



REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF THE WORLD URBAN FORUM

Nairobi, 29 April – 3 May 2002

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The World Urban Forum was organized and convened by the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-HABITAT, pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution 18/5 of the Commission on Human Settlements in which the Commission requested the Executive Director “to promote a merger of the Urban Environment Forum and the International Forum on Urban Poverty into a new urban forum, with a view to strengthening the coordination of international support to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda.” Subsequently, the United Nations General Assembly decided, in its resolution 56/206, that the Forum would be a “non-legislative technical forum in which experts can exchange views in the years when the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme does not meet.” At the same session, the General Assembly, in paragraph 7 of its resolution 56/205, encouraged local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners to participate, as appropriate, in the World Urban Forum in its role as an advisory body to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Opening of the session

2. The first session of the World Urban Forum was held at the headquarters of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-HABITAT, in Nairobi, Kenya from 29 April to 3 May 2002. The session was opened on 29 April 2002 at 11 a.m. by the Chair of the World Urban Forum, Ms. Sankie D. Mthembu-Mahanyele, the Minister for Housing of South Africa. She welcomed participants to the session and extended a special welcome to the President of Kenya, Mr. Daniel Toroitich arap Moi. A summary of her opening remarks is provided in annex V below.

3. The President of the Nairobi Staff Union, Mr. Markandey Rai, addressed the participants before introducing the United Nations Staff Choir, the Songbirds, which entertained the participants. This was followed by a skit presented by Nairobi slum dwellers and a symbolic candle - light procession by Slum Dwellers International.

4. The Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Mrs. Anna K. Tibaijuka, then delivered a policy statement. A summary of her statement appears in annex V below.

5. The President of Kenya, Mr. Daniel Toroitich arap Moi then addressed the World Urban Forum and inaugurated the session. A summary of his statement is provided in annex V below.

6. The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ms. Louise Fréchette, addressed the session through a video message. A summary of her statement appears in annex V below.

7. This was followed by statements from the following key note speakers:

(a) Mr. Donald Kaniaru, on behalf of Mr. Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(b) Mr. Joan Clos, the Mayor of Barcelona, and Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities;

(c) Mr. John W. Flora, Director, Transport and Urban Development, World Bank;

(d) Mr. Arputham Jockin, President of the National Slum Dwellers Federation of India;

(e) The Chair of the Group of 77 (Nairobi Chapter), Mr. Germán García-Gurán, Permanent Representative of Colombia to UN-HABITAT;

(e) The representative of the European Union (Nairobi Chapter), Mr. Luis F. García Cerezo, Permanent Representative of Spain to UN-HABITAT.

8. Summaries of the above-mentioned speeches are provided in annex V.

B. Attendance

9. The first session of the World Urban Forum was attended by 1,195 participants as per the table below:

Attendance at the First Session of the World Urban Forum, Nairobi, 29 April – 3 May 2002:		
I	No. of Countries	81
	Government participants	376
I	No. of local authorities	39
I	Local authorities participants	94
I	No. of United Nations organizations	19
I	United Nations Participants	54
I	No. of countries represented by parliamentarians	11
V	Parliamentarian participants	31
V	Professional and research institutions	30
	Professionals and research participants	83
V	Private companies	24
I	Private sector participants	32
V	No. of non-governmental organizations	124
I	Non-governmental organization participants	355
V	No. of foundations	6
I	Foundation participants	9
I	No. of intergovernmental organizations	5
X	Intergovernmental organizations participants	10
X	Other participants	14
X	No. of media organizations	44
I	Media participants	97
X	UN-HABITAT participants	40
	TOTAL NO. OF PARTICIPANTS	1,195

10. The list of participants is contained in document HSP/WUF/1/INF/11/Rev.1.

C. Establishment of an Advisory Group

11. At its first plenary meeting, the Chair, on behalf of the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, announced the names of the persons who would constitute the Advisory Group for the first session of the World Urban Forum and who would advise and assist the Executive Director with the organization, management and conduct of the meetings of the session. These were the following:

- (a) Mrs. Sankie D. Mthembu-Mahanyele, Minister for Housing of the Republic of South Africa (Chair);
- (b) Mr. Sören Häggroth, State Secretary for Housing and Deputy Minister for Finance of Sweden (Co-chair);
- (c) Ms. Jan Peterson, President, Huairou Commission;
- (d) Mr. Alan Lloyd, President of the World Associations of Cities and Local Authorities Coordination (WACLAC);
- (e) Mr. Sergey P. Melnichenko, representative of the City of Moscow;
- (f) Mr. David Painter, United States Agency for International Development (USAID);
- (g) Mr. Markku Villikka, International Federation of Surveyors (FIG);
- (h) Mr. Arputham Jockin, President, Slum Dweller Federation of India;
- (i) Mr. René Frank, International Real Estate Federation (FIABCI), representative of the private sector.

D. Adoption of the agenda of the World Urban Forum

12. At its first plenary meeting, the Forum adopted the following provisional agenda for its first session.
- 1. Establishment of an advisory group.
 - 2. Adoption of the agenda and objectives of the World Urban Forum.
 - 3. Working arrangements for the World Urban Forum.
 - 4. Sustainable urbanization.
 - 5. The role of local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners.
 - 6. Cities without slums.
 - 7. The Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Global Campaign on Urban Governance.
 - 8. Monitoring and assessment.
 - 9. Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the second session of the
 - 10. World Urban Forum.
 - 11. Adoption of the report of the session.

E. Objectives of and working arrangements for the World Urban Forum

13. Also at its first plenary meeting, the Forum established a subgroup to review the objectives of and working arrangements for the World Urban Forum. The subgroup was open-ended and its meetings were attended by members of the Advisory Group and interested delegations. It was chaired by Mr. Markku Villikka, a member of the Advisory Group. The report of the subgroup is provided in annex IV below.

F. Thematic dialogues

14. Thematic dialogues were held on items 5 through 8 of the agenda. The summaries by the chairs of these dialogues are provided in annex I.

1. Role of local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners (item 5)

15. Under agenda item 5 (the role of local authorities and other Habitat Agenda Partners), the following three dialogues were organised: Decentralization; city to city cooperation; and the international role of non-governmental organizations. The dialogue on city to city cooperation, however, was referred to Dialogues II.

16. The Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium¹ both recognize that the foundation for successful management of cities and towns is the devolution of resources and responsibilities to local government. Many developing countries have already adopted decentralization policies to stimulate grass-roots democracy and participation. This in turn has promoted sustained economic growth and social development.

17. At the present session, UN-HABITAT held dialogues with all Habitat Agenda partners on effective decentralization. At the same time, UN-HABITAT is in the process of establishing an advisory panel of constitutional lawyers on decentralization that will provide authoritative advice and guidance to the high-level inter-governmental dialogue to be held later in 2002.

18. Early exchanges among cities in developed countries were followed by links with cities in developing countries. The trend towards democratization and decentralization means that the scope for cooperation among local authorities on issues of mutual interest has expanded considerably. The international role of NGO's in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda should also expand.

2. Cities without slums (item 6)

19. Under agenda item 6 (Cities without slums), one dialogue was held.

20. Every day, the total urban population of developing countries increases by more than 170,000 people, requiring an additional 30,000 housing units. Such demand has put a severe strain on shelter delivery systems all over the world and in many towns and cities, up to 70 per cent of the population lives in slums and squatter settlements.

21. Conventional housing policies and financial institutions typically provide facilities to middle and high-income earners. Although public housing finance institutions offer longer-term loans to lower income groups, they often only do so to those with clear title deeds and certifiable incomes. Therefore, by definition, the vast majority of the urban poor are excluded from formal housing finance instruments. Nevertheless, the poor save and lend to each other. Where there is no housing, they build their own shelter and the poor are currently the single largest producers of shelter in the world.

22. The Cities Without Slums initiative aims to support and channel these efforts of the poor, by investing in them and their organizations, and in cities where multiple stakeholders demonstrate a shared commitment to addressing poverty and inequality through well-integrated programmes. This dialogue, organised under the umbrella of the Cities Alliance, discussed how the Cities without Slums initiative could increase its impact.

3. Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and Global Campaign on Urban Governance (item 7)

23. Under agenda item 7, two dialogues were held on the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Global Campaign on Urban Governance, respectively.

¹ General Assembly resolution S-25/2, annex.

24. Over the years, the assumption that central governments could be the sole providers of welfare and housing for the poor has been abandoned. There is now an emphasis on enabling partnership and equitable participation that includes male and female citizens in the day-to-day management of cities and towns. In support of these developments, UN-HABITAT launched, in 1999, two complementary initiatives: the Global Campaign on Urban Governance and the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure.

25. The Global Campaign on Urban Governance seeks to promote benchmark guidelines for democratic and equitable urban development based on decentralization, sustainability, equity of access to decision-making processes, transparency, accountability, civic engagement and citizenship. International legal instruments, government commitments made at United Nations conferences and historic case studies provide the inspiration for this new advocacy approach.

26. Lack of security of tenure is both a cause and an effect of poverty. The Global Campaign for Secure Tenure advocates negotiation as an alternative to forced eviction of the poor who lack legal title or lease contract. The provision of security of tenure is the strategic entry point to investment in shanty towns, squatter settlements and slums by the poor and their supporters.

4. Monitoring urban conditions (item 8)

27. Under agenda item 8, one dialogue on monitoring and assessment was held.

28. A collective awareness of urban conditions through transparent and open processes of monitoring and evaluation is conducive to participatory urban governance and sustainable urbanization. To stimulate such processes, UN-HABITAT has established the Global Urban Observatory to assist Governments and their partners. The Observatory has developed criteria for global meta-indicators to gauge the progress, or lack thereof, in the upgrading of slums. Indicators cover type of land tenure, structural quality of housing units, and access to basic infrastructure and services. The Observatory has further created a City Development Index and will monitor improvements in the living conditions of 100 million slum dwellers, in relation to the corresponding United Nations Millennium Declaration² goal as its guide.

G. Dialogues on sustainable urbanization (item 4)

²

General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000.

29. Under agenda item 4 (sustainable urbanization), five dialogues were held: role of cities in sustainable development; rural dimension of sustainable urban development; management of the HIV/AIDS pandemic at the local level; and water and sanitation. Additionally, the thematic dialogue on city-to-city cooperation was considered under this item.

30. The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development stated in its agenda for action that safeguarding the environment is integral to sustainable social and economic development. In subsequent global United Nations conferences, such as the 1996 United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the 2001 twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the link between a dynamic environment and productive cities has been consistently reaffirmed. One of the objectives of the dialogues under this agenda item was to prepare inputs on the relationships between urbanization and the global environment into the World Summit on Sustainable Development.³

31. The Forum's dialogues on sustainable urbanization looked at new concepts and approaches to the design and management of socially and environmentally sustainable cities and towns. They addressed critical issues such as urban poverty, HIV/AIDS and the interdependence of rural and urban communities in the age of globalization.

32. Globalization has also led to the urbanization of poverty, social segregation and divided cities. Up to one third of urban households worldwide live in absolute poverty. Slums contain the classic ingredients for the HIV/AIDS epidemic: overcrowded populations, violence against women and girls, poor hygiene and inadequate shelter and health systems. Unless the spread of HIV/AIDS is halted, it will entirely change the social and demographic profiles of urban areas. All these recent developments require the formulation and implementation of appropriate policies and actions for sustainable urbanization.

III. PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SECOND SESSION OF THE WORLD URBAN FORUM

33. According to paragraph 11 of the report of the subgroup on the objectives and working arrangements of the World Urban Forum, the provisional agenda for each session of the World Urban Forum will be prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with national Governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners, at least six months in advance of the session. In accordance with the provisions of this paragraph, the Secretariat will consult, prepare and circulate the provisional agenda for the second session at least six months in advance of the session.

34. The second session of the World Urban Forum will be held in Barcelona from 13 to 17 September 2004. It will be hosted by the Municipality of Barcelona.

IV. ENDORSEMENT OF THE REPORT OF THE SESSION

35. The World Urban Forum endorsed in its entirety the present report on its work at the first session for submission by the Chair to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT.

V. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

36. At the closure of the first session of the World Urban Forum, statements were made by the following speakers:

- (a) The Co-chair of the World Urban Forum, Hon. Mr. Sören Häggroth, State Secretary for Housing and Deputy Minister for Finance of Sweden;
- (b) The Chair of the World Urban Forum, Hon. Ms. Sankie D. Mthembu-Mahanyele, the Minister for Housing of the Republic of South Africa; and

³ General Assembly resolution 55/199 of December 2000.

- (c) The Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Mrs. Anna K. Tibaijuka.
37. Summaries of their statements are provided in annex VI.
38. Brief statements were then made by participants on behalf of their respective groups, praising the conduct and outcome of the first session of the World Urban Forum:
- (a) Mr. Subir Bhattacharrya, the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to UN-HABITAT, and Chairman of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-HABITAT;
 - (b) The Deputy Mayor of Nairobi, Mr. Joe Aketch, who spoke on behalf of local authorities;
 - (c) Ms. Jane Weru of Pamoja Trust, who spoke on behalf of NGOs;
 - (d) Ms. Rose Molokoane, who spoke on behalf of slum dwellers associations;
 - (e) Mr. Tony Lloyd Jones, of the Department for International Development of the United Kingdom, who spoke on behalf of external support agencies;
 - (f) Mr. William Morogo, Minister for Roads and Public Works, who spoke on behalf of the host country, Kenya.
39. The Chair declared the first session of the World Urban Forum closed on 3 May 2002 at 4.30 p.m.

Annex I

REPORTS ON THEMATIC DIALOGUES

As indicated in paragraph 7 of the report of the Subgroup on the Objectives of and Working Arrangements for the World Urban Forum, (see annex IV of the present report), the summaries of the Chairs which appear in annex I and annex II intend to summarize the main issues and objectives raised during the presentation and discussions. These summaries have been endorsed by the plenary as an accurate reflection of what transpired in the dialogues. The plenary has clarified that the recommendations made in these summaries are not expected to reflect a consensus but the views of a number of speakers and partners which are not necessarily shared by all participants.

1. THE GLOBAL CAMPAIGN ON URBAN GOVERNANCE “THE RIGHT TO THE CITY”

Monday, 29 April, p.m.

Panelists

1. Mrs. Sankie D. Mthembu-Mahanyele, Minister for Housing, South Africa (Chair)
2. Mr. Paul Taylor, Chief, Urban Development Branch, UN-HABITAT (Facilitator)
3. Ms. Raquel Rolnik, Brazilian National Urban Reform Forum, Brazil (Keynote Address)
4. Mr. Keith Boyfield, Boyfield Associates, United Kingdom
5. Mr. Patrick Hunsley, South African Homeless Peoples Federation, South Africa
6. Mayor Ms. Mary Jane Ortega, San Fernando, The Philippines
7. Ms. Prema Gopalan, Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP), India, and Huairou Commission
8. Mr. John Flora, Director, Transport and Urban Development Department, World Bank
9. Mr. Michael Lippe, Urban Coordinator, Transparency International
10. Mr. Carl Wright, Director, Commonwealth Local Government Forum

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 7, Global Campaign on Urban Governance: Progress report of the Executive Director

The Brazilian City Statute: Collective Construction of Innovative Legislation, by Raquel Rolnik, Brazilian National Urban Reform Forum

1. ISSUES

A moment of silence was observed to remember Mr. Celso Daniel, formerly the Mayor of Santo Andre, Brazil, and a tireless champion of social inclusion. The Dialogue was dedicated to his memory.

One of the most unpleasant faces of globalisation has been the expanding gulf between the rich and the poor. A central message of the 2001 Global Report on Human Settlements is that inequality weakens the impact of growth on fighting poverty. Research has shown that decreasing inequality can have as much impact on reducing poverty as increasing economic growth. At the city level, this means that more equal cities will have a greater impact on poverty reduction than more unequal cities.

But how to make our cities more inclusive? One approach is to establish a legal “Right to the City”, as proposed during the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre this year. The meeting called for a “world document” that would serve as an advocacy tool to promote more inclusive cities. The newly adopted Brazilian “City Statute” has been held up as an example of legislation that promotes the “social function of the city” through a combination of land management instruments that deter speculation, tenure regularization procedures, and requirements for public participation in urban planning. Essentially, the Statute presents cities as the new “commons” – space to which every citizen, even the poorest, has a legal right. The concept of the “right to the city” raises several important issues, which were debated during the World Urban Forum.

