General should take appropriate measures to ensure effective preparations for the discussions on human settlements questions at the sixty-third session of the Economic and Social Council, bearing in mind the contributions made by the relevant components of the United Nations system as represented in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination.

3. Requests all the United Nations bodies concerned, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, to ensure that the recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements are taken into account in their respective programmes related to human settlements and within their respective terms of reference, and to make their consultative services and resources available, as appropriate, for the implementation of national programmes of action and in strengthening regional co-operation in the field of human settlements;

IV

Regional commissions

Requests in this regard the United Nations bodies concerned, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, to give all possible support to the regional commissions in the strengthening of regional co-operation in the field of human settlements and further requests the regional commissions to report to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-third session on the results of regional co-operation in human settlements, including the progress made in the establishment of the governmental regional committees on human settlements.

56. The Second Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

The General Assembly decides to transmit to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its sixty-third session, together with the relevant parts of the report of the Second Committee on item 60, the revised draft resolution submitted by the Philippines 31/ the text of which reads as follows:

"United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolution 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1914 (LVII) of 10 December 1974,

"Recalling further the objectives of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation as set out in the annex to resolution 3327 (XXIX), particularly with regard to its innovative character, as well as its capacity to provide financial assistance and contribute services, technical assistance, equipment and materials for the improvement of human settlements and the management of the human habitat,

"Conscious of the need to maintain the integrity, flexibility and functional capacity of the Foundation,

"Desirous of promoting greater co-operation between the Foundation and the non-governmental organizations and appropriate financial or other institutions in implementing the objectives of the Foundation,

"Recognizing the importance of disseminating information and mobilizing public opinion among peoples and Member States in support of the objectives and policies of the Foundation, as called for in General Assembly resolution 3434 (XXX) of 9 December 1975,

"Noting the priority accorded to national action and regional and international co-operation for the improvement of human settlements, as a result of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver from 31 May to 11 June 1976,

"1. Affirms the significant role of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in promoting the implementation of the objectives and recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

"2. Invites the Foundation to promote regional co-operation for the improvement of human settlements;

"3. Invites further non-governmental organizations, financial and other institutions, as appropriate, to collaborate with the Foundation in order to facilitate the effective expansion of its services, information activities and programmes for human settlements;

"4. Urges Governments, especially those of developed countries, to support the Foundation on a voluntary basis, to enable it to become a more effective instrument for the improvement of human settlements and for the promotion of the implementation of the objectives and recommendations of the Conference;

"5. Affirms that the Foundation should be appropriately strengthened so that it may achieve the full potential envisaged for it by the General Assembly."

DRAFT DECISION II

The General Assembly decides to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on criteria governing multilateral financing of housing and human settlements 32/ and of the comments and note thereon submitted by the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme 33/ and by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme. 34/

32/ A/10225.

33/ E/5852 and Add.1.

34/ UNEP/GC/78.