Twentieth session
Nairobi, 16-20 April 2007
Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme
(UN-Habitat): progress report of the Executive Director

Report on the work of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), during the period between the twentieth and twenty-first sessions of the Governing Council

Addendum

Draft resolutions prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Note by the secretariat

1. In accordance with the relevant provisions of resolution 18/1 of 16 February 2001 of the Governing Council, the secretariat is transmitting in the annex to the present note, for the consideration of the Council, a letter dated 12 February 2007 which was addressed to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat.

2. In the letter, the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives has, among other things, requested the Executive Director to bring to the attention of the Council 6 draft resolutions which were prepared by the Committee, the texts of which are attached to the letter.

* HSP/GC/20/1.
Annex

Madam,

On behalf of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, I have the honour to forward herewith, for your attention, copies of 6 draft resolutions, listed below, which were prepared by the Committee for submission to the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme at its twenty-first session. These draft resolutions were prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, through its working group on preparations for the twentieth session of the Governing Council, with a view to assisting the Council in its deliberations on some of the issues which will be before it during the session.

In forwarding, through you, these draft resolutions to the Governing Council, I wish to underline that all the members of the Committee of Permanent Representatives reserve the right of their respective delegations to reopen discussions on any of the draft resolutions during their consideration by the Council. The draft resolutions are as follows:

- HSP/GC/21/L.4/Rev.1: Guiding principles on access to basic services for all.

I would be grateful if, in accordance with paragraph 8 of Commission on Human Settlements resolution 18/1 of 16 February 2001, these draft resolutions could be brought to the attention of the Council, as official documents of the session, for further consideration and appropriate action.

Kindly note that, in accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the Governing Council, the Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the twenty-second session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (HSP/GC/21/6) is to be brought to the attention of the Bureau of the Governing Council before submission to the Governing Council.

Please accept, Madam, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed)

H. E. Ms. Elisabeth Jacobsen
Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Ms. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka
Executive Director
United Nations Human Settlements Programme
P.O. Box 30030
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Work programme and budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for the 2006–2007 biennium (L.1/Rev.6)

The Governing Council,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements,¹ the Habitat Agenda,² the Millennium Declaration³ and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,⁴ which emphasized the importance of promoting sustainable urbanization and adequate shelter for all, including the need to improve the lives of slum-dwellers,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 56/206 of 21 December 2001, in which, among other matters, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme was designated as the focal point for human settlements and for the coordination of human settlements activities within the United Nations system,

Bearing in mind the commitments made by Governments in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and at the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 26 August to 4 September 2002, to reduce by half the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation by the year 2015 and to achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by the year 2020,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 56/206 in which the General Assembly called for the strengthening of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, with the active participation and collaboration of organizations within and outside the United Nations system,

[Welcoming the increase in financial support provided to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation during 2004,]

Bearing in mind the request of the Governing Council through its resolution 19/2 of 9 May 2003 that the Executive Director submit to the Governing Council at its twentieth session the budget and work programme for the biennium 2006–2007 in a prioritized and integrated document, taking into account the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report dated 13 March 2003,⁵

Recalling its resolution 19/7 of 9 May 2003 requesting the Executive Director to strengthen the regional presence and cooperation of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,

Having considered the proposed biennial integrated work programme and budget of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for 2006–2007 and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,

1. Confirms that the work programme for 2006–2007 reflects the structure and orientation of the strategic framework for the period 2006–2007;

2. Approves the draft integrated work programme and budget for the 2006–2007 biennium, as contained in the relevant report of the Executive Director;⁶

3. Also approves the general purpose budget of $27,601,000 and endorses the special purpose budget of $55,148,000 for the biennium 2006–2007, as outlined in the relevant report of the Executive Director;⁷

[3bis. Authorizes the Executive Director, with a view to ensuring better conformity with the practices of other United Nations bodies, to reallocate general purpose resources between subprogrammes up to a maximum of (10) per cent of the appropriation to which the resources are allocated;]
[3ter.  **Requests** that, should the Executive Director need to reallocate funds in excess of (10) per cent and up to (20) per cent of an appropriation, she do so in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives;]

[Alternative 3ter.  **Requests** the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to look into the feasibility of introducing a voluntary indicative scale of contributions for consideration at the twenty-first session of the Governing Council;]

[3quater.  **Authorizes** the Executive Director to adjust, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, the level of allocations for programme activities to bring it into line with possible variations in income compared to the approved level of appropriations;]

4.  **Notes with concern** the comparatively low level of non-earmarked contributions, leading to a continuing imbalance between earmarked and non-earmarked contributions and a narrow donor base for non-earmarked contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