2. DEBATE

Many participants criticized the current “neo-liberal paradigm” as increasing social exclusion in cities. One speaker noted that exclusionary cities were created by market mechanisms coupled with globalisation. Speakers cited growing income gaps between the rich and the poor, gated communities and the creation of a new class of urban “non-citizens”. One commented, “do many of you know where your employees live? Maybe on your roof?” Another observed, commenting on the recent Argentine experience, that the, “good governance of cities is incompatible with a neo-liberal economic order that proposes structural adjustment policies as the method and the concentration of wealth as the goal.” Some

questioned whether cities were powerful enough to master the forces of globalization for their own benefit, while others proposed that cities rally together to change national macroeconomic policies.

The appropriate role of Government and the markets in promoting equitable growth was debated. One speaker observed that the numerous small businesses in Nairobi demonstrate that, in the face of growing inequality, “markets are working.” Another pointed to a “breakdown of markets in slums,” while someone else stated that “markets could not be relied upon to provide basic services to the poor; governments do have an important role to play.” A speaker added that there was a need to “reconcile Davos and Porto Alegre” and promote cities that are both productive and inclusive. Another stressed that “a city is either inclusive or it is not a city”. On the issue of the promotion of rights to good urban governance through the establishment of fundamental principles embodied in international norms, one speaker questioned whether this was possible when there is inequality in the international economic system.

The politics and regulation of urban land was hotly contested. A point of view was advanced that conventional planning entrenched the inequalities of the market and that the logic of planning had to be reversed to make it accessible to all citizens. Speakers noted that zoning could often be used to preserve the best land for the wealthy, while forcing the poor onto marginal land. Local politicians, another noted, can develop clientelistic relations with the urban poor, providing small investments in exchange for political support. The fundamental power structures, however, remain unchanged. Planning regulations and instruments, such as those contained in the “City Statute,” some argued could be useful in making cities more equitable. Excessive regulation, another warned, “merely provides opportunities for rampant corruption.” The speaker suggested the denationalisation of land-use planning and the creation of a transparent market in property development as other options to regulation. “Zoning controls,” they added, “merely raise prices and force people to commute huge distances.” Property rights, another countered, should never be placed above human rights.

The issue of corruption featured prominently in the debate. One speaker highlighted the negative effects of corruption: an extra tax on the urban poor; loss of trust in institutions such as the police; and a disincentive for investment in cities. They added, “people are often betrayed by leaders who, in theory, should be looking after their interests.” They remarked that there was a general impression that local government is more corrupt than national government. Another participant disagreed, stating that the “fundamental problem is that much of government is top-down and not directed by the grassroots.” The strengthening of local democracy was advocated, noting that the right to information was fundamental and should be enshrined in legislation. Many called for increased transparency and accountability in local and national governments.

Many speakers called for a new approach to poverty reduction, one that promotes more effective grassroots governance and builds on the initiatives of the urban poor themselves. Said one participant, “We are not looking for partnerships which are project driven, but partnerships which acknowledge the knowledge and resources that the poor bring to the table.” Examples of grassroots savings groups and housing programmes initiated by the poor themselves were cited as evidence of the resources of the poor. One speaker noted the difficulty of donors to directly fund both local authorities and grassroots organisations. Others argued that donors should support not just projects, but processes too, particularly those that help the poor mobilise and learn from each other.

Many participants championed the participation of the urban poor in poverty reduction programmes. One speaker, however, noted that the poor “are forced by circumstances to participate,” not by choice. The debate focused on the issue of the quality of participation. One speaker stated, “there needs to be a reform of policies which allow for not only consultation, but also for deciding priorities and assigning development resources.” Another cautioned, however, that even in the case of participatory budgeting in Brazil citizens had political control over only 10-12 percent of the city budget. Other speakers: warned of the potential for non-governmental organisations to act as gate-keepers of the urban poor; observed that interest group politics can undermine notions of the common good; and noted the decline of participation in the North. An important relationship was identified by many between participation and citizenship. “Do the poor have a right to the city,” asked one participant, “yes they do if they stand up and be counted and show they can be responsible.” There was a call for a new “culture of citizenship,” a new civism. As

one speaker pointed out, “we need to teach people how to live in cities.” Another speaker mentioned the role of faith-based groups in the process.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- The market alone cannot be relied upon to deliver basic services for the poor; there is an important role for national governments and for creating new partnerships between local authorities and the private sector;
- Tenure without providing the poor and marginalised with access to prime urban land and basic services can perpetuate exclusion; good urban governance does not mean there is no conflict of interests at the local level
- Rights-based approaches and regulation can be useful for promoting social inclusion, but excessive regulation can create disincentives for business and a climate for corruption;
- Participation is essential for ensuring more equitable development, however, capacity building and access to information are also vital for effective local democracy.

2. CITIES WITHOUT SLUMS

Tuesday, 30 April 2002, a.m.

Panelists

1. Mr. J.P. Elong Mbassi, Coordinator, Municipal Development Partnerships, and Cities Alliance Policy Advisory Board (Chair),

2. Mr. Geoffrey Payne, Principal, Geoffrey Payne and Associates (Facilitator)

First part: Lessons Learned and Innovations on Slum Upgrading

3. Mr. Alan Carroll, Lead Urban Specialist, World Bank, Africa Region

4. Mr. Landing Sane, Restructuration et regularisation fonciere des quartiers d'habitat spontané, Fondation Droit à la Ville Dakar, Senegal.

Second part: Setting Local Targets for the Millennium Declaration Goal 'Cities Without Slums'

5. Ms. Somsook Boonyabancha, Director, Community Organizations Development Institute (Thailand); Secretary General, Asian Coalition for Housing Rights Partnerships & Chair, Cities Alliance Policy Advisory Board;

6. Mr. Paulo Teixeira, Secretariat of Housing and Urban Development, City of São Paulo;

7. Ms. Edith Mbanga, community development activist, Namibia;

8. Mr. Kosmos Egumbo, Strategic Executive, Planning, Urbanisation and Environment, Windhoek, Namibia.

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 4, Cities without slums

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 5, Urban development and shelter favouring the poor (draft theme paper for the Governing Council at its nineteenth session)

1. ISSUES

The most significant result of rapid urbanization, particularly in developing countries, has been growth of urban slums and informal settlements. These settlements are fast becoming the most visible expression of poverty worldwide, the expressions of an increasing urbanization of poverty. It is against this background that the leaders of the world recently set themselves a new goal in the Millennium Declaration. Heads of State and Government resolved *"By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers as proposed in the 'Cities Without Slums' initiative."*

The objectives of the Dialogue are to a) review lessons learnt and innovations on slum upgrading, and b) to set local targets for the realization of the Millennium Declaration Goal on "Cities without Slums". The dialogue was thus organized with two consecutive sessions; each introduced by two or more presentations.

2. DEBATE

The Millennium Development goal of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020 may seem overtly optimistic. Yet, if the goal is viewed in light of the total number of slum dwellers today and the projected growth in the number of slums during the next two decades, the perspective changes. In fact, the target may then be very modest.

It has become increasingly evident that the goal of cities without slums must be addressed in a two-pronged approach. On the one side, it is essential that the concerns of current slum dwellers are addressed; on the other hand the growth of new slums must be reduced, by providing affordable and appropriate new land developments. In fact, provision of housing should not be perceived as the main problem. The main problem is the lack of appropriate and sustainable urban land development.

With respect to the second approach, it is essential that new land developments must be located in areas that are within reach of employment opportunities and basic services. Moreover, such new developments must be established within an enabling framework. Minimum standards should be established with respect to infrastructure and services at the city level, through consultations with all partners.

The goal of cities without slums must clearly not lead to forced evictions or to problem solving by bulldozers. With the exception of settlements that have been constructed in environmentally hazardous or strategic locations, all slums should be upgraded *in situ*. Cities without slums imply that slum areas are transformed and integrated into the city, through poverty reduction strategies, improved infrastructure, services and housing.

In this connection, it is essential to undertake in-depth surveys in all slums. Yet, even in settlements that are deemed inappropriate for habitation, people should be given temporary residency permits while alternative locations are identified in consultation with the residents themselves. The residents of such communities should be given preferential treatment with regard to the allocation of land in new land developments.

A simple way to initiate activities towards achieving the goal of cities without slums might start with an expression of strong political will, formally stating that no further forced and unnegotiated evictions will take place. This is a measure that can be taken everywhere and immediately, without any legislative or regulatory changes. For people living in poverty, *de facto* security of tenure is just as important as *de jure* security.

Equally important, it is essential to bear in mind that the people living in poverty are not a homogenous group. To successfully address the concerns of people living in poverty it is essential to know who they are, why they are poor and what their priorities are. Particular attention should be paid to gender issues, and the needs of older people, people with disabilities and other vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. Furthermore, it is essential that the people themselves are involved in identifying priorities. Several experiences have shown however that secure tenure – should be understood within a broad context as people living in poverty may instead require temporary residence permits, which give them security in the short an intermediate term, and allow them to sustain a daily income that ensures their survival.

Although community participation is essential for successful slum upgrading, this is not enough. Genuine and appropriate partnerships between stakeholders are required. Acceptance as an equal partner can facilitate a feeling of ownership among the slum dwellers themselves, particularly when they are an organized and empowered community.

Furthermore, the involvement of communities has to be perceived at several levels. Empowering of communities is a goal in itself. In addition, networking and linkages between the various partners including communities is essential in upgrading initiatives. The role of local authorities in urban development, particularly in slum upgrading, is fundamental.

Synergies are one major expected outcome of partnerships, including those involving external donors or technical cooperation agencies. Synergies between these external parties are very important. Such agencies should take care in ensuring that their terms of references are in line with that of other similar agencies, and thus prevent conflicting conditions in their approaches.

Partnerships between communities and their organizations, Egos, local authorities, national governments, service providers and private sector players are essential components of addressing the goal of cities without slums. Yet, having these arrangements in place is not enough. Technical means and solutions only can not achieve a reduction in the number of slums and slum dwellers.

Structural changes, such as improved or new legislative and regulatory frameworks are also often essential. Moreover, new institutions may be required. Some of the institutions that have managed the failures of the past should be replaced by new institutions that can more effectively address the concerns

of today.

To achieve the goal of cities without slums, a programmatic approach – with citywide or countrywide focus – is essential. Such programmes must have a long-term perspective and should include both slum upgrading and new land developments. Moreover, national or citywide development and poverty eradication strategies have to be integral components of these initiatives.

All slum upgrading and new land development initiatives have to pay particular attention to the issue of affordability and cost recovery. It is important to note that people living in poverty should not be forced to pay more for infrastructure and services than middle and higher income groups, as is often the case. Moreover, particular attention has to be paid to the concerns of tenants, which frequently constitute the majority of residents in slums and informal settlements.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Stop all unlawful and forced evictions immediately.
- Promote security of tenure in its different forms.
- When relocation becomes inevitable, due to environmental or other hazards, new locations must be planned in partnership with the communities concerned.
- Address the interests of tenants as well as landlords in slum upgrading initiatives.
- Identify who the poor are, and their priorities.
- Ensure gender focus in all aspects of slum upgrading and new land developments.
- Slum upgrading alone is not sufficient, appropriate new land developments are also required.
- Promote partnerships between all stakeholders, and empower communities to become equal partners.
- The role of local authorities in slum upgrading is fundamental.
- Promote institutional and legal reforms.
- Physical planning is required for urban and rural areas according to social, economic and environmental studies with the participation of national government, local authorities and civic communities.
- Physical planning is required to avoid new slums, and such plans should be prepared in cooperation by national governments, local authorities and civil society to address the needs of urban and rural settlements.

3. DECENTRALIZATION

Tuesday, 30 April 2002, p.m.

Panelists

1. Senator Mr. Ernesto Gil Elorduy, President of the Global Parliamentarians on Habitat, (Chair)
2. Prof. R. Stren, University of Toronto, Canada
3. Prof. I. Shivji, University of Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania
4. Prof. O. P. Mathur, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi, India
5. Prof. C. Souza, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil
6. Dr. H. Hoffschulte, Senior Vice-president, Council of European Municipalities and Regions, Germany
7. Dr. J.P. Ngugi, Programme Coordinator, Kenya Local Government Reform Programme
8. Ms. N. Dube, Speaker of the Ethekwini Council (formerly Durban), Social Economic Department Committee, SALGA, South Africa

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 1, Dialogue on effective decentralization, including principles and legal frameworks in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

The Newest Decentralization: Can We Sustain It? By Richard E. Stren, University of Toronto,

Habitat Debate, special issue on decentralization

1. ISSUES

Despite many efforts and different decentralization policies, many developing countries are still looking for acceptable options regarding new social and economical responsibilities for municipalities in areas such as education and health vis a vis the continuing role of national government ministries in these areas. With new and expanded powers at the local level, issues relate to the scope for associations of mayors or municipalities; the financial autonomy of municipalities and with large numbers of newly elected councilors, the kind of training facilities or institutions needed to ensure their effective participation in local government bodies. Important issues relate to whether municipalities need more funding given an extensive list of powers under new constitutional amendments and the implications of making municipalities responsible for urban poverty alleviation. Further, important issues relate to the sort and rate of tax collection and local revenues and whether municipalities should have the right to issue bonds for the purpose of financing infrastructure; the relative roles of business and local government bodies in the development of infrastructure and services; planning mechanisms required to ensure an even local provision of essential social services and infrastructure; the support required for municipalities to effectively perform a development function and the role of national and provincial governments in guiding development at the municipal level; the selection of communities and community organizations for engagement in local development including organizational or institutional frameworks; the connection of a participatory budgeting process with the regular process of decision-making and budgeting under the control of elected local councilors, and the relationship between decisions on capital budget expenditures made by different districts of the city and city-wide expenditures .

2. DEBATE

Drawing from their own regional experience with decentralization, panelists generally agreed that decentralization policies had great potential for strengthening local authorities, anchoring democracy in developing and transition countries, as well as implementing the Habitat Agenda. One speaker discussed how the notion of subsidiarity could be employed to offer philosophical support to this process. However, some participants raised doubts as to the sustainability of the new trends of decentralization if there is no strong and enabling role from central governments. Some participants stressed that decentralization can

only be effective where there is a strong central government.

Participants also raised the importance of local autonomy as an essential building block of national and sub-national democracy and the use of existing international human rights instruments to monitor the performance of decentralization policies was also raised.

There was general support for some international initiative and based on the recognition that decentralization was essential to overall international and national objectives of democratic governance, economic growth and sustainable development. However, it was observed that decentralization often stopped at the city level, while in many African countries, which are still predominantly rural, the village level is the most important for development. An integrated approach to decentralization is therefore required. It was also noted that in some African countries, cities contribute as much as 80 percent of the GDP and must have sufficient autonomy to compete in the globalized economy.

It was mentioned that that there was an important role for local governments in mitigating the negative consequences of globalization, particularly as many Governments are gradually withdrawing from service provision. Several speakers also stressed that the local authorities were increasingly relying on public-private partnerships to deliver services and there is a need to ensure the poor are not priced out of the market. Other speakers called for increased capacity-building support to the local level to enable local authorities to fulfill their new responsibilities.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Despite all political, cultural, legal, and institutional differences in the context of decentralization, countries around the world could benefit from various frameworks, including constructive guidelines to guide the process towards an effective decentralization.
- The key role of national, sub-national, legal, cultural, political and social settings.
- Decentralization need not be regarded as an ideology, but as a tool for development. There needs to be a menu of options for different states drawing on the rich experience of many countries.
- Successful decentralization and development processes are complementary.
- There is a link between the decentralization process and important issues of gender in modern societies.
- Hope was expressed that this discussion on decentralization issues could contribute to the formal intergovernmental dialogue on decentralization mandated by the Commission on Human Settlements and due to begin later this year.

4. CITY-TO-CITY COOPERATION

Wednesday, 1 May 2002, a.m.

