



UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/34/793  
10 December 1979

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/SPANISH

Thirty-fourth session  
Agenda item 65

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Miss Paulina GARCIA DONOSO (Ecuador)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 4th meeting, on 21 September 1979, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, included in the agenda of its thirty-fourth session the item entitled

"Human settlements:

"(a) Report of the Commission on Human Settlements;

"(b) Report of the Secretary-General"

and allocated it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered this item at its 20th, 23rd, 29th, 30th, 42nd, 44th, 46th, 48th and 54th meetings, on 24 and 26 October, 2, 16, 19, 21 and 23 November and on 1 December 1979. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/34/SR.20, 23, 29, 30, 42, 44, 46, 48 and 54).

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

(a) Report of the Economic and Social Council (chap. XIV); 1/

(b) Report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its second session; 2/

---

1/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/34/3/Rev.1).

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/34/8).

- (c) Letter dated 27 July 1979 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the text of the resolutions and Final Communiqué of the Tenth Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers (A/34/389);
- (d) Report of the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories (A/34/536 and Corr.1).

4. At the 20th meeting, on 24 October 1979, the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) made an introductory statement.

## II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

### A. Draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.53

5. At the 42nd meeting, on 16 November, the representative of Pakistan introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/34/L.53) entitled "Living conditions of the Palestinian people" on behalf of Algeria, Angola, the Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Democratic Yemen, Ethiopia, the German Democratic Republic, Grenada, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Yugoslavia. Subsequently, Burundi, Guinea, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Senegal, Somalia and the Syrian Arab Republic joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. A statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.53 was circulated in document A/C.2/34/L.56.

7. At the 48th meeting, on 23 November, statements were made by the representatives of Israel and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (A/C.2/34/SR.48). The Committee then adopted draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.53 by a recorded vote of 102 to 2, with 21 abstentions (see para. 15, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania,

/...

Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, 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 Tanzania, Upper Volta, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia. 3/

Against: Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

8. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of Ireland (on behalf of the States members of the European Economic Community) and of the United States of America made statements (see A/C.2/34/SR.48).

B. Draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.68

9. At the 46th meeting, on 21 November, the representative of India, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations which are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.2/34/L.68) entitled "Resources for the implementation of the work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) at the regional level".

10. A statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.68 was circulated in document A/C.2/34/L.82.

11. At the 54th meeting, on 1 December, on the basis of informal consultations, the Committee decided to transmit draft resolution A/C.2/34/L.68 and the statement of financial implications (A/C.2/34/L.82) to the Fifth Committee for its consideration.

C. Resolutions recommended by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1979/46

12. At its 48th meeting, on 23 November 1979, the Committee considered the draft resolutions contained in the report of the Commission on Human Settlements 4/ entitled "Global report on human settlements and periodic reports on international

---

3/ At the 48th meeting, the representatives of Argentina and Colombia stated that, had they been present at the time of the vote, their delegations would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/34/8).

co-operation and assistance on human settlements" (resolution 2/3), "United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements (Vision Habitat)" (resolution 2/4), and "Strengthening of human settlements activities" (resolution 2/6), recommended by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 1979/46 of 27 July 1979 for adoption by the General Assembly.

13. At the same meeting, the representative of Venezuela orally proposed amendments to the draft resolution entitled "Strengthening of human settlements activities" (resolution 2/6), which called for:

(a) The deletion of the seventh preambular paragraph;

(b) The insertion of the phrase "within the context of their national priorities" between the words "to devote" and "a larger share" in operative paragraph 1.

The Committee accepted these amendments to the draft resolution.

14. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolutions contained in resolutions 2/3 and 2/4 (see para. 15, draft resolutions II and III and in resolution 2/6, as orally amended (see para. 15, draft resolution IV).

### III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

15. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION I

##### Living conditions of the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, 5/ and the relevant recommendations for national action 6/ adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

Recalling also resolution 3, entitled "Living conditions of the Palestinians in occupied territories", contained in the recommendations for international co-operation adopted by the Conference, 7/ and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2026 (LXI) of 4 August 1976 and 2100 (LXIII) of 3 August 1977,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 31/110 of 16 December 1976, 32/171 of 19 December 1977 and 33/110 of 18 December 1978,

---

5/ 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. I.

6/ Ibid., chap. II.

7/ Ibid., chap. III.

