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HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1980-1981

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution
contained in document A/C.2/34/L.68Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with
rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. In the operative paragraph of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/34/L.68, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to ensure the immediate availability of additional resources necessary to implement at the regional level the 1980-1981 work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) as approved by the Commission on Human Settlements at its second session.
2. In order to enable the Centre to undertake the approved work programme at the regional level, eight new Professional posts and four local level posts are required, comprising four teams of one P-4, one P-3 and one local level, each team to be deployed by the Centre to the ECA, ESCAP, ECLA and ECWA, respectively.
3. It is recalled that in presenting the proposed work programme of the Centre for the biennium 1980-1981 to the Commission at its second session, the Executive Director, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, indicated that the support to be provided to the regional commissions would take the form of staff to be provided by the Centre to supplement the Commissions' own resources. 1/ This statement in turn was based on the undertaking of the Secretary-General at the thirty-third session of the General Assembly 2/ that additional resources would

1/ See document HS/C/2/6 of 6 March 1979, pp. 4 and 5 of the English text.2/ A/C.5/33/63, para. 12.

be sought in the programme budget of the Centre for the biennium 1980-1981 for regional activities.

4. It should be noted that only the activities to be carried out jointly by the regional commissions and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements are included in the work programme; hence, projects that the commissions themselves will carry out with their own resources are not included. The programme elements and activities under each of the six subprogrammes involved in the programme budget of the Centre vary from region to region, and reflect the priority needs of each region, supplementing the activities of the regional commissions in terms of their own mandate. Formulation of the programme in close consultation with the regional commissions at the early stage of programming exercise ensured avoidance of duplication of efforts.

5. The specific activities which will be undertaken by the regional commissions in implementation of the regional components of the work programme of the Centre following a strengthening of the staff resources of the Commissions are summarized below and are listed under each of the six subprogrammes which comprise the work programme of the Centre for the biennium 1980-1981 as detailed in document HS/C/2/6.

A. Subprogramme I: Settlement policies and strategies

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

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

B. Subprogramme II: Settlement planning

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

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

C. Subprogramme III: Shelter, infrastructure and services

Under this subprogramme, activities will relate to:

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

D. Subprogramme IV: Land use policy

The regional activities in this area will consist of:

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

E. Subprogramme V: Public participation

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

F. Subprogramme VI: Institutions and management

The requested resources under this subprogramme will be utilized for:

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

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

6. On the basis of the preceding summary of the work programme, as approved by the second session of the Human Settlements Commission, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.2/34/L.68 it would give rise to financial implications for the 1980-1981 biennium in the amount of \$US 403,700.