Panelists

1. Councilor Alan Lloyd, Chairman of WACLAC, President of IULA, Swansea City Council, UK (Chair)
2. Mr. Paul Bongers, Consultant to UN-Habitat (Facilitator)

Introduction: C2C for Sustainable Urbanisation – Partnerships for WSSD

3. Perspective of city authority: Ms Mary Jane Ortega, Mayor of San Fernando, Philippines
4. Perspective of support organisation: Mr Marcelo Nowersztern, United Towns Organisation
5. Perspective of cities association: Mr Carl Wright, Director, Commonwealth Local Government Forum

Partnership 1: New Model C2C Agreements

Partnership 2: From Best Practice to Policies

6. Introduction: Mr Nick You, UN-Habitat
7. Perspective of cities association: Ms Judit Carrera, METROPOLIS
8. Perspective of funding agency: Mr Aser Cortines, Director, CAIXA, Brazil

Partnership 3: Training Programme for Local Authorities on C2C for Sustainable Development

9. Introductions: Mr Christophe Nuttall, UNITAR and Mr Tomasz Sudra, UN-Habitat
10. Perspective of private sector/donor: Mr Dominique Heron, Vivendi Environment
11. Perspective of support organisation: Mr Marcelo Nowersztern, United Towns Organisation

Partnership 4: Partnership for Local Capacity Development

12. Perspective of cities association: Ms Emilia Saiz, International Union of Local Authorities
13. Perspective of donor: Mr Jonas Westerlund, Deputy Permanent Representative, Sweden

Conclusion: Taking the Partnerships Forward to WSSD

14. Perspective of city authority: Councillor Parks Tau, Johannesburg City Council, South Africa

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 2, City-to-city cooperation, transfers and international exchanges based on documented best practices, good policies and action plans

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 2/Add.1, Guidelines for documenting urban policies and enabling legislation

Second Interim Report: 'City-to-City Cooperation: Issues Arising from Experience', UN-Habitat and WACLAC, April 2002

1. ISSUES

This session of Dialogue I addressed the theme of 'City-to-City Cooperation' ('C2C'), allying itself with the Dialogue II process of debating potential partnerships to be taken forward to the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The session was based principally upon the findings of a second Interim Report on the current state of the art of C2C jointly prepared by UN-Habitat and WACLAC. For the purposes of this dialogue the term 'city' was understood to cover local communities of all types and sizes ranging from megacities to small towns and villages. The term city-to-city cooperation refers to a wide range of processes whereby local government practitioners work together, often with support from external agencies, to exchange experience and expertise and seek solutions to shared problems.

It is apparent that traditional town twinning has moved on a long way (without abandoning its strong cultural roots). International cooperation between local authorities has expanded greatly in recent years, often with positive results but sometimes inefficiently and unsustainably. C2C takes place more often now through thematic networks rather than one-on-one links. A wide range of shared problems are being addressed by cities working in partnership, sharing best practice experience and expertise and learning new skills in policy development and implementation. A growing number of bi-and multi-lateral agencies support this cooperation – North-North, North-South, West-East, and, increasingly, South-South.

The structured analysis of the policies and practices of cities and support agencies in C2C on the

basis of their defining characteristics points to certain significant trends in C2C practice and policy issues arising. The need is seen for local authorities, support programmes and funding agencies to combine their efforts to reduce duplication, fill gaps, and ensure maximum efficiency. It is suggested that, alongside effective decentralisation, C2C has a significant role to play in building the urban governance capacity needed to make the urbanisation process sustainable.

Particular issues calling for attention are:

- the need to facilitate further the spread of best practice exchange among city practitioners and to enhance its impact upon future urban policies;
- the need to promote awareness of best practice in C2C itself;
- the need to expand training of practitioners engaged in C2C to make best use of the opportunities it provides;
- the need to ensure that support provided to C2C initiatives is demand-led rather than supply-driven;
- the need to improve the availability of information on C2C practice and to facilitate a policy dialogue among local authorities, support agencies and donors aimed at reducing duplication, filling gaps, and achieving maximum collective efficiency.

The four prospective partnerships put forward to the session sought to address these issues, viz:-

Partnership 1: A series of new model C2C partnership agreements illustrating the range of possible forms such decentralised cooperation may take;

Partnership 2: A partnership commitment to develop the best practices exchange system in the direction of feeding the lessons from best practices into the development of good policies and enabling legislation;

Partnership 3: A partnership to develop a public-private sector training programme for C2C capacity-building based upon the needs being identified in a series of regional seminars organised by UNITAR and UN-Habitat in conjunction with WACLAC and Vivendi Environnement.

Partnership 4: A 'Partnership for Local Capacity Development' to facilitate joint policy formation between local authorities, support agencies and donors on the basis of a systematic information service.

2. DEBATE

The issues behind the prospective partnerships were debated individually in the light of the panelists' presentations and the findings of the new Report on C2C. While the participants recognised the relevance and inter-connectedness of the whole range of C2C practice, ranging from traditional town twinnings via the activities of national and international associations and networks to externally supported capacity-building projects, they focused in particular upon the contribution of C2C to local capacity development in the South and the countries in transition. Examples of successes and failures in C2C practice were outlined, against the background of a broad consensus regarding the value and potential of C2C initiatives which are soundly based, carefully targeted and engage the participation of the relevant stakeholders.

The following points were highlighted:-

- the need for local authorities to have sufficient capacity and autonomy to be able to make effective use of C2C;
- the tendency of UN and other external agencies to view C2C as technical transfer mechanisms meeting their own policy objectives rather than organic partnerships between cities wishing to develop policies together;
- the difficulties created by inappropriate linkages fostered by external agencies;
- the need for C2C to be rooted firmly in the local community - including business interests, NGOs and CBOs, and other stakeholders - to ensure its sustainability;
- the relatively low cost of peer-to-peer exchanges involving in-kind inputs by the cities themselves, as compared with consultancy approaches;
- the need for C2C initiatives to have clearly defined objectives, practical outputs and realistic

timeframes;

- the advantages to be gained from South-South cooperation on account of the greater similarity of conditions between the partners;
- the powerful contribution of C2C to confidence-building and conflict resolution in post-conflict situations, as demonstrated by the work of the Council of Europe's 'local democracy agencies' in Central and Eastern Europe;
- the contribution which can be made by C2C links at local community level as demonstrated by the initiatives of the South African Homeless Federation;
- the need to find effective ways of scaling up successful individual C2C initiatives within countries and assuring their longer-term sustainability;
- the need to move beyond approaches based upon formal cultural ties and/or charity (eg. provision of redundant equipment) to those which really engage the communities concerned and notably young people;
- the need to give serious attention to ways of overcoming cultural and linguistic barriers and ensuring full mutual confidence;
- the need to improve mechanisms for monitoring the contribution made by C2C to meeting organisational development goals;
- the continuing need to improve the accessibility of support programmes for local authorities in more remote areas, and to step up funding support for them;
- the desirability of sharpening the targeting of C2C support and developing a sensitive normative framework to guide future initiatives;
- the need to overcome the shortfall in training in urban capacity development, including the practice of C2C;
- the interest of certain private sector partners in supporting well targeted initiatives and strengthening the social awareness of private sector utility providers;
- the potential contribution of C2C in the area of institutional strengthening and change management;
- the need for C2C exchanges relating to urban services to take place at all appropriate political, managerial, professional and technical levels ;
- the importance of building any new coordination arrangements between local authorities, support programmes and donors upon the substantial and growing support and facilitation services provided by the existing international, regional and national local government associations, and to focus upon practical outcomes for cities;
- the need to develop longer-term policy partnerships between local government organisations and international support programmes;
- the need for ownership by local government and its associations of the proposed new Partnership for Local Capacity Development, including participation in its funding and management and clear linkage with existing support facilities.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- C2C brings substantial benefits for urban capacity development and has much potential to contribute to sustainable urbanisation;
- There need to be clear legislative powers in all countries for local authorities to cooperate internationally;
- The four prospective partnerships presented at the session should be further developed between the relevant parties;
- It must always be kept in mind that cities and towns do not merely consist of local government structures and collections of buildings but are communities of human beings who must participate fully in defining their living conditions and way of life.

5. INTERNATIONAL ROLE OF NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Wednesday, 1 May 2002, p.m.

Introductory statements

1. Mr. Cesare Ottolini, Habitat International Coalition-HIC
2. Ms. Ruth Mc Leod, Homeless International
3. Ms. Anna Vasilache, Partners of Romania Foundation for Local Development
4. Mr. Eric Makokha, Coordinator Africaucus
5. Ms. Jan Peterson, Groots International
6. Mr. Wahome Muchiri, Host of "Upclose & Candid", Nation TV, Kenya, (Facilitator)

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 3, International role of non-governmental organisations in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

1. ISSUES

A moment of silence was observed to remember Jacques Bugnicourt, founder and Executive Secretary of ENDA-Tiers Monde, who had passed away.

The purpose of the Dialogue was to discuss the International Role of NGO's; link up the corners of the triangle among international NGO's, local grassroots organizations and the individual citizens. The expected outputs of the dialogue were 1) matrix of the division of labour for further implementation 2) strategy for the Urban sector NGO in Johannesburg 3) action plan/decetralization towards increased NGO contribution in the Slum upgrading rehabilitation and poverty reduction programmes and 4) initiative to establish an NGO Advisory Board to UN-HABITAT. In order to focus the dialogue/debate the following major issues have to be addressed. Firstly, the role of citizens in development and typologies of interaction between citizens, local governments and national governments. Secondly, how to support and increase the contribution of NGOs to the implementation of Habitat Agenda through international cooperation. Thirdly, how to structure the voice of NGO vis-a-vis the UN discussion on Habitat Agenda. Fourthly, how to go forward with the citizens brown agenda. He fifth issue to be addressed is how to involve large (international) NGOs into urban poverty eradication and slum upgrading programmes. Lastly, the issue on how to better articulate UN and NGO interventions into reconstruction programmes.

2. DEBATE

This dialogue was well attended by NGOs and representatives of local and national governments with approximate total participants of 170. The debate could be broadly divided into the views and positions of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) participants and those of local and national government participants.

From the CSO participants:

One specific concern of Community Based Organizations is that they should be recognized as equal partners and with a place "on the table", representing themselves as opposed to being represented by others. Further, they would like grassroots knowledge and expertise to be respected at the policy level.

At the macro level, there are certain global crisis and situations that need a response from a Habitat Agenda perspective. These are globalization and the destruction of settlements and livelihoods by war. These were raised as concerns of CSOs that are perceived to be inadequately addressed by the international development community.

Various CSO roles and areas of work were identified. They include advocacy (especially on pro-poor policies and practices), knowledge building and shaping global policy. One very important role for NGOs is facilitating the link between local authorities and communities. This role implies constant dialogue and negotiation with both sides. It also includes support to community exchanges. Constraints to such interventions include lack of adequate resources, and the absence of an enabling political environment.

As far as relationships with governmental and inter-governmental structures, there is a feeling that CSOs have been accepted but are still regarded with suspicion: in other words, partnership is still problematic in many areas. National governments in particular are seen as being suspicious of NGOs. The participants from the governments indicated that governments are ready to cooperate with the NGOs, granted that NGOs work on noble-causes, and that they are well managed and accountable.

From non-CSO participants:

There was general consensus that NGOs are doing very important work, have very high levels of commitment, are pro-poor and are well suited to intervening at the local level. However, certain constraints and reservations were expressed: a perceived unnecessarily confrontational and "moral superiority complex" attitude towards governments; very diverse views and ways of operating among NGOs, including competition and suspicion among themselves; agendas that are not always "noble", too much political involvement; lack of monitoring and accountability mechanisms; and inability to scale-up.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Some points of agreement were reached even though there was no consensus *per se*. It was agreed that the work of NGOs is important and valuable. Recommendations for the future include:

- Recognition that it is difficult, and perhaps not necessary to achieve NGO consensus on all issues. The challenge is to find mechanisms for managing and benefiting from diversity. This includes finding effective conflict resolution mechanisms, as well as self monitoring and evaluation;
- NGOs need resources for their work, including resources for participating in international fora and work;
- A very important role for NGOs is to link communities and local government. This needs recognition in the form of resources and an enabling political environment;
- Intergovernmental agencies (UN-HABITAT) should play a role in building trust of governments towards NGOs;
- UN-HABITAT should do a critical analysis of its relationship with NGOs. An NGO Advisory Board may be one mechanism for effective partnership but it needs thorough discussion by all stakeholders. The process for this discussion could be initiated in Johannesburg, during WSSD through a multi-stakeholder meeting.

6. GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR SECURE TENURE
STOPPING FORCED EVICTIONS AND SECURING TENURE

Thursday, 2 May 2002, a.m.

Panelists

1. Ms. Ruth McLeod, Homeless International, UK (Chair)
2. Mr. Miloon Kothari, Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing (Facilitator)
3. Mr. Ezekiel Rema, Muungano Wa Wanavijiji, Nairobi, Kenya
4. Ms. Maria Lucia Leite, Municipal Government of Rio, Brazil
5. Mr. Gautam Chatterji, Mumbai Municipal Authority
6. Mr. Mann Chhoeun, Municipality of Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 7, The Global Campaign for Secure Tenure: Progress report of the Executive Director

1. ISSUES

The Dialogue was organized to address the issue of unlawful evictions and to propose means for local and international actors to stop evictions, and promote negotiated alternatives. The topic was selected by the Secretariat based on an assessment of the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure that identified the issue as crucial for the further advancement of the Global Campaign. In an effort to break from the pattern of all presentations and little debate, the Dialogue was organized in four separate presentation/dialogue sub-sessions. These were experiences of evictions, present international legal framework for monitoring and stopping evictions, practical local alternatives to eviction, and recommendations by and for local and international actors to stop evictions and create conditions for negotiated alternatives.

2. DEBATE

Participants discussed experiences of evictions from Kenya, Philippines, and Cambodia among other countries. Violent evictions result in loss of life and property and deep distrust and suspicion within settlements and between settlements and the state. They generate a view among slum dwellers that they are not perceived to be human, legal, and nor citizens of the city. A forced eviction is sometimes used as a politic tool to dislocate certain populations and win votes from others. Mayors frequently claim that the evictions are beyond their control and the result of other forces. Slum dwellers in many cities and regions are mobilizing to stop forced evictions. They recognize that unless they generate a critical mass that is well organized, they will not be heard. Power in numbers and coordination among organizations of slum dwellers in various cities provides the basis for effective negotiation with government at all level. This enables the possibility of negotiated resettlement and in-situ upgrading as constructive alternatives to eviction. Current evictions taking place in Indonesia, Pakistan, India, Kenya, Philippines and elsewhere heighten the urgency with which this issue needs to be addressed, if the credibility of the United Nations as a proponent of secure tenure and good governance is to safe-guarded.

The Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing informed participants that there is a legal basis for understanding, monitoring and stopping violent forced evictions. The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is charged with the responsibility for monitoring the compliance of Member States that have ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In 1993, the Commission on Human Rights adopted a resolution on forced evictions with explicit reference to the illegality of forced evictions, reaffirming the work of the Committee. Efforts to use international instruments to stop forced evictions require awareness raising and mechanisms, especially at the local level. This must begin with a thorough understanding of the root causes of evictions that range from such as land grabbing, privatization, military occupation (as in occupied Palestinian territories), discrimination, and other forms of social exclusion.

Participants reviewed panel presentations (and video) on the experiences of the Favela Barrio Project in Rio, Brazil and partnerships (NGO, private, slum dweller and public) for slum upgrading in Mumbai, India. Subsequently, they described practical alternatives to evictions, including steps necessary to support these.

- The assets of slum dwellers and their organizations are a vital resource for upgrading and resettlement, including knowledge, savings, and organizational capacity.
- Regularization need not always be the first or most important step in securing tenure, and may need to be resolved incrementally, over time.
- Organizations of slum dwellers should not fall prey to city governments keen on using participatory relocation as a "lubricant" for cleansing and rendering their cities suitable for foreign investment.
- Evictions can occur even where operational systems of secure tenure are in place: tenure minimizes but does not eliminate the possibility of forced eviction.
- Resettlement is a social as well as physical/technical process and needs to incorporate economic investment to support livelihoods.
- Need for preventive strategies based on improving livelihoods in rural areas and secondary towns and cities are necessary to mitigate rapid urbanization.
- There are excellent examples of how land can be leveraged as a resource to create development options for those currently living in informal settlements.
- Forced evictions in cities often disrupt food production, consumption and distribution in both rural and urban areas.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Participants devoted 50 minutes of the Dialogue to generate concrete recommendations. These are to:

- Establish a group to promote mechanisms for linking systems of eviction monitoring to networks of institutions/individuals with experience in promoting negotiated alternatives. The composition of the group should include slum dweller associations, government, local authorities, NGOs, private sector professional organizations.
- Urge the United Nations System to utilize this group and/or other mechanisms to take a position on how it will monitor and respond to unlawful evictions.
- Undertake surveys and consultation exercises in order to understand slum dweller's perception of security, which may differ from the statutory basis of legal security of tenure.
- Create open forums for all relevant stakeholders in order to nurture collaborative working relations among private sector, slum dwellers, professionals, and government at all levels.
- Explore, test, and legitimize systems of tenure in addition to individual ownership (title)
- Monitor the use and allocation of public land.
- Incorporate in planning processes the elements of long-term maintenance of shelter and service improvements in resettlement planning and in-situ upgrading.
- Create a structured space and a non-technical language to ensure full participation--especially by organizations of the urban poor-- in constructive dialogue and negotiation.
- Provide a "one-stop-shop" government planning and approval agency that is a "one-stop-shop" in order to cut the bureaucratic barriers to slum upgrading.
- Engage owners of land and structures in the discussions on secure tenure.
- Promote direct and full-fledged negotiation with slum dwellers and their organizations in government efforts to provide secure tenure, undertake in-situ upgrading and, where necessary, and resettlement.
- Put into place sufficient benchmarks and realistic timing for consultation if resettlement is unavoidable.
- Ensure municipal governments prioritize in-situ and resettlement within their overall city planning (including land use, zoning and allocation), and be prepared to take the lead in infrastructure provision and land allocation (recognizing that the people have an active role to play in production processes).
- Make use of international human rights instruments as an effective means of monitoring and preventing forced evictions.

7. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

Thursday, 2 May 2002 p.m.

Panelists

1. Mr. Omar Noman, Deputy Director, Human Development Report Office, United Nations Development Programme for, New York,
2. Professor Paul Syagga, Professor of Real Estate Economics at the University of Nairobi and Dean, the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Development,
3. Mr. Emiel Wegelin, Economist, Director, UrbAct - International Advisory Services for Urban Action, Rotterdam, Netherlands. Former Director of the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies, Rotterdam,
4. Dr. Marc Weiss, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Prague Institute for Global Urban Development, Prague, Czech Republic, and Washington, DC
5. Mr. Jeroen Klink, Direct Adviser of the Mayor of Santo Andre, Secretary for International Relations, Municipality of Santo Andre, Metropolitan Region of Sao Paulo,
6. Mr. Malik Gaye, Team Leader, Relay for Urban Participatory Development, ENDA Tiers Monde, Dakar, Senegal,
7. Dr. A. Ravindra, Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, India, Chairman of the Bangalore Urban Observatory Steering Committee,
8. Mr. Andrew Boraine, Special Advisor to the Minister for Provincial and Local Government in South Africa,
9. Mr. Jaime Vasconez, Territorial Co-ordinator of the Metropolitan Municipality of Quito. Formerly, Regional Advisor for the Urban Management Program for Latin America and The Caribbean
10. Mr. Wahome Muchiri, of the Nation Television, Kenya. (Facilitator).

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.1/Paper 8, Preparations for the Global Report on Human Settlements 2003 and the State of the World's Cities 2004,

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.1/Paper 9, Monitoring urban conditions and trends

1. ISSUES

The Dialogue focused on three thematic areas:

- Global monitoring: the UN-HABITAT flagship reports and global monitoring system established by the Global Urban Observatory
- Monitoring the Millennium Development Goal related to Slum Upgrading
- City-level monitoring by setting up an urban information infrastructure at the local level for better policy formulation.

Cognizant of the advocacy value of global reports, the General Assembly has decided that UN-HABITAT should publish a flagship report every year, alternating between the Global Report on Human Settlements, and the State of the World's Cities, in order to raise awareness on human settlements and to provide information on urban conditions and trends around the world.

The latest issues, the Global Report on Human Settlements 2001 and the State of the World's Cities 2001, drew attention to the urgency of addressing the urban problem emerging from an unprecedented growth of urban populations, the impact of globalization which exacerbates urban poverty, as well as to outdated governance systems that do not cater for the needs of the urban poor.

For both reports, the Global Report on Human Settlements 2003 and the State of the World's

Cities 2004, the next theme will be urban poverty, slums and exclusion. While the Global Report in 2003 will give a global coverage, the World's Cities report in 2004 will revolve around the same theme within mega-cities, with an emphasis on rural-urban linkages.

The choice of this topic has an organizational significance for UN-HABITAT, as it aims to strengthen the normative framework for the eradication of urban poverty, within which the thematic foci of the two campaigns, the Global Campaign on Urban Governance and the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure, fit. The theme of urban poverty, linked to shelter security and social and political exclusion, is also closely associated with the world development agenda as defined in the Millennium Declaration.

Since the advocacy power of these reports is directly proportional to their quality and relevance, the international community must ensure that these reports are combined with appropriate monitoring mechanisms. Such monitoring systems do not only have a global comparative value, but they also have a value in terms of establishing models, based on which national or sub-national monitoring systems can be strengthened. The Global Urban Observatory, which was established by UN-HABITAT in 1997, has already initiated a network of national and local urban observatories that need to be strengthened for this purpose. Global data collection activities of the GUO constitute a direct input to the UN-HABITAT global reports.

Monitoring the United Nations Millennium Development Goal on Cities without Slums, namely the "improvement in the lives of 100 million slum dwellers" by 2020, constitutes a major part of the Observatory's mission. A 'Secure Tenure Index' has been proposed for monitoring the goal, being a composite index of housing conditions, access to services and legal compliance of structure.

2. DEBATE

The discussions revealed that the present two flagship reports do not clearly differ in terms of content, target, groups, format and style. One single flagship report would help to focus on crucial issues, in order to get the attention of the public and the media, given the scarce resources available. The importance of a media strategy was also discussed. Many participants debated whether or not the production of global reports could become a multi-stakeholders exercise, involving all partners of the Habitat Agenda.

Participants discussed the value of the existing indicators and indices proposed by UN-HABITAT, particularly the City Development Index and the Secure Tenure Index. It was proposed that the indicators must be approached in a phased style. The urgent (priority) indicators should be analyzed at the first phase, and others should be covered at a later phase. The present data collection infrastructure was also discussed, with an intense debate on how data produced at the local level could feed the national and global levels with relevant indicators in order to monitor the national and global trends. While some city representatives were in the opinion that cities should generate their own data regardless of international reporting systems, other representatives argued that global standards are extremely useful for comparing themselves to the rest of the world. Those cities consider UN-HABITAT methods and tools as extremely valuable in order to monitor their own performances and progress.

The role of intra-city differentials was emphasized by a large number of participants. Many city representatives underlined the need for intra-city measures in order to highlight important gaps in most development issues between the different areas of cities. It was also suggested that UN-HABITAT strengthens its use of scientific methods in order to ensure a more streamlined and a cost-effective way of analyzing indicators. Global Urban experience has shown that both quantitative and qualitative monitoring should be closely linked.

Experiences presented by participants on local and national monitoring systems lead to a discussion on the value of an open and participatory assessment of policies and practices for local and national learning processes.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- A very large number of participants recommended that UN-HABITAT consider the production of one flagship report instead of two. Many participants advised that UN-HABITAT invest in a strong media strategy and view the production of global reports as a multi-stakeholders exercise, involving all partners of the Habitat Agenda. It was also strongly recommended that UN-HABITAT regularly evaluate the impact of flagship reports.
- Some participants recommended that UN-HABITAT continue the work initiated on the development of a limited set of indicators and indices, including a number of qualitative measures. In particular, it was advised to pursue the work on the Secure Tenure Index in order to monitor the Millennium Development Goal on Cities without Slums, with the active participation of all partners at the local level.
- It was also recommended that UN-HABITAT takes measures to avoid changing definitions and the scope of indicators very often, so as to enable the comparison of the 'likes' over time. UN-HABITAT was also requested to focus and prioritize its monitoring activities in view of resource constraints.

Annex II

REPORTS ON DIALOGUES II – SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION

As indicated in paragraph 7 of the report of the Subgroup on the Objectives of and Working Arrangements for the World Urban Forum, (see annex IV of the present report), the summaries of the Chairs which appear in annex I and annex II intend to summarize the main issues and objectives raised during the presentation and discussions. These summaries have been endorsed by the plenary as an accurate reflection of what transpired in the dialogues. The plenary has clarified that the recommendations made in these summaries are not expected to reflect a consensus but the views of a number of speakers and partners which are not necessarily shared by all participants.

1. INTRODUCTORY SESSION ON SUSTAINABLE URBANIZATION

Monday, 29 April, p.m.

Panelists

1. Hon. Sören Häggroth, State Secretary for Housing and Deputy Minister for Finance, Sweden (Chair)
2. Mr. Bai-Maas Taal, DPDL, UNEP, (Keynote Statement)
3. Mr. David Painter, US-AID, (Keynote Statement)
4. Ms. Kaarin Taipale, Chairperson, ICLEI (Keynote Statement)
5. Mr. Jonas Rabinovitch, UNDP, (Keynote Statement)

Thematic Prospectuses (Dialogues II)

Sustainability of cities (Alan Lloyd, Chairman WACLAC, President IULA)
The Role of cities in sustainable development (Dr. Marc A. Weiss, Chairman, Prague Institute for Global Urban Development)
The Rural dimension of sustainable urbanisation (Mr. Jonas Rabinovitch, UNDP)
The Management of HIV/AIDS pandemic at the local level (Dr. Caroline Nyamai, AfriAfya)
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (Mr. Kalyan Ray, UN-HABITAT)

Thematic Prospectuses (Dialogues I)

City-to-City Cooperation (Mr. Paul Bongers, Consultant, UN-HABITAT)

Documentation

UN- HABITAT Preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD)

Four Dialogues II background papers on Agenda item 4:

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/ Paper 1, Sustainability of Cities,

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/ Paper 2, The role of cities in sustainable development,

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/ Paper 3, The rural dimensions of sustainable urbanisation,

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/ Paper 4, The management of HIV/AIDS pandemic at the local level.

One Dialogues I background paper:

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/ Paper 2, City-to-city cooperation, transfers and international exchanges based on documented best practices, good policies and action plans

1. ISSUES

Cities have a leading role in economic transformation and growth – they are centres of innovation and engines of economic development, mobilising investment and achieving unprecedented gains in productivity. Cities also play a leading role in social advancement and political transformation. Clearly, cities and human settlements give the most promising opportunities for social and economic advancement. But the reality is often very different and the promise is – in many cities - largely unrealised. Poverty, environmental degradation, inequalities, and social tension seem to be the actual situation in the cities. This is not sustainable urbanisation.

The fundamental bottlenecks to sustainable urbanisation, however, are local implementation capacities and sound governance - rather than lack of technology, funding, or international agreements (although these are certainly important) The task of overcoming these bottlenecks touches on many different topics and issues such as decentralisation, institutional reform, training and capacity-building, empowerment, governance, broad-based participatory decision-making, *etc.*

With these as the fundamental issues to be faced, UN-Habitat has identified three related challenges which are of special relevance to the WSSD preparatory process:

- The vital contributions which cities and other human settlements can and should make to social, economic and environmental sustainability are generally not being realised;
- Local actors, especially local authorities and their partners, generally lack the capacity to effectively play their many important roles in sustainable urbanisation;
- External support to local action is often supply-driven, disjointed, poorly co-ordinated, and collectively inefficient.

2. ORIENTATIONS FOR DIALOGUES II

Sustainable Urbanisation was characterised in several ways:

- it is a dynamic process, rapidly changing but difficult to control;
- it is widely encompassing – bringing together urban and rural and looking at whole systems of human settlements from village to town to city to metropolis;
- it is multi-dimensional, going beyond environmental to include economic and social and political-institutional sustainability;
- it deals directly with the inter-relationships between cities and the environment, at both metropolitan, sub-national, national and global levels.

Sustainable urbanisation is still a new approach and needs further definition and common understanding. As is the case for sustainable development, it goes beyond environmental factors to include social, economic and political-institutional factors. It is a dynamic process at the heart of global and national development. Sustainable urbanisation encompasses both urban and rural areas and focuses on their diverse linkages and footprints.

Other points of emphasis included good governance, mobilisation of local resources, and partnerships.

It was suggested that participants in Dialogue II should focus their attention on the following “Five Points” for organising their thinking and their contributions:

1. With respect to the thematic topic under discussion, what is the promise of sustainable urbanisation?
2. What are the key challenges and tasks associated with sustainable urbanisation *in relation* to the three key issues?
 - helping cities to realise their crucial contributions to sustainable development;
 - assisting local actors, especially local authorities and their partners, to improve their planning, implementation and management capacities;
 - developing mechanisms to promote cohesion and collective efficiency in the international support to local capacity building.
3. In what ways can these opportunities and challenges be effectively addressed?
4. What are the potential recommendations for the WSSD preparatory process in relation to the tasks mentioned under (2), and the responses mentioned under (3)?
5. What “partnership implementation commitments” can be identified, developed and documented for putting forward to PrepCom-4 in Bali

The proposed “Millennium Cities Campaign” (WACLAC) was recognised as an important “model” for awareness building and exchange of lessons learnt, and thereby engaging individual cities and towns

world-wide in the implementation of the UN Millennium Declaration. It was recommended that this campaign and others like it should be supported by the UN and other agencies.

Different thematic and institutional interests have different ideas about and viewpoints on “sustainable urbanisation”; this diversity should be welcomed, as the different perspectives can be brought together to give a more balanced and broad-based understanding.

Issues such as gender, or HIV/AIDS, or democratisation and empowerment, are also important for “sustainable urbanisation” and should therefore receive specific attention in the deliberations and debates.

2. SUSTAINABILITY OF CITIES

Tuesday, 30 April, a.m.

Panelists

1. Mr. Alan Lloyd, Chairman WACLAC, President IULA (Chair)

Partnership 1:

2. Perspective of City Authorities: Mr. Patrick G.C. Tembo, Mayor of Kitwe City Council
Zambia
3. Perspective of International Support Programmes – Ms. Wilma van Esch, Programme Officer
ILO SEED – EMP/INVEST
4. Perspectives of Donors – Prof. Han Verschure, Leuven University, Belgium.

Partnership 2:

5. Perspectives of City Authorities: Mr. Anura Dassanayake, Ministry of Urban Development,
Housing & Construction, Colombo, Sri Lanka
6. Perspective of International Support Programmes – Mr. El Housseynou LY, IAGU, Dakar,
Senegal.
7. Perspectives of Donors – Mr. Tony Llyod-Jones, DFID and co-leader of UK delegation

Partnership 3:

8. Perspective of City Authorities: Mr. Abdelaziz El Mouatez, Councilor, Essaouira Municipal
Council, Morocco.
9. Perspective of International Support Programmes – Mr. Rob de Jong, Urban Environment,
DPDL, UNEP.

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/ Paper 1, Preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development: The Sustainability of Cities.

UN- HABITAT Preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

1. ISSUES

This session of Dialogue II addressed the theme “Sustainability of Cities” – the issues which surround sustainable development at the individual city level. Evidence from around the world strongly suggests that the most fundamental bottlenecks to the sustainability of cities are local implementation capacity and sound governance, rather than lack of technology, funding, or international agreements (although these are important) The task of overcoming these bottlenecks – and moving toward sustainability of cities - touches on such issues as decentralisation, institutional reform, training and capacity-building, good governance, partnerships, and broad-based participatory decision-making and management.

This general perspective has led UN-Habitat to identify three specific challenges as the focus of its efforts toward sustainability of cities:

- Firstly, cities need help in order to realise their crucial contribution to sustainable development.
- Secondly, local actors, especially local authorities and their partners need assistance to improve their planning and management capacity.
- Thirdly, there is need for mechanisms to promote cohesion and collective efficiency in the

international support to local capacity building.

It is widely agreed that these key challenges – and the bottlenecks noted above – can best be addressed through partnerships. (Equally, partnership agreements are an intended output of Dialogue II). Accordingly, the session was organised around three specific partnership ideas: one at local level, one at national level, and one at global level. In order to highlight the issues at these different levels as seen from different perspectives, each of the partnership proposals was examined by a panel representing:

- Local authorities
- International support programmes
- Donors / Financial support.

Partnership 1:

A partnership on supporting local capacity building through demonstration/replication activities for sustainable urban development planning, implementation and management.

Partnership 2:

A partnership commitment for strengthening nationally the capacities of local governments, associations of local authorities and learning institutions to routinely integrate the lessons of experience from local demonstrations into national sustainable urbanisation and poverty alleviation policies, strategies and associated legal frameworks.

Partnership 3:

A partnership commitment for developing global norms for sustainable urbanisation and related multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) together with mechanisms for both, contribution of local needs/ experiences and local responses in terms of adaptation and implementation.

2. DEBATE

Numerous city and government representatives reported on the key challenges they face for sustainability, for instance solid waste, water supply, sanitation, employment, etc., and a variety of experiences were described and discussed. The use of “community contracts” (Dar es Salaam) provided an effective way to organise a community to take responsibility for solid waste collection while also upgrading local skills and generating local income.

Cities reported on experiences with Local Agenda 21 activities (Nakuru, Vinh) and with SCP initiatives (Kitwe, Leningrad-Vijborg-Kirishi) and commended these approaches as being quite helpful in organising local actions.