5.  **Invites** Governments to increase their contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, giving priority to non-earmarked resources and multi-year funding agreements, and to support the Executive Director in her efforts to broaden the donor base of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;

6.  **Requests** the Executive Director to continue to ensure that earmarked contributions to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including special purpose contributions to the Foundation and contributions to trust funds, are used to fund activities that are included in the programme of work;

7.  **Also requests** the Executive Director to report periodically to Governments, including through the Committee of Permanent Representatives, on progress made in the implementation of the work programme and budget for the 2006–2007 biennium;

8.  **Calls upon** the Executive Director to ensure timely and detailed consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives during the preparation of both the strategic framework for 2008–2009 and the integrated work programme and budget for the 2008–2009 biennium;

9.  **Encourages** Governments to support the monitoring and normative functions of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme at the global and regional levels;

10.  **Recognizes** the important role of in-country personnel and regional offices of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in providing operational support to developing countries, and in that regard, invites Governments to strengthen and support financially Habitat Programme Managers at the country level and the regional offices in order to expand operational support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

11.  [**Emphasizes** that it is essential that the United Nations’ only headquarters in a developing country should be properly funded, so that countries’ contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation are not used to defray operating costs;]

12.  [**Invites** the Secretary-General of the United Nations to propose to the General Assembly, for consideration at its sixtieth session, adequate budgetary appropriations for the United Nations Office at Nairobi.]
Post-conflict, natural and human-made disasters assessment and reconstruction (L2/Rev.3)

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 19/9 of 9 May 2003, in which it decided that one of the special themes of the twentieth session of the Governing Council would be “Post-conflict, natural and human-made disasters assessment and reconstruction”, and its resolution 19/7 of the same date recommending that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in close coordination with appropriate multilateral and bilateral agencies, devote specific attention to human settlements needs in the reconstruction of countries and territories affected by armed conflicts or by other human-made or natural disasters,

Noting with appreciation the partnerships established by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme with various disaster management and humanitarian institutions for the development and implementation of vulnerability reduction and sustainable reconstruction and rehabilitation activities, in particular the memorandums of understanding concluded between the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the Inter-Agency Secretariat of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Noting the initiative of the Executive Director to strengthen relations with the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, through supporting its Inter-Agency Internal Displacement Division,

Welcoming the invitation from the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator for the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to participate in the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs in view of the important role of shelter in humanitarian operations and reconstruction programmes,

Noting General Assembly resolution 59/239 of 22 December 2004, which requested the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, within its mandate, to continue to support the efforts of countries affected by natural disasters and complex emergencies to develop prevention, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes for the transition from relief to development, and encouraged the Programme to continue to work closely with the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and other relevant agencies in the United Nations system in this field,

1. [Endorses] the guiding principles contained in paragraphs 31 and 32 of the theme paper entitled “Post conflict, natural and man-made disasters assessment and reconstruction”,\(^8\) which were reviewed and discussed at the second session of the World Urban Forum;

2. Requests the Executive Director, on the basis of those guiding principles and in close coordination with appropriate multilateral and bilateral agencies, to develop a strategic policy for the role of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in addressing sustainable human settlements aspects of human-made and natural disaster management, which should focus on the Programme’s areas of comparative advantage, for review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives before the end of 2005;

3. [Also requests] the Executive Director to establish a facility, to be known as the Human Settlements Recovery Facility, in order to facilitate disaster management interventions by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in support of human settlements in crisis;

4. Invites Governments which are in a position to do so to contribute generously [to the Human Settlements Recovery Facility] to disaster activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme.

\(^8\) HSP/GC/20/5.
World Urban Forum (L.3/Rev.3)

The Governing Council,

Recalling paragraph 10 of resolution 18/5 of 16 February 2001, in which the Governing Council 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”,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 56/206 of 21 December 2001, and in particular paragraph 3 of section B, in which the General Assembly decided 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”,

Recalling further paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 56/205 of 21 December 2001 in which the General Assembly 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 the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,

Having considered the report of the Executive Director on the second session of the World Urban Forum,

1. Welcomes with appreciation the contributions made by the Government of Spain, the Autonomous Government of Catalonia, the Municipality of Barcelona and the Universal Forum of the Cultures, in hosting the second session of the World Urban Forum in the city of Barcelona from 13 to 17 September 2004;

2. Welcomes the increased level of participation at the second session of the World Urban Forum of Governments; local authorities; the private sector; cultural, women’s, young people’s and grassroots groups; and media organizations; leading to the successful outcome of the session;