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories 8/ and notes that, although it contains many relevant facts, it has not been sufficiently analytical;

2. Requests, therefore, the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the relevant United Nations organs and specialized agencies, particularly the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, the Economic Commission for Western Asia and the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Population of the Occupied Territories, to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-fifth session a comprehensive and analytical report on the social and economic impact of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories;

3. Also 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;

4. Urges all States to co-operate with the Secretary-General in the preparation of the report.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION II

#### Global report on human settlements and periodic reports on international co-operation and assistance on human settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2598 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, in which it directed the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive housing survey every five years,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 976 G (XXXVI) of 1 August 1963, in which the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare, with the co-operation of the specialized agencies, regional commissions, international finance agencies and governmental institutions, a biennial report on the level and kind of official assistance and international aid given to developing countries in the field of housing, building and planning,

1. Decides that the quinquennial housing survey called for by General Assembly resolution 2598 (XXIV) should become the "Global report on human settlements" and should be issued every five years, according to the objectives, format and contents set out in paragraphs 10 to 20 of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat); 9/

2. Requests the Executive Director to undertake the preparation of a biennial report in 1982, beginning with an interim report in 1981, on the following subjects:

---

8/ A/34/536 and Corr.1.

9/ HS/C/2/8.

(a) Financial and other assistance provided to and among developing countries on human settlements, and on the human settlements activities of the United Nations system, according to the objectives, format and content set out in sections II and III of the report of the Executive Director, 9/ as modified by the Commission on Human Settlements;

(b) Activities and collaboration between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and non-governmental organizations;

(c) Information on the human settlements activities of intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system and co-operation between them and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements;

3. Urges all Member States to provide the necessary information for the preparation of the above reports;

4. Calls upon the Secretariat, particularly the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and all other relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to provide the necessary information for the preparation of the above reports and to collaborate with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in their preparation;

5. Invites intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations working in the field of human settlements to collaborate with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in the preparation of these reports;

6. Requests the Executive Director, in consultation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to explore the establishment of efficient mechanisms for regular and systematic reporting and consultations for the above reports.

#### DRAFT RESOLUTION III

##### United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements (Vision Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 31/115 of 16 December 1976, by which it established the United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements,

Recalling further its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, by which it established the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), entrusted it with responsibility for promoting the further and continued use of audio-visual material relating to human settlements and decided that the Director of the United

Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements (Vision Habitat) should report to the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements,

Recognizing that the effective dissemination of information, including the use of audio-visual techniques and materials, will help accelerate the process of development through the effective and rapid dissemination among policy makers, experts and the public in all countries of information on the need for new awareness and on new approaches, methods and techniques for improving human settlements, especially their social, economic and environmental aspects, as well as through their increasing use for project-monitoring, education, training and public information,

Noting that the Agreement between the Government of Canada and the United Nations on the operations of the United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements expires on 31 March 1980,

Convinced that the programme developed by the United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements should be continued,

Noting that the audio-visual activities have been fully integrated into the work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements,

1. Recommends that the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) should take the necessary steps to establish a unified information service within the Centre to comprise a suitable range of information and communications skills and capabilities, including an audio-visual component at an appropriate level;

2. Decides that, upon the termination or expiration of the Agreement referred to above, the functions and transferable assets of the United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements (Vision Habitat) should be transferred to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to consult with the Government of Canada on the appropriate formal arrangements regarding the termination or expiration of the Agreement;

4. Encourages all Member States to make available to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements audio-visual material prepared for their programmes of national action;

5. Appeals to all States and interested organizations to make available to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements the necessary resources for continuing its audio-visual and information activities;

6. Requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its third session on the progress achieved towards the establishment of a unified information service.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Strengthening of human settlements activities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 2718 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 3001 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974 and 32/162 of 19 December 1977,

Noting that the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its second session 10/ calls for Member States to deal with human settlements programmes as an integral and important element of national development plans,

Recognizing that the goals of the new international economic order encompass both general economic improvements in developing countries and the achievement of social equity in the distribution of benefits from economic growth,

Convinced that human settlements activities can make an important contribution to achieving both these goals of the new international economic order,

Recognizing that one of the most urgent needs in developing countries is to upgrade the living and working conditions of low-income and disadvantaged groups in both rural and urban areas,

Convinced that human settlements programmes provide a direct mechanism for redressing imbalances in access to shelter, utility services, health care, education and community amenities, and hence can have a significant impact on the immediate, day-to-day needs of low-income and disadvantaged groups,

Convinced that human settlements programmes offer an effective tool for generating the energy-conserving and resource-conserving community patterns which will be called for,

1. Urges Member States to devote, within the context of their national priorities, a larger share of national resources to the strengthening of human settlements activities as vehicles of economic and social change;
2. Suggests that Member States should examine multilateral and bilateral co-operation programmes, particularly those financed by the United Nations Development Programme, to determine whether an increased allocation can be made to the human settlements sector;
3. Requests Member States to report every two years to the Commission on Human Settlements on the progress made in implementing the recommendations for national action adopted at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat) and, where possible, the level and sources of international and national funding being devoted to human settlements activities.

-----