Strategic planning (including regional planning) was discussed and widely agreed to be an essential element for more sustainable cities. Strategic means broad-based, flexible, over-all guidance (not land use or master planning), encompassing environmental, economic, spatial, and social dimensions and done in a partnership, participatory way.

Many difficulties were reported because of the lack of an appropriate legal and regulatory framework for local authorities and local action, and also because of a lack of financial resources at the local level. However, some initiatives to decentralise authority and finance, and to empower local authorities, were reported. The need for an effective system to channel national support to local actions was also emphasised (Morocco, Gambia, Uganda). The potentially valuable role of local experience as an input to national policy and programmes is generally not understood.

Local capacity development is clearly a felt need virtually everywhere. But in addition to support to local authorities, capacity-development is also needed for other partners (such as local communities, local private sector) – and also for the national government bodies which should support local actions. Several calls were made for international programmes to expand their capacity-development work.

Although some examples of good co-ordination among UN and other external agencies were reported (e.g. UN-Habitat with ILO, UNEP with UN-Habitat), these were generally worked out at the local level or at the programme level. It is felt that co-ordination at policy levels is still poor, with too many interventions working independently of each other.

There was a fear that the “Urban Dimension” of sustainable development was losing emphasis in the WSSD preparatory process; it was suggested that international agencies develop common approaches to raise the profile of sustainable urbanisation as a core aspect of WSSD.

The importance of local actions for implementing global environmental norms and agreements was emphasised; indeed, it was felt that many of the major global issues could not be effectively addressed unless local authorities and local partners are much more closely involved in policy formulation, programme development, and – especially – implementation.

Finally, there were some issues which were highlighted as not having received sufficient attention in the discussions: gender, population, cultural heritage.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Virtually all session participants agreed that partnerships are essential for effective implementation of actions aimed at the sustainability of cities.
- Local capacity development and support is needed for facilitating meaningful and effective involvement of the full range of partners, including community groups, NGOs, private sector, etc., and should be focused more clearly at the operational and implementation needs of those partners and of their partnerships.
- Good governance plays a crucial role in sustainability, and key elements of good governance include decentralisation, legal and financial empowerment at the local level, and openness to broad-based civil society participation and partnerships.
- Strategic planning and regional planning are important institutional supports to an integrated approach to the sustainability of cities and are particularly important for bringing together the environmental, physical-spatial, economic and social dimensions.
- Better co-ordination among donors and international programmes is needed, particularly in relation to interventions at the local level.
- Local resource mobilisation should be much more emphasised and utilised.

3. THE ROLE OF CITIES IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, 30 April, p.m.

Panelists

1. Mrs. Mercedes Bresso, President, UTO-FMCU (Chair)
2. Mr. Aser Cortines, Director, Caixa Economica Federal Brazil
3. Mr. John Flora, Director, Transport, water and urban division, World Bank,
3. Dr. Julius Malombe, Urban specialist, Ministry of Local Government, Kenya,
4. Ms. Mary-Jane Ortega, Mayor, san Fernando, Philippines
5. Ms. Kaarin Taipale, Chair, International Council for Local Environment Initiatives
6. Dr. Marc Weiss, Chair, Prague Institute for Global Urban Development

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/Paper 2, Preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development: The role of local authorities in national and international development.

1. ISSUES

The dialogue focused on two sets of related issues: (a) the contribution of cities and local authorities in addressing major social, economic and environmental issues; and (b) measures and actions that need to be taken for cities to realise their full potential in forging more sustainable urbanisation and development. The presentations focused on lessons learned from recent experience in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America. These included issues ranging from partnerships and participation between public, private and civil society organisations in poverty reduction and social inclusion; the implementation of Local Agendas 21 and what cities are doing in terms of climate protection; local and metropolitan strategies for urban economic development in response to globalisation; and the reform of urban policies and legislation.

2. DEBATE

The debate clearly underlined the fact that sustainable development in general, and sustainable urbanisation in particular is no longer a predominantly ecological or environmental issue. Rather, it is composed of a set of issues including poverty and job creation, gender equality and social inclusion, governance and government policy and legislation. Decentralisation and the empowerment of local authorities were often repeated issues with a particular need to devolve financial powers and resources together with responsibilities and accountability. One particular issue that was raised was that municipal and provincial fiscality, based primarily on real estate, road and car registration taxes, are contradictory to more sustainable urbanisation as these taxes encourage cities and local authorities to promote real estate development and the use of cars and thus urban sprawl. Another issue that was raised was the fact that all spheres of government tend to think and act sectorally, which does not correspond to how people, and particularly the urban poor, live their lives and define their priorities. Several participants stressed the need to forge partnerships and participation between all spheres of government and with all stakeholders, and the urban poor in particular, for policy and strategy development and implementation. The debate also centered on the need for reviewing and reforming urban legislation; in many developing countries there is an absence of urban policies and legislation and where these do exist, they are not readily accessible or known to the majority of stakeholders.

There was general agreement that economic development and sustainable urbanisation need not be at loggerheads. Economic development is an absolute necessity and priority for many cities in order to generate jobs to combat poverty and exclusion as well as the resources and revenues required to extending universal coverage of urban infrastructure and basic services. Increasingly, the productivity of and wealth of nations are dependent on the productivity and wealth of cities. Effective urban economic development, however, requires strategic planning. Without strategic planning, development tends to occur in a haphazard and opportunistic manner. One effective strategy is to anchor development initiatives with the region and rural hinterland, to harness the combined resources, talents and people, including

social capital and cultural assets to provide both competitive advantages as well as a unique sense of place. Last but not least, economic and social sustainability is simply not possible when a significant portion of the urban population lives in abject poverty and is socially and politically excluded. Deliberate policies and action plans for urban poverty reduction are required, including slum upgrading, skills training, entrepreneurship development and access to credit and micro-credit.

Barriers to sustainable urban economic and social development also need to be addressed. These are typically found in: (1) lack of clear definition of role and responsibilities between different spheres of government, poor urban governance and lack of urban management and planning capability; (2) competing jurisdictions between different spheres of government and entities responsible for the provision of public services; and, (3) weak fiscal authority and lack of transparency and reliability in inter-governmental transfers.

The informal sector, which often represents a major part of the urban economy in developing country cities needs to be recognised and guided in its location and development, rather than simply tolerated or victimised. Efforts are required to bridge the gap between formal and informal sectors of the economy.

While the priorities for local sustainability are overcoming poverty and equity, enhancing security and preventing environmental degradation, there is a need to pay more attention to social capital and cultural vitality in order to foster citizenship and civic engagement. Efforts should focus on youth so as to instill a sense of environmental awareness for an early age and to bring about long-term changes in consumption patterns.

3. LESSONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Urbanization needs to be guided to reap the maximum benefit for all and strategic planning is a key instrument to this end.
- Urban management and the brokering of multi-stakeholder involvement is required rather than urban administration which tends to be bureaucratic.
- Participatory planning and decision-making is crucial to more sustainable social and economic development and environmental protection.
- Equitable distribution of benefits of development rather than the distribution of resources is required and essential to combining efficiency, productivity and equity.
- Cities are essential to national development. The national economy depends on the performance of the urban economy and regional economic development strategies represent an effective approach to harnessing social, financial, natural and human resources to make cities more productive and competitive.
- Cities and local authorities must be included as major stakeholders and actors in the formulation and implementation of national poverty reduction policies and strategies as poverty is increasingly an urban phenomenon.
- Coordination and cooperation between of all spheres of government is required to promote coherence among and mutual support between social, economic and fiscal policies and legislation.
- Cities have a lot to learn from each other and city-to-city cooperation should be mainstreamed both nationally and internationally.
- There is a need for the systematic documentation and dissemination of urban policies and legislation both as a means to informing all stakeholders and the general public and as a means to fostering mutual learning between cities internationally.

4. THE RURAL DIMENSION OF SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Wednesday, 1 May, a.m.

Panelists

1. Dr. Kangethe Gitu, Former Permanent Secretary, Ministries of Planning and Labour, Republic of Kenya (Chair),
2. Prof. Om Prakash Mathur, Professor of Housing and Urban Economics, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi, India,
3. Prof. P. Nkondi Mbaki, Minister of Public Works, Regional and Urban Planning, Democratic Republic of the Congo,
4. Ms. Mara Biasi Ferrari Pinto, Executive Director, Brazilian Institute of Municipal Administration
5. Mr. Desmond Halley, Deputy Mayor of East London, South Africa
6. Mr. Jonas Rabinovitch, Technical Advisor, UNDP, BDP/Institutional Development Group
7. Dr. Graham Tipple, University of Newcastle, UK (Rapporteur)

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/Paper 3, The rural dimension of sustainable urban development (draft theme paper for the Governing Council at its nineteenth session)

1. ISSUES

The purpose of the Dialogue was to discuss the impact of sustainable urban development on rural areas, assess past and present policies designed to address urban-rural linkages and make relevant recommendations. The output of the Dialogue was envisaged as a set of recommendations designed to achieve a number of objectives, the key ones being: (i) adequate capacity of cities and towns to absorb excess rural population; (ii) improved quality of life of urban inhabitants, including migrants from rural areas; (iii) improved quality of life of the population remaining in rural areas; (iv) spreading of the benefits of urbanisation to all parts of national territories, including better access to physical infrastructure and social services; (v) stimulation of productive activities within rural areas through investment in physical infrastructure; and (vi) elimination or minimisation of negative environmental impacts of urbanisation on rural areas. In doing this, and in order to come up with recommendations based on past experience and emerging realities, the Dialogue addressed the following major conceptual and policy questions. Firstly, is the rural-urban dichotomy debate now counterproductive and should urban and rural areas be seen as existing in a human settlements continuum? Secondly, should Governments now move away from policies designed to reduce rural-to-urban migration, given the relative lack of success of such policies? Thirdly, what policies and strategies should Governments pursue to maximise the positive and minimise the negative impacts of urbanisation on rural areas?

2. DEBATE

Several participants commended UN-HABITAT for holding the Dialogue and the World Urban Forum in general and expressed their interest in sharing experiences.

Most participants agreed that urbanisation is inevitable while some expressed the view that enhancing rural development would encourage people to stay in rural areas. Evidence was quoted from several countries that policies to curb rural-urban migration have failed. Such policies are also very costly and trying to restrict labour movement can create economic distortions. Instead, most participants favoured the view that attention should be shifted to policies that better manage urbanisation. Most participants also agreed that the rural-urban dichotomy debate is counterproductive and urban and rural areas should be seen as parts of the human settlements continuum. On the other hand, some participants argued that urban and rural areas have very different roles.

One of the problems identified by several participants was the difference between urban and rural areas. It was suggested by some in the discussion that urban and rural areas should be made more compatible. Examples were given of projects designed to narrow the gap between modern towns and poor rural communities, including measures to strengthen infrastructure and education and to increase productivity and create employment in rural areas.

Most participants agreed to the need to develop secondary and tertiary towns and several relevant programmes/projects were described. Intermediate cities would help to cushion the radical change from rural to urban and were described as an opportunity to create cohesion between urban and rural inhabitants. Several delegates mentioned urban and peri-urban agriculture as a means to combat poverty.

Some delegates described integrated policies that approach issues such as housing in both urban and rural areas. It was emphasized that bringing the poor to the centre of development processes contributes to sustainable development and community participation creates trust and a sense of ownership in the community.

Some delegates suggested an integrated approach to urban and rural areas could be achieved through physical planning. It was emphasized that the concerned communities should be involved in the planning process.

Several participants commented on the issue of land parceling typical of many African countries, which can make agricultural production inefficient and contribute to poverty in rural areas. It was pointed out that social and cultural issues such as people's relationship to land need to be considered by policy makers.

It was argued that, although urbanisation is a universal phenomenon, the underlying causes are different from country to country and need to be researched, so that policies are based on knowledge. Some participants mentioned the need to research the issue of why urbanisation in some countries is not matched by economic growth.

Some participants commented on the impact of globalisation on urbanisation. One of the speakers expressed doubt whether globalisation increases rural-urban migration, as globalisation creates demand for highly specialised labour, such as software and financial specialists. A very interesting example of the effects of globalisation is China, where the Government is adopting policies to encourage rural-urban migration in order to combat the poverty of rural farmers.

It was pointed out that while local development is best tackled by local authorities, there is a need to consider the relationships between different levels of government and different institutions.

3. LESSONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Policy makers need to accept that urbanisation is inevitable;
- Policy makers need to focus on managing urbanisation rather than fighting it;
- Development policies should deal with urban and rural areas together in a holistic manner, including the development of small and medium-sized towns;
- Community participation and capacity building for communities is important;
- More research on the causes and effects of urbanisation is necessary.

5. MANAGING HIV/AIDS PANDEMIC AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Wednesday 1 May 2002, p.m.

The Dialogue to discuss the management of the HIV/AIDS pandemic at the local level was organized into three segments: Voices of the people, voices of Local authorities and responses from national, international and UN agencies.

Participants

1. Ms. Jan Peterson, International Secretary, Huairou Commission (Chair),

Segment 1: Voices From the People,

2. Patricia Atieno, HIV/AIDS widow from Kibera, Nairobi, living with AIDS,

3. Kibera Laini Saba Youth Group Association,

4. Jacinta Mumbua, HIV/AIDS orphan from Kibera, Nairobi,

5. Dr. Caroline Nyamai- Coordinator of Afri Afya,

6. Ms. Robina Biteyi- AMREF,

7. Dr. David Elkins-Futures Group,

8. Ms. Kasolo Nabaggala, National Association of Women, Uganda,

Segment 2: Voices of Local Authorities,

9. Professor Babacar Kante, UN AMICALL,

10. Mr. Mbuso Dlamini, Manzini, Swaziland,

11. Ms. Julie Dyer, Health Officer, Msunduzi Municipality, South Africa,

Segment 3: Response from National/International/UN Agencies,

12. Ms. Catia Sanches, Health Director, State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil,

13. Dr. Wiwat Rojanapithayakorn, Senior Adviser, International Healthy Policy Programme, Thailand,

14. Dr. Warren Naamara, UNAIDS Country Programme Adviser, Nairobi,

15. Dr. Moses Sichone, Regional Adviser HIV/AIDS, UNICEF,

16. Dr. Vincent Habiyambere, WHO, Geneva.

Documentation

HSP/WUF/1/DLGII/Paper 4, The management of the HIV/AIDS pandemic at the local level

1. ISSUES

In the context of the Millennium Declaration adopted by member states of the United Nations, to halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS, the Habitat Agenda and the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS in June 2001, UN-Habitat has initiated a process to bring the issue of HIV/AIDS in the context of sustainable urbanization. UN-HABITAT is in the process of developing initiatives that link HIV/AIDS to shelter and Human settlements development and address factors that make individuals, communities particularly vulnerable to HIV infection, such as economic insecurity, poverty (including lack of adequate living conditions), lack of secure tenure, social exclusion, lack of empowerment of women and all types of social exploitation of women, girls and boys.

There is increasing evidence that the lack of adequate shelter has a direct impact on the prevention of HIV/AIDS and also the care and support of those infected and affected by the epidemic. This is particularly so in urban slum environments where the capacity of the people and the local authorities to respond and provide services has been severely weakened by the impact of the epidemic. The capacity of local authorities to deal with the HIV/AIDS pandemic is also limited.

The objectives of the dialogue of addressing HIV/AIDS at the local level was address those issues related to shelter and human settlements development with a special focus on the most vulnerable, especially the HIV/AIDS orphans

2. DEBATE

The Executive Director, UN-HABITAT opened the debate by emphasizing the fact that the HIV/AIDS pandemic has serious impacts on human settlements development. The UN-HABITAT initiative on HIV/AIDS and shelter, especially for the orphans and the local authority capacity building programmes were highlighted.

During the segment on ‘Voices from the people’, a skit from local community highlighted issues faced by slum dwellers as a result of HIV/AIDS. The debate touched on the direct link between poverty and HIV/AIDS. In this context, it was observed that grassroots organizations need to organize themselves to deal with the epidemic. Innovative ways of peer-to-peer response have proved effective in dealing with the spread of the epidemic. The need to make resources available at the local level as well as the urgent need to support legislative/policy reforms such as land reform, the review of discriminatory laws, inheritance and succession laws were identified as critical elements to achieving positive impacts. The role of family, in all its forms, was highlighted as critical in developing community support systems for the HIV/AIDS affected persons, especially the children in distress. Adequate shelter was identified as a key element in managing the epidemic. This should include access to services, adequate infrastructure and privacy especially for the infected and for HIV/AIDS orphans. The key issues requiring strengthening were identified as : (a) a collaborative approach involving all stakeholders at the local level, (b) focus on interventions at local level to ensure direct access to services (treatment, counseling, etc) , and (c) adequate shelter and security of tenure as an important element of the management of HIV/AIDS.

The debate during the segment on ‘Voices of Local Authorities’ focussed on the many key issues. At the local level, HIV/AIDS was seen not only as a health issue. Its impacts on the local economy, municipal staff, the social fabric of the city and the revenue of local authorities were highlighted. Decentralization policies at national level and delegation of various powers and responsibilities at local level, including management of HIV/AIDS pandemic were identified as a key prerequisite. Local leadership was essential to put the HIV/AIDS agenda as a part of the development agenda. Multi-sectoral responses need to be coordinated at local level and the role of local authorities is important. For this, capacity of local authorities and all stakeholders need to be developed to prepare a local HIV/AIDS management strategy. For effective implementation of HIV/AIDS programmes, an inclusive, transparent and participatory systems approach was advocated.

Responses from National, International/UN institutions discussed the importance of mobilizing leadership at all levels, and making resources available at local level. International and national commitment to support action by local and national leaders stressed. The need for inter-sectoral collaboration was highlighted.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- Mainstreaming/integrating HIV/AIDS intervention in all sectors is critical but more so at the local level
- National Policy articulating the role of local authorities is necessary in the fight against HIV/AIDS (as in case of Thailand, Uganda and Brazil). National policies for prevention of spread of HIV infection are important, but needs strong political and financial commitment at all levels of governments. It was highlighted that local community focussed actions, supported by local authorities and national governments have resulted in a drop in prevalence rates in Uganda and Brazil and Thailand and these can be replicated in other countries.
- Adequate shelter and security of tenure are essential for care and treatment of HIV/AIDS affected persons, especially the children and orphans. UN-HABITAT along with other partners
- needs to develop special programmes, and mainstream HIV/AIDS component within the Cities without Slums initiative.
- Good governance is a key to a successful HIV/AIDS programme at local level. Inclusive, transparent

and participatory systems approach for effective implementation of HIV/AIDS programmes is needed at local level.

- More efforts are needed to build capacity of local authorities to integrate HIV/AIDS within the overall perspective of human settlements development.

6. PRO-POOR WATER AND SANITATION FOR CITIES

Thursday, 2 May 2002, a.m.

Panelists

1. Sir Richard Jolly, Water Supply & Sanitation Collaborative Council, Geneva (Chair),
2. Mr. Ashok Chatterjee, WSSCC, Pune, India,
3. Ms. N. Dube, Speaker of the Ethekewini Council (formerly Durban), Social Economic Department Committee, SALGA, South Africa,
4. Mr. Malik Gaye, ENDA Tiers Monde, Dakar, Senegal,
5. Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta, Minister for Local Authorities, Government of Kenya,
6. Ms. Sheela Patel, SPARC, Mumbai, India.

1. ISSUES

The Millennium Declaration has set a clear goal of achieving significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020. Providing safe water and effective and hygienic sanitation to the urban poor will be a central challenge to achieve this goal.

The Chairman proposed three key challenges. Firstly that the goal of improved water and sanitation coverage is achievable if we can effectively mobilise local resources; secondly that there are many examples of good practices from around the world which need to be shared and; thirdly communities are ready to take action.

The meeting was presented with information that current methods of assessing levels of services coverage particularly amongst the urban poor, were inaccurate and that national statistics masked the very low levels of service provision that actually prevailed in peri-urban areas. The situation with respect to availability of water resources in many urban settlements, particularly in Africa is very severe. Increases in the production of waste results in many of these scarce resources being further depleted.

2. DEBATE

The meeting underscored the importance of water and sanitation as a foundation for sustainable development of urban settlements. But in order to be sustainable, new and innovative methods of financing and of mobilisation of local resources were necessary.

In terms of policy development, the meeting underscored the importance of ensuring that legislation relating to water management applied the principles of decentralisation and that local policies relating to urban planning, made due provision for water and sanitation

The dialogue discussed the need to consider an appropriate range of technology options and particularly when local conditions made the use of conventional technologies inappropriate.

Much of the discussion concerned the relationship between local authorities and communities in working together as providers of services. Good examples of community sanitation were presented. Representatives from local authorities fully agreed that communities are becoming increasingly empowered to demand services and that they have developed new and innovative ways of engaging in dialogues. Establishing community-friendly local authorities can offer new approaches for engaging the public, which enable local resources to be efficiently mobilised in the pursuit of improved water and sanitation services particularly for the urban poor.

3. LESSONS AND CONCLUSIONS

- It was proposed that an important area for capacity building in local authorities should be the effective mobilisation of community involvement in the provision of basic services.
- The meeting resolved that there was an urgent need to develop practical, realistic assessments to be made of coverage of basic services of water and sanitation, in order that the limited resources could be channelled more effectively.
- The meeting concluded that the true costs of lack of basic services would be reflected in the increased proportion of water and waste-related epidemics.
- Investments in the water and sanitation sector should be from all partners and in both financial and human resources, particularly with respect to mobilising the community efforts.
- In terms of policies to support service coverage for water and sanitation, legislative requirements should cover all relevant sectors not only water ministries, but those involving management of local authorities.
- There is an increased need for collaboration amongst local authorities and the various actors at community level. The establishment of a collaborative framework amongst the local authorities and communities in cities was deemed an important first step in the process. Successes achieved in the field of sanitation can provide a new way to start liaison for other services.

Annex III

CONCLUSIONS BY THE CHAIR OF DIALOGUES II ON SUSTAINABLE URBANISATION

1. Introduction

1. In the week from 29 April to 3 May 2002, in the context of the first Session of the World Urban Forum, some 400 Habitat Agenda partners from national governments, inter-governmental organisations, local authorities and their associations, non-governmental organisations, community based organisations, slum dwellers, and experts came together in Nairobi for a series of half-day dialogues on “sustainable urbanisation”. The dialogues were designed to prepare for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) and had three objectives: A *first objective* was to ensure that participants are fully aware of the agreed focus of UN-Habitat in relation to the WSSD, and also to develop a clearer understanding of what is meant by “sustainable urbanisation” in this context, so that the efforts of diverse partners will be more coherent, consistent, and mutually reinforcing. A *second* was to strengthen collective understanding of the key challenges of sustainable urbanisation, using the thematic dialogues to further develop and synthesise different perspectives and ideas, thus leading to concrete conclusions for the WSSD preparatory process. A *third objective* was to jointly review and further develop Partnership Implementation Commitments, organised as type-2 outcomes of WSSD which can be fed directly into the preparatory process during PrepCom-4 in Bali.

2. In order to achieve these objectives the dialogue series was initiated with an *Introductory Session*, to create a common base of understanding and to commit participants to the approach, after which there were six *Thematic Dialogues*, to explore the core ideas of sustainable urbanisation from different perspectives; finally, there was a *Closing Session*, to bring together and review the ideas and results from the earlier dialogues, and re-confirm shared understandings and common commitments, in a report to be presented to the over-all WUF final plenary. The six themes addressed in the individual dialogues were: (a) sustainability of cities; (b) the role of cities in sustainable development; (c) the rural dimension of sustainable urbanisation; (d) the management of HIV/AIDS pandemic at the local level; (e) water, sanitation and hygiene, and (f) city-to-city co-operation. For each of these thematic dialogues a background paper had been prepared by the secretariat, and contributions from carefully selected panellists initiated a lively debate, which led to the following principal conclusions.

2. What is “Sustainable Urbanisation”?

3. “Sustainable Urbanisation”, as discussed and elaborated during the dialogue series, has a number of special characteristics. It is, of course, a process – and a very dynamic one. Most important, it is multi-dimensional – it includes not only environmental but also social, economic, and political-institutional sustainability – and it brings together urban and rural, encompassing the full range of human settlements from village to town to city to metropolis. In this way, sustainable urbanisation brings under one heading the crucial linkages between cities and their environment, at local, metropolitan, regional, national and global levels. It thus provides, for example, a framework for dealing with the environmental impact of cities on their hinterlands, or with the economic relationships and ecological linkages between town and countryside. By taking this wider view, sustainable urbanisation moves beyond sterile arguments about urban versus rural, accepts the reality of urban growth and migration among human settlements, and concentrates on effective management of the process.

4. Poverty, gender inequality, and deprivation are central challenges to sustainable urbanisation – no process of urbanisation or development will be sustainable unless it successfully addresses these issues. This means that economic and social dimensions are crucial for sustainable urbanisation, in human settlements of all sizes. It also means that the scourge of HIV/AIDS, which so powerfully impacts on cities and poverty, is a vital concern to be integrated into sustainable urbanisation.

5. Good governance (embracing local authorities, other spheres of government, and civil society)

is another core concern, being an essential mechanism of the urbanisation process. Local authorities endowed with adequate powers, resources, and operational capacity, combined with empowered and capable communities and other local partners, are at the heart of sustainable urbanisation. Water and sanitation in human settlements, for instance, are vital for health and for economic prosperity – especially for the poor - and for sustainability; but if the current inadequate provisions are to be corrected, communities and civil society and local government will have to work together.

6. Sustainable urbanisation has both a short-term and a long-term perspective: it is concerned not only with current problems, it also looks ahead, to deal with future issues and situations, not only in relation to the environment but also in combating poverty and social exclusion.

3. Challenges and Responses

7. It is accepted that the principal barriers to sustainable urbanisation lie in the general lack of planning, implementation, and management capacities on the part of local governments and their local partners. Overcoming these barriers, which have many dimensions, is a fundamental challenge of sustainable urbanisation. This challenge, and appropriate responses, can usefully be considered under the heading of Good Governance, which includes: (a) democratisation of decision-making and enabling meaningful participation of all local stakeholders including women and the urban poor; (b) municipal autonomy and empowerment, including an appropriate legal, regulatory and financial framework for local government; (c) public sector reform, especially in changing from a supply-led to a demand-driven approach to public services; (d) effective decentralisation of authority and resources, both from national and regional government to local government, and within local government to sub-units and communities, and (e) vital role of local authorities and their local partners in making sustainable urbanisation a reality.

8. These challenges call for a variety of responses, but particularly capacity-development initiatives – of many different kinds – directed at the full range of local actors: local authorities, NGOs, communities, private sector, *etc.* More diverse and active forms of experience sharing, information exchange, and mutual learning are called for, including city-to-city and community-to-community co-operation in its many forms, as well as more effective access to and use of Best Practices information. Making cities aware of - and responsive to - their wider environmental impacts, especially potentially adverse impacts on surrounding rural regions, is another vital awareness-raising and capacity-building task. Equally important is the development of institutions, procedures and capabilities for communities (especially the poor) to become significant and active partners in local urbanisation.

9. A key challenge is to incorporate gender concerns and responsiveness into operational procedures and actions at the local level. Women have played the leading role in many of the most successful community-level initiatives, especially in poor areas, and are in any case best placed to articulate their own needs and priorities.

10. Mobilisation of local resources - whether municipal, community and household, private sector, or other - was emphasised as a key challenge throughout the Dialogue. For instance, the ability of poor communities to generate sufficient own-resources to build and maintain local water and sewerage facilities has been well demonstrated in several innovative programmes, and the potential of the private sector for managerial, financial and other resources is very much under-utilised. Adapting and up-scaling this community/private/own-resources approach provides an important basis for making progress toward the goal of providing urban residents with adequate water and sanitation. Initiatives such as community contracting have also proved effective for mobilising local resources, building local skills and capacities, empowering local communities, and generating local jobs and income.

11. The challenge of integrating urban and rural, and of integrating physical-spatial, economic, social and environmental aspects, calls for a pro-active approach to planning and managing sustainable urbanisation. Strategic planning mechanisms and skills need to be developed to meet this challenge, and to provide a participatory and integrated foundation for urban and regional management. Strategic planning at the regional (sub-national) scale is a valuable tool for helping to ensure a balance in urban and rural development and coping with the absorption of rural-urban migration while maintaining a good

quality of life in both urban and rural areas.

12. In this respect policy-makers should accept that urbanisation is inevitable – and generally beneficial – and focus on properly managing the process rather than attempting (unsuccessfully) to fight it.

13. Local responses to the challenges of sustainable urbanisation are also hampered by the lack of coherence and mutual support among the many international support programmes who have an important role to play. A more demand-led approach is called for, with the external agents working on a long-term basis with local authorities and their partners in a more integrated manner.

4. Partnership Implementation Commitments

14. A key message throughout the entire dialogue series was *partnership* – the realisation that to successfully plan, implement and manage the measures needed to achieve sustainable urbanisation, the concerted efforts of a wide range of partners are needed, whether for economic development and poverty reduction, or for coping with the HIV/AIDS pandemic, or for better dealing with the city's environmental impacts, or for providing public services. The various dialogue sessions also focused on identifying and developing “partnership implementation commitments”, as concrete illustrations of how cities and their partners can forge ahead. The following proposals, currently under preparation, were reviewed and endorsed for further development as part of the WSSD preparatory process.

1. *Millennium Cities Partnership*: a coalition of cities and their international, regional and national associations, UN-Habitat and the World Bank to mobilise and assist local authorities in designing local action plans for the realisation of the Millennium Declaration, especially the goal "to improve, by 2020, the lives of 100 million slum dwellers".

2. *Partnership for local capacity development (PLCD)*: to facilitate joint policy formation between leading international associations of local authorities, international support programmes, and funding agencies on the basis of a systematic information service.

3. *Local capacity building through urban environmental planning and management (EPM) demonstration/replication activities*: strengthening the capacities of local authorities and their public, private and community partners for socially, economically and environmentally more sustainable urban development, in collaboration with UN-HABITAT, UNEP, ILO, UNDP and other international programme and support partners.

4. *National capacities for upscaling EPM and Local Agenda 21 initiatives*: building nationally the capacities of local and national governments, associations of local authorities, and training institutions to routinely integrate the lessons of experience from local demonstrations into national sustainable urbanisation and poverty alleviation policies, upscaling strategies, and associated legal frameworks.

5. *Local Capacities for Global Agendas*: development of global norms for sustainable urbanisation and related multilateral environmental agreements, together with strengthening of local capacities for both contribution of local needs and experiences and local responses in terms of adaptation and implementation, in collaboration with thematic support programmes and the UNEP/GEF.

6. *Training local authorities for sustainable urban development*: a public-private training initiative based upon the needs being identified in a series of regional seminars organised by UNITAR and UN-HABITAT in conjunction with WACLAC and the private sector.

7. *New model City-to-City co-operation (C2C) partnership agreements*: an initiative by associations of local authorities, selected municipalities and key NGOs, illustrating the range of possible forms of decentralised co-operation for the systematic transfer of knowledge, expertise and technology on a North-South and South-South basis.

8. *Learning from Best Practices, good policies and enabling legislation*: aimed at feeding the lessons from best practices into the capacity development of local authorities, supported by UN-HABITAT, research & training institutions and individual cities.

9. *Water for Asian Cities*; a public-private-NGO partnership programme for providing access to water and sanitation for the urban poor in Asian cities in collaboration with UNEP, the Asian Development Bank, funding agencies and national governments.

10. *Global campaign on water, sanitation and hygiene*; innovative mechanisms for low-cost water and sanitation through local resource mobilisation, in collaboration with UN-HABITAT, the Water and Sanitation Collaborative Council, and national and local governments.

Annex IV

OBJECTIVES OF AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WORLD URBAN FORUM

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The World Urban Forum is being convened pursuant to operative paragraph 10 of resolution 18/5 of the Commission on Human Settlements in which the Commission requested the Executive Director “to promote a merger of the Urban Environment Forum and the International Forum on Urban Poverty into a new urban forum, with a view to strengthening the coordination of international support to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda.” Subsequently, the United Nations General Assembly decided, in its resolution 56/206, that the Forum would be a “non-legislative technical forum in which experts can exchange views in the years when the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme does not meet.” At the same session, the General Assembly, in paragraph 7 of its resolution 56/205, encouraged local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners to participate, as appropriate, in the World Urban Forum in its role as an advisory body to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE WORLD URBAN FORUM

2. Building on the very valuable experience of the Urban Environment Forum and the International Forum on Urban Poverty, the unified World Urban Forum will have international cooperation in shelter and urban development as its substantive focus. Accordingly, the meetings of the World Urban Forum will facilitate the exchange of experiences and the advancement of collective knowledge among cities and their development partners. The meetings of the World Urban Forum will also place strong emphasis on the participation of Habitat Agenda partners and relevant international programmes, funds and agencies, thus ensuring their inclusion in the identification of new issues, the sharing of lessons learned and the exchange of best practices and good policies. Another function of the World Urban Forum will be the furthering of cooperation and coordination among development agencies in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the United Nations Millennium Declaration. The report of the World Urban Forum will be presented to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT for consideration and appropriate action, including transmittal to the biennial sessions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

III. PARTICIPATION

3. Participation in the World Urban Forum will be open to representatives of national governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners. The latter include, *inter alia*, global parliamentarians on Habitat, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, human settlement professionals, research institutions and academies of science, the private, business and non-profit sectors, foundations, relevant United Nations organizations and other international agencies.

IV. WORKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WORLD URBAN FORUM

4. A review of operative paragraph 10 of resolution 18/5 of the Commission on Human Settlements, of paragraph 3 of section I. B of General Assembly resolution 56/206, of paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 56/205, and of the above-mentioned objectives and participation at the World Urban Forum indicates that the Forum is clearly not meant to be an intergovernmental meeting and, consequently, the use of rules of procedure such as those of the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT would be inappropriate. The use of those rules would limit the full and effective participation of the Habitat Agenda partners in the deliberations and recommendations of the Forum. Additionally, since both the Urban Environment Forum and the International Forum on Urban Poverty did not have formal rules of procedure, the World Urban Forum does not need to have formal rules of procedure. Simple working arrangement would facilitate maximum participation of the Habitat Agenda partners in the deliberations and recommendations of the Forum.

5. The working arrangements for the World Urban Forum draw from experience gained from the innovative working arrangements that were used very effectively and successfully by the second

committee of the Habitat II Conference (Istanbul, Turkey, 3-14 June 1996) and subsequently revived for the dialogues among governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners held during the seventeenth and eighteenth sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements (Nairobi, 5-14 May 1999 and 5-9 February 2001, respectively) and also successfully used in the thematic committee of the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (New York, 6-8 June 2001).

6. In essence, the main discussions of the Forum will be conducted in the form of dialogues among all participants. Towards this end, selected panelists would introduce and make short substantive presentations on specific issues followed by discussions among all participants on those specific issues.

7. At the end of each dialogue session, the Chair of each session, drawing from the deliberations, would prepare a summary of the main issues and observations raised during the presentations and discussions. These dialogue summaries should be as inclusive as possible. Once endorsed by the plenary as an accurate reflection of what transpired in the dialogues, these dialogue summaries would be part of the report to be submitted by the Chair of the Forum to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT for consideration and appropriate action, including transmittal to the biennial sessions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

V. WORKING GROUPS

8. For issues that require more analysis or in-depth discussions, the plenary would, as appropriate, establish working groups or subgroups to discuss those issues and then report back to the plenary.

VI. ADVISORY GROUP

9. Prior to each session, the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT will establish a multi-partner advisory group that will advise and assist the Executive Director with the organization, management and conduct of the meetings of that particular session of the World Urban Forum. The Chair of the advisory group will also serve as the Chair of that session of the World Urban Forum.

VII. OTHER WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

Date and venue

10. The World Urban Forum will meet in the years when the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT is not meeting and at a date and venue to be proposed by the secretariat in consultation with national governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners.

Provisional agenda

11. The provisional agenda for each session of the World Urban Forum will be prepared by the secretariat in consultation with national governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners, at least six months in advance of the session.

Languages

12. English will be the language of the World Urban Forum. Other languages may be added, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources for that purpose.

Secretariat

13. The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) will serve as the convener and secretariat of the World Urban Forum. It will organize the dialogue sessions in consultation with Governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners, taking into account, as far as practicable, the need for geographical, partner and gender balances. It will also be responsible for

supporting the Chair in the preparation of the report of each session. It may delegate the organization of particular dialogue sessions to specific partners.

Revision of the working arrangements

14. These working arrangements may be revised at any session of the World Urban Forum on the basis of experience gathered at preceding sessions of the World Urban Forum.

Annex V

SUMMARIES OF STATEMENTS MADE AT THE OPENING SESSION

A. Opening remarks by the Chair, Hon. Sankie D. Mthembu-Mahanyele, Minister for Housing of the Republic of South Africa and Chair of the First Session of the World Urban Forum

1. The Chair of the first session of the World Urban Forum, Ms. Sankie Mthembu-Mahanyele, Minister for Housing of the Republic of South Africa, welcomed participants to the meeting. She extended a special welcome to the President of the Republic of Kenya, Mr. Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, whose presence she described as a clear manifestation of the importance his Government attached to the improvement of the living conditions of the people of Kenya.

2. She noted that the meeting had been organized in pursuance of resolution 18/5 of the Commission on Human Settlements which requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) to “promote a merger of the Urban Environment Forum and the International Forum on Urban Poverty into a new urban forum, with a view to strengthening the coordination of international support to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda.”

3. As an open-ended gathering of Governments and all Habitat Agenda partners, the Forum was expected to recommend solutions to current urbanization challenges, identify synergies among development agencies and contribute, from the human settlements point of view, to the global debate on sustainable development. The current session of the World Urban Forum would also serve as a pre-conference event to finalize inputs on Habitat issues for the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg in August 2002.

B. Statement by Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka Executive Director, UN-HABITAT

4. The Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka welcomed participants to the first session of the World Urban Forum. She expressed appreciation to the Governments of Sweden, Netherlands, Norway and France for providing financial support for this event while acknowledging all the partners who had committed both time and resources to prepare parallel side events in support of the various dialogues.

5. Mrs. Tibaijuka described the World Urban Forum as a path-breaking global initiative aimed at addressing the main challenge of this century – the transition to an urban world. She noted that countries in Africa and Asia, in particular, faced an explosive demographic shift from rural to urban areas. The issue of how to prepare cities, especially in Africa and Asia, to accommodate the inevitable pressure, would therefore have to feature prominently on the sustainable development agenda.

6. The growth of large cities in the developing world was accompanied by an upsurge in urban poverty. National and local authorities, however, were ill equipped to manage urban development in favour of the poor, who usually took up illegal residence on the periphery of the city. Without basic services, secure tenure and formal employment opportunities, such settlements became slums of the most appalling nature, offering their inhabitants little hope of improving their lives.

7. The Executive Director noted that between a quarter and a third of all urban households in the world lived in absolute poverty. Vulnerable to a number of hazards, the urban poor were always at risk. They were exposed to a higher incidence of infectious diseases, arbitrary arrest and unlawful forced eviction. Neglected by formal institutions, they were often left unprotected against violence, drug dealers, corrupt officials, unscrupulous slumlords and organized crime. For lack of alternatives many of them became drawn into such anti-social behaviour themselves.

8. She observed that the World Urban Forum could add value to the process triggered off at the

Millennium Summit through better articulation of an integrated and coordinated strategy to advance the cause and implementation of the Habitat Agenda. In that regard, the Executive Director proposed a two-pronged approach: to articulate effective strategies for taking preventive measures in favour of sustainable urbanization; and to couch effective adaptive strategies, programmes, policies and even concrete projects to deal with present reality in most cities. She then outlined UN-HABITAT's strategy for sustainable urbanization, touching on both preventive and adaptive policies, strategies, programmes and projects.

9. In order to address such issues as decent housing, disaster preparedness, environmentally sound urban policies, etc., UN-HABITAT had adopted two instruments: a Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and a sister Global Campaign on Urban Governance as advocacy and capacity-building activities to complement the more practical operational activities.

10. The World Urban Forum offered an opportunity for a free and frank debate on issues at the forefront of the built-up or living environment, the brown agenda, and sustainable urbanization. It was also the place for generating innovative models of urban management, to test out new ideas and harness creative thought to make cities healthy, safe, productive, inclusive, equitable and democratic. It was, in addition, an occasion to reflect on the linkages between the rural and urban areas. City development strategies needed to be based on the conditions and potentials of their hinterlands. The Executive Director therefore urged participants to pay special attention to this issue and give practical recommendations since the UN-HABITAT Governing Council would be devoted to this theme at its session in 2003.

11. The Executive Director noted that as a biennial event, the World Urban Forum would be held in inter-sessional years when the Governing Council of UN-HABITAT was not held. The World Urban Forum would complement, not replicate the work of the Governing Council. Its mandate was to make and forward substantive recommendations, through the UN-HABITAT Executive Director, to the Governing Council.

12. She commended in this regard, the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-HABITAT, as the inter-sessional executive body of the Governing Council, for its substantive contributions to the preparation of the present session.

13. It was expected that through the Chair's report, the outcome and recommendations of the sessions on sustainable urbanization would be tabled to the preparatory process of the World Summit for Sustainable Development, to be finalized in Bali, Indonesia early June.

14. By remaining focused on these challenges of urbanization, the World Urban Forum would evolve into an effective venue for global civic engagement that would have a continuing impact on the development agenda of the United Nations.

C. Statement by Hon. Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, President of the Republic of Kenya

15. In his inaugural statement, President Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, welcomed all delegates to Kenya and wished them a pleasant stay. He described the inauguration of this first session of the World Urban Forum as an eloquent testimony of the global community's commitment to address the challenges confronting the urban settlements. The Forum had come at a time when the world was experiencing an unprecedented level of urbanization. The urbanization process therefore posed enormous challenges which would no doubt require a collective effort.

16. He noted with satisfaction that part of the agenda of the Forum would be to address emerging urban challenges such as urban governance, shelter strategies, city-to-city cooperation and implementation of the Habitat agenda, among others. He was confident that the Forum would focus on developing realistic strategies and programmes that could be implemented by Governments and other stakeholders, pointing out in addition that the implementation of the Habitat Agenda was crucial in the fight against poverty.

17. President Moi noted with regret that since the hosting of the Istanbul Conference of 1996, the state of human settlements, particularly in developing countries, had continued to deteriorate. That situation

was most critical in the area of urban housing and yet at the Millennium Summit of September 2000, the issue of human settlements had been at the core of the discussion.

18. The provision of decent housing for people remained a challenge to Governments. At the Istanbul conference, for instance, participants had resolved to achieve a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020. To achieve that target, it was necessary to develop new strategies of funding the construction of cheap and affordable housing. Kenya appreciated the pledge towards upgrading of slums in Nairobi under the Cities' Alliance Initiative and encouraged development partners to consider mobilizing more resources towards that particular endeavour.

19. President Moi's Government was making deliberate efforts to resolve the problem of slums and informal settlements. It was currently preparing a slum upgrading policy paper in addition to collaborating with the UN-HABITAT in a slum upgrading initiative for Nairobi. This joint initiative was particularly important to Kenya as the host country for the United Nations Human Settlement Programme and also as a model to be replicated in other urban centres worldwide.

20. President Moi emphasized that the challenges of rapid urbanization would require effective and well functioning local authorities. This called for a coherent policy in the governance and management structures of local authorities, particularly in the devolution of power and fiscal reforms. He was convinced that the new status under the leadership of the current Executive Director, would empower UN-HABITAT to deal more effectively with its broad mandate as a focal point within the United Nations system, for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda.

21. UN-HABITAT would require a predictable and sufficient flow of resources to enable it to fulfil its mandate. He therefore appealed not only for a significant increase in the regular budget provision for UN-HABITAT, but also for more non-earmarked contributions from member countries. He proposed that such contributions should be directed into UN-HABITAT'S foundation fund. This would give it the desired flexibility in carrying out a wider range of programmes.

22. In closing, he expressed optimism that the Forum would coherently address the challenges of providing sustainable human settlements. This would require stronger partnership especially in the mobilization of financial resources to implement the agreed policies and programmes.

23. President Moi then declared the first session of the World Urban Forum open.

D. Statement by Ms. Louise Fréchette Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

24. In her video message to the first session of the World Urban Forum Ms. Louise Fréchette, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations hailed the meeting at Habitat headquarters as a major step in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda adopted at Istanbul in June 1996. She noted that the Millennium Declaration set out a common vision for humankind and human development for the twenty-first century with cities – liveable, sustainable, inclusive and productive cities – figuring prominently in that vision.

25. She described liveable cities as places where residents could find jobs that paid a living wage, and where the inhabitants enjoyed secure tenure in affordable housing, free from the risk of forced eviction. A liveable city provided its citizens basic services such as water, sanitation and transportation. It also offered them access to education and health care, and ensured the safety of its streets.

26. Inclusive cities were governed through democratic practices. The States in which they were located recognized the importance of local authorities, and the need to allow public tasks to be carried out by those closest to the citizens. Inclusive cities allowed private companies, non-governmental organizations and other partners to play a full role not only in delivery but also in decision-making. Furthermore, inclusive cities made use of a woefully under-utilized resource: the many poor people living in their midst, who were enormous wellsprings of talent, energy and initiative.

27. Ms. Fréchette observed that sustainable cities were places where the environment was cared for and clean. However, urban sustainability was not only an environmental issue. It also meant protection of human rights, and action against injustice, violence and crime. She urged participants to seize the opportunity of the forthcoming World Summit on Sustainable Development to stress the central role that cities played in assuring a sustainable future.

28. Liveable, inclusive and sustainable cities were productive cities. Many cities now had populations and economies that exceeded those of small countries. Weak cities acted as a brake on national development. Strong cities enabled a country to thrive in the new global economy. That was one reason why the Millennium Declaration had endorsed the “Cities without Slums” initiative, which aimed to improve the living conditions of 100 million slum dwellers by 2020.

29. Ms. Fréchette noted in conclusion that the future of humanity lay in cities: in good urban governance and sustainable urban development. Rapid urbanization was one of the hallmarks of our times so we need to ensure that it works for people, not against them.

E. Statement by Mr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of UNEP

30. Mr. Donald Kaniaru, Director, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation at UNEP read out a statement on behalf of Mr. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director of UNEP. In his statement Mr. Töpfer assured the meeting of UNEP’s full support for the World Urban Forum, and underlined that UNEP stood ready to cooperate with UN-HABITAT and to be fully involved in all areas of common endeavour.

31. The urban revolution had presented the world with urgent and rapidly emerging problems. The problems of the average person in developing countries were trying to find decent housing, food, health care, clean drinking water, and wood or other energy source for cooking and heating. In many developing country cities, and especially megacities, significant numbers of people had no access to safe drinking water. Over half had no access to safe sanitation systems. Large areas of those cities were made up of low quality housing, sometimes on dangerous slopes prone to landslides; close to polluting industries or hazardous waste dumps. All these developments underscored the fact that the major environmental problems were, and would in the future be found, in our cities.

32. The Executive Director noted that the urban revolution forced the world to look at development in an integrated way. Problems such as upgrading slums, ensuring the provision of basic services like water and waste collection, curbing urban air pollution and improving access to health care could only be effectively addressed when economics were integrated with environment, health, and urban planning. There was only one scenario that would work and that scenario was sustainable development.

33. On the positive side, however, cities could act as a catalyst to develop new ideas and approaches, as they present opportunities to address the emerging issues. The biggest challenge lay in developing and supporting innovative, integrative, participatory approaches to addressing the issues. Only with involvement of all stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, could approaches successfully be developed and implemented. The Executive Director said that UNEP and UN-HABITAT had been working closely together, for example through the Sustainable Cities Programme, to implement both Agenda 21 and the Habitat Agenda, and to support cities in developing innovative and integrated approaches to sustainable urban development.

34. Mr. Töpfer drew the attention of the Forum to the decisions taken during the seventh special session of the UNEP Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum in Cartagena, Colombia in February. The Governments had called upon UNEP to be more closely involved at the national and local levels, and thus strengthen its cooperation with UN-HABITAT at those levels, particularly, in developing a new urban environment policy, recognizing the need to support

sustainable development initiatives in cities.

35. It was crucial he said in conclusion that the issue of urbanization be part of the main focus of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to be held in Johannesburg in August and September 2002. The Summit would fall short of expectations if the world did not look at the practical, daily issues that obstructed sustainable development in the developing country cities or include cities in developing new plans and actions to implement them.

F. Statement by Mr. Joan Clos, Mayor of Barcelona and Chairman of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities

36. Mr. Joan Clos commended the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements for its initiative to establish a new Urban Forum which would help tackle the urgent problems arising from the difficult urban situation many people were facing today. The growing urban population was engendering increasingly uncontrollable and vulnerable settlements.

37. Noting that the gap between society and authorities as well as rich and poor was growing wider and that communities were feeling distanced from the decision-making process, he stressed the need for a decentralization of powers. This would also help deal with the negative effects of insecurity, exclusion and environmental degradation. Ten years after the Rio Conference and on the eve of the Johannesburg Summit, it was important to share experiences with respect to local solutions to problems and enhancement of the powers of local authorities.

38. Mr. Clos extended an invitation to all participants to the second session of the World Urban Forum which would be held in Barcelona in September 2004 and also announced that a single world body of local authorities would be set up that year. He welcomed city-to-city cooperation as an indispensable means of exchanging information on best practices and emphasized the role local authorities had to play in educating and training people in the culture of sustainability.

39. In order to combat poverty and promote sustainable development, it was necessary to ensure certain conditions such as decentralized democracy, good governance and the rule of law. It was also incumbent upon all stakeholders to mobilize the political and economic instruments necessary for fulfilling the aspirations of all communities. The local communities were not the problem but rather part of the solution to the problem.

G. Statement by Mr. John W. Flora, Director, Transport and Urban Development, World Bank

40. In his statement, Mr. Flora observed that the challenge facing the world was to enable sustainable development for the almost three billion poor people and for the two billion new residents that would be added to the global population in the next 50 years – and to do so in a way that guarded the world's precious environmental and social assets more securely than in the past.

41. The Millennium target of “improving the lives of 100 million slum dwellers by 2020” was a reminder that now, in many cities in the world, a third, and in some cases as much as half, of the residents lived in informal settlements, exposed every day to health and security hazards and often at risk of summary eviction from their homes. As part of the international response to such issues, the World Bank was preparing its annual World Development Report focusing in 2002 on sustainable development. Urban issues figured prominently in that review that would help inform discussions over the next few days and guide actions in preparation for the Johannesburg Summit in August.

42. According to that Report, the world cannot sustain its current patterns of growth, and even if these trends were sustainable, they would not be sufficient to achieve the increased productivity that was needed to reduce existing poverty. Furthermore, when talking about improving well-being, it was necessary to

think about managing an entire portfolio of assets – not just physical, financial, and human assets, but also knowledge and environmental assets. Environmental and social assets were the most difficult to secure. The World Development Report also underscored the need for institutions that were accountable, representative and transparent.

43. In many cases, Mr. Flora said, external factors provided the essential preconditions for the growth of institutions. Democratization and fiscal decentralization had conferred local authorities greater authority and legitimacy. Institutions performed best where they helped address the underlying inequalities within cities by giving voice to, and inviting participation from, all citizens – particularly the poor and disenfranchised. Stakeholder networks – such as slum-dwellers associations – were also important supports connecting poor communities to local governments and practitioners so that knowledge and capacity could be strengthened. International organizations such as the World Bank supported these initiatives and in so doing, recognized that building strong local governments and institutions was a long-term commitment.

H. Statement by Mr. Arputham Jockin, President of the National Slum Dwellers Federation of India

44. Mr. Jockin noted that for many years there had been considerable discussion of urban problems but without the participation of slum dwellers and therefore hailed the World Urban Forum as a welcome opportunity to strike up a new partnership between local authorities and slum dwellers. Although slum dwellers had always been on the receiving end, they were now proud to be sitting at the table as equal partners. He observed that one could not meaningfully discuss such issues as decent housing, secure tenure, "cities without slums" without the participation of slum dwellers.

45. Mr. Jockin reported on housing projects that had been completed in various countries around the world. He noted, however, that sometimes donor aid caused the destruction of slums by supporting bulldozer led clean-up operations. He informed the meeting that slum dwellers were ready to cooperate with governments and local authorities to map out a common strategy within a new partnership.

I. Statement by H.E. Mr. Germán García-Durán, Permanent representative of Colombia to UN-HABITAT and Chairman of the Group of 77 (Nairobi Chapter)

46. Speaking on behalf of the Group of 77, Nairobi Chapter, Mr. Germán García-Durán expressed appreciation at the fact that the first session of the World Urban Forum was taking place in a developing country. The Group of 77 welcomed the launching by UN-HABITAT, in collaboration with national governments, local authorities, and other Habitat partners, of the two campaigns on security of tenure and urban governance in a number of developing countries, with the objective of achieving the initial twin-goals of the Habitat Agenda - adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world.

47. The Group was disheartened to note the increasing urbanization of poverty accompanied by other socio-economic problems culminating in cities being divided into haves and have-nots, the established and the marginalized, offering disparate opportunities for men and women. The developing world was faced with a tide that was difficult to stem and, unfortunately, also difficult to respond to in a well-formulated and pro-active manner. In the view of the Group, best practices were prime indicators of adequately functioning human settlements, while adequate urban governance, security of tenure and slum upgrading at the local and national levels were prerequisites to the realization of sustainable cities. However, access to funding that did not further augment the debt burden of developing countries constituted the backbone to bring such an exercise to fruition.

48. Mr. García-Durán noted that the HIV/AIDS pandemic was one aspect of immeasurable catastrophic consequences to the developing countries. It was deeply affecting the overall fabric of

societies. Unless serious and sustained efforts were made at international level, many countries would be left with an imbalanced society. Mr. Garcia-Duran concluded by pointing out that to apply a symmetric view and balanced action, all related concepts in the field of human settlements must be addressed comprehensively in a functional package.

J. Statement by H.E. Mr. Luis F. Garcia Cerezo, Permanent Representative of Spain to UN-HABITAT on behalf of the European Union

49. Speaking on behalf of the European Union, Mr. Garcia Cerezo welcomed the decision by the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements through its resolution 18/5, paragraph 10, to merge the Urban Environment Forum and the International Forum on Urban Poverty into a new Urban Forum. He was confident that the active participation of experts from European Union member countries and the European Commission would make a valuable contribution to the discussion of the wide range of subjects on the agenda.

50. He noted the presence of experts from many countries around the world and praised the innovative format of the Forum which he described as its greatest asset. The Forum, he said, was an important step, particularly in relation to the preparation of a report for the preparatory committee of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

Annex VI

SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS MADE AT THE CLOSING SESSION

A. Statement by Mr. Sören Häggroth State Secretary for Housing and Deputy Minister of Finance of Sweden and Co-Chair of the first session of the World Urban Forum

1. The Co-Chair, Mr. Sören Häggroth, said that the main focus of the work done in Dialogue II was the World Summit on Sustainable Development, with sustainable urbanization as the overall theme. The conclusions of the Dialogue had been circulated in document HSP/WUF/1/L.3/Add.6. The most fundamental issues in sustainable urbanization were poverty alleviation, gender balance and good governance. The Dialogue had addressed three main objectives: to reaffirm a common understanding of the concept of sustainable development, to review the key challenges and appropriate responses and to develop specific “partnership implementation commitments”.

2. He stressed that sustainable urbanization was a multi-dimensional process, that necessarily embraced environmental, social, economic and political-institutional sustainability; it accepted the reality of urban growth and concentrated on effective management of the process. Given that good governance was fundamental, it was generally accepted that the principal practical barriers to sustainable urbanization lay in the general lack of planning, implementation and management capacities of local governments and their partners. Key challenges were the incorporation of gender concerns and responsiveness into operational procedures, and the mobilization of local resources, whether municipal, community and household, private sector or other. Several innovative programmes had been described, which demonstrated the ability of poor communities to generate resources and build and maintain local water and sewerage facilities.

3. A key message throughout the Dialogue had been partnership: the realization that to achieve sustainable urbanization, the concerted efforts of a wide range of partners were needed. Partnerships were also essential at the level of international cooperation, and a number of specific “partnership implementation commitments” had been reviewed and endorsed. Many of these focused on strengthening the capacities of local authorities and their partners, including training, city-to-city cooperation and demonstration-replication.

4. Lastly he highlighted two general considerations, namely that the partnerships outlined were themselves rooted in the institutional partnership already established between UN-HABITAT and local authorities and other stakeholders, and, that the richness of the debates held during the meeting owed a great deal to the relaxed and open working arrangements of the World Urban Forum, in which all had equal rights of participation. He hoped that the aims set out would contribute to a better future for urban populations everywhere.

B. Statement by H.E. Mrs. Sankie D. Mthembu-Mahanyele, Minister for Housing of the Republic of South Africa and Chair of the first session of the World Urban Forum

5. In her statement at the closing session, the Chair, Mrs. Sankie D. Mthembu-Mahanyele described the first World Urban Forum as a success. The open-ended gathering of Governments at all levels and organizations of civil society had already, at its first session, demonstrated its capacity to be a global marketplace of collecting and exchanging views on the future of cities and other human settlements, and on their role in sustainable development.

6. The Forum was expected to make a major contribution on advising on the best ways to meet the targets set by world leaders at the Millennium Summit of improving the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020. At this first session, the Urban Forum had pronounced itself very clearly on several principles including: the concept of the “right to the city” and its essential element of citizenship and the fact that forced evictions are detrimental to the goals of cities without slums and must therefore stop.

7. With regard to the international debate on sustainable development, the dialogues at this first World Urban Forum had fully endorsed the vision of inclusive cities and habitable human settlements making important contributions towards sustainable development at the local level. The conclusions from the dialogues on sustainable urbanization were expected to be significant inputs to the debates on sustainable development at the forthcoming World Summit for Sustainable Development. The Chair noted in this context, that the challenges to the role of human settlements in sustainable development were quite poignant in the African context. It would be important for African countries, therefore, to develop models of urbanization which acknowledge the peculiar African context and the close linkages between urban and rural development in African countries.

8. She also observed that the theme of the World Summit for Sustainable Development was “People, the Planet and Prosperity”, and its overall aim was to strengthen, at the highest political level, the global commitment by Governments and their civil society partners towards the goals of sustainable development, as they had been pronounced in Agenda 21. She suggested to include specific initiatives on the reduction of urban poverty and the promotion of sustainable human settlements development in the Programme of Action to be adopted by WSSD. She stressed that it was critical that issues relating to sustainable human settlements should form part of the agenda of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and urged all Government representatives to ensure that the substantive issues of this Forum were incorporated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

9. In that regard, she announced that South Africa and UN-HABITAT would jointly organize a round table on sustainable human settlements in Africa as a parallel event at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In conclusion, Mrs. Sankie D. Mthembu-Mahanyele expressed appreciation to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT Mrs. Anna Tibaijuka and her staff, and the Government of Kenya for the excellent arrangements and warm hospitality which had made the meeting possible, as well as all the Habitat Agenda partners for their contribution.

C. Statement by Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka, Executive Director, UN-HABITAT

10. The Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Ms. Anna Tibaijuka, concluded the first World Urban Forum by thanking the Advisory Group, the participants, the media representatives and the staff, and expressed her pride that together a giant step had been taken toward a path-breaking model of global civic engagement. The large number of participants, more than 1100, was a clear confirmation of a demand by Habitat Partners to participate in the elaboration of shelter and urban policy at the global and local levels. Empowerment had been the focus of the first World Urban Forum, confirmed as the key to sustainable development. Through the work in the many dialogues, the proposition had not been limited just to the empowerment of people with respect to local decision-making but also extended to the empowerment of local authorities with respect to the state. Through dialogue and debate the need had been expressed for national urban policies that act in concert on such issues as devolving authority to municipalities, building local capacity, fighting HIV/AIDS, ensuring secure tenure, overcoming gender inequalities and encouraging integrated urban and rural development. The Habitat Agenda documented the frightening reality of the first half of the twenty-first century as concerned urbanization and human settlements; a reality that three-quarters of a billion slum dwellers now live in absolute poverty, that almost half-a-billion people will be added to the cities of Asia and Africa in the next ten years, that by 2050 there will be 3 billion more people in the world than there is now, and that most of these will be living in the slums of developing countries. The Executive Director found that these numbers are far beyond the ability of governments of developing countries to control and that in this context, the goal of the Millennium Declaration to improve the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020, is in fact modest.

11. An enabling strategy to create the conditions for full mobilization of resources, for the generation and exchange of practical information - person-to-person and city-to-city, for women and men to exercise their individual rights and responsibilities, for organizations to interact, to network and to build partnerships, thus, is paramount. There is a need for enabling all citizens to unlock doors and release human energy in order to work together on solutions to common problems. The wisdom of this approach had been confirmed repeatedly by the lively debate, and pertinent lessons heard during the week from the grassroots level to the governments. The World Urban Forum had been designed for discussion of concerns and the

forming of new partnerships. The results of the discussions will guide UN-HABITAT and national governments in the near future. The next World Urban Forum, to be held in Barcelona in 2004, will also build on this experience.

12. Since the World Urban Forum fundamentally is meant to provide advice to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, who may then advise the Governing Council and ECOSOC on issues of priority importance, the direct recipients of the recommendations from this World Urban Forum are besides UN-HABITAT itself, all national governments. The Executive Director expressed her gratitude to the Committee of Permanent Representatives in Nairobi which has provided valuable guidance and support to the work of UN-HABITAT in preparing for the range of dialogues held during these last five days, and she expressed her hope that their active participation in the Forum itself will facilitate the discussion of the Executive Director's report at the next meeting of the Governing Council. In this regard, the Executive Director thanked Government participants, particularly Ministers and other very senior officials who had attended. The Forum will have little impact if governments and other actors do not make use of the Governing Council to discuss what has transpired and to mainstream appropriate recommendations into the official decision making system.

13. At the last session of the Human Settlements Commission, where UN-HABITAT was given the task of organizing this Forum, it was stated that UN-HABITAT was on the right road towards playing a more significant role within the United Nations system. The vibrancy of discussion during the Forum suggests that UN-HABITAT is also on the right programmatic track. She reassured that UN-HABITAT will be revisiting the proceedings of the World Urban Forum as a priority technical resource in order to make UN-HABITAT's campaigns, global programmes and technical cooperation activities even more responsive to the voices of the Habitat Partners. In this regard, the Executive Director would be working closely with the Committee of Permanent Representatives in order to deliver the messages and recommendations most effectively to the Governing Council for consideration and action.

14. In concluding, the Executive Director expressed her expectation that the UN-HABITAT partners will use the outcome of the dialogues to strengthen their resolve and to develop new approaches in their respective areas in order to achieve the high ideals of the Habitat Agenda. An evaluation form will shortly be circulated by UN-HABITAT to collect suggestions which could be incorporated into the report to be submitted to the Governing Council.

Annex VII

LIST OF PAPERS BEFORE THE FIRST SESSION OF THE WORLD URBAN FORUM

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
		Information brochure on the first session of the World Urban Forum.
2	HSP/WUF/1/ORG/Paper 1	Provisional agenda for the first session of the World Urban Forum
2	HSP/WUF/1/ORG/Paper 1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda: note by the secretariat
3	HSP/WUF/1/ORG/Paper 2	Working arrangements for the World Urban Forum: note by the secretariat
4	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/Paper 1	Preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development: The sustainability of cities
4	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/Paper 2	Preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development: The role of cities in national and international development
4	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/Paper 3	The rural dimension of sustainable urban development (draft theme paper for the Governing Council at its nineteenth session)
4	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.II/Paper 4	The management of the HIV/AIDS pandemic at the local level
5	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 1	Role of local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners: Dialogue on effective decentralization, including principles and legal frameworks in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda
5	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 2	Role of local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners: City-to-city cooperation, transfers and international exchanges based on documented best practices, good policies and action plans
5	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 2/Add.1	Guidelines for documenting urban policies and enabling legislation
5	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 3	International role of non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda
6	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 4	Cities without slums
6	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 5	Urban development and shelter strategies

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
		favouring the poor (draft theme paper for the Governing Council at its nineteenth session)
7	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 6	The Global Campaign for Secure Tenure: Progress report of the Executive Director
7	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 7	The Global Campaign on Urban Governance: Progress report of the Executive Director
8	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 8	Preparations for the Global Report on Human Settlements 2003 and the State of the World's Cities 2004 Report
8	HSP/WUF/1/DLG.I/Paper 9	Monitoring urban conditions and trends
9	HSP/WUF/1/ORG/Paper 3	Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the second session of the World Urban Forum, to be issued six months before the session

INFORMATION PAPERS

HSP/WUF/1/INF/1	List of papers before the World Urban Forum
HSP/WUF/1/INF/2	Report of the United Nations Commission on Human Settlements at its eighteenth session
HSP/WUF/1/INF/3	Report of the Executive Director of UNCHS (Habitat) on the review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda
HSP/WUF/1/INF/4	Report of the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda
HSP/WUF/1/INF/5	Relevant resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session
HSP/WUF/1/INF/6	The State of the World's Cities 2001
HSP/WUF/1/INF/7	Cities in a Globalizing World: Global Report on Human Settlements 2001
HSP/WUF/1/INF/8	Reporting format for documenting urban policies and enabling legislation
HSP/WUF/1/INF/9	Schedule of parallel events during the first session of the World Urban Forum
HSP/WUF/1/INF/10	Tentative list of panelists during the first session of the World Urban Forum, 29 April-3 May 2002
HSP/WUF/1/INF/11	Provisional list of participants to the first session of the World Urban Forum

Note: Information on the documentation and other organizational aspects of the World Urban Forum can also be accessed via the UN-HABITAT Web site at the following address:
<http://www.unhabitat.org/uf>.