3. Welcomes with appreciation the invitation by the Government of Canada to host the third session of the World Urban Forum in the city of Vancouver from 19 to 23 June 2006;

4. Reiterates that the World Urban Forum should be as inclusive as possible so as to ensure a fruitful and focused dialogue between Governments from all regions, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners;

5. Requests the Executive Director to take into account the deliberations and decisions of the Governing Council at its twentieth session in her preparation of the provisional agenda and documentation for the third session of the World Urban Forum;

6. Also requests the Executive Director to provide adequate organizational and substantive support to the preparations for the third session of the World Urban Forum in order to maximize opportunities for sharing lessons learned, best practices and good policies in the field of shelter and sustainable urbanization;

[6bis. Further requests the Executive Director to mobilize more reliable resources for the preparation and conduct of future sessions of the World Urban Forum, making specific provisions in future proposed programmes of work and budgets];

7. Urges all Governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners to attend and participate actively in the deliberations of the third session of the World Urban Forum;

8. Invites Governments which are in a position to do so to contribute generously to support the travel to and participation in the third session of the World Urban Forum by representatives of [developing countries] [the least developed countries] and of Habitat Agenda partners[, including representatives of organizations of women, young people and people with disabilities];

9. Requests the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session on the outcome of the third session of the World Urban Forum.
Strengthening the Slum Upgrading Facility of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation (L.4/Rev.3)

[The Governing Council,]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 56/206 of 21 December 2001, which encourages the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to strengthen the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in order to achieve its primary operative objective of supporting shelter, related infrastructure development programmes and housing finance institutions and mechanisms, particularly in developing countries,

Recalling also Governing Council resolution 19/11 of 9 May 2003, in which the Council urges the international community, particularly developed countries and others that are in a position to do so, to further extend their financial support to enable the Foundation to become effective in mobilizing domestic resources, both from the private sector and public sectors, for shelter and related infrastructure in developing countries, with special focus on the needs of slum-dwellers and low-income people,

Welcoming the importance attached to slum upgrading in Africa by the Commission for Africa and its recognition that the Slum Upgrading Facility would require financial support from member States that are in a position to provide such support,

Welcoming also progress made by the Executive Director in strengthening the Foundation by launching the Slum Upgrading Facility as a three-year pilot project designed to mobilize domestic capital; working with member States and Habitat partners to field-test approaches; offering technical assistance to package the financial, political and technical elements of slum upgrading; and providing seed capital to catalyse local processes and attract domestic and international investment for slum upgrading,

1. Invites Governments and others to continue to contribute financially to the Slum Upgrading Facility, capitalizing it at a level of at least $30 million, and ensuring the Foundation achieves its primary operative objective;

2. Encourages host Governments and Habitat Agenda partners to support the Slum Upgrading Facility by promoting policy and regulatory reforms that enable the mobilization of domestic capital for slum upgrading, and by leveraging public investment and strengthening the capacity of local authorities;

3. Requests the Executive Director to accelerate efforts to implement a cooperation framework between the World Bank Group and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and similar framework agreements with regional development banks, so as to additionally harmonize interventions that support the efforts of States to achieve the internationally agreed development goals on slum-dwellers, safe drinking water and basic sanitation;

4. Also requests the Executive Director to report to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session on progress made on the Slum Upgrading Facility, taking into consideration the results of a mid-term assessment of the three-year pilot project and reviewing options for the operationalization of the Facility as a longer-term programme of the Foundation.
Decentralization and strengthening of local authorities (L.5/Rev.3)

The Governing Council,

Recognizing the importance of decentralization policies in achieving sustainable human settlements development in line with the Habitat Agenda and the internationally agreed development goals of the Millennium Declaration,

Recalling its resolution 19/12 of 9 May 2003, by which it requested the Executive Director to take further steps and measures to intensify dialogue on decentralization and strengthening of local authorities, with the aim of developing recommendations to be presented at the twentieth session of the Governing Council and documenting best practices,

Recalling also paragraph 180 of the Habitat Agenda, which recommends that Governments should “examine and adopt, as appropriate, policies and legal frameworks from other States that are implementing decentralization effectively”;

Recalling further its resolution 18/11 of 16 February 2001, by which it mandated the Executive Director to intensify dialogue among Governments at all levels and Habitat partners, on all issues related to effective decentralization and the strengthening of local authorities, including, as appropriate, legal frameworks, in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Welcoming the establishment by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme of the Advisory Group of Experts on Decentralization, which advises the Executive Director on the dialogue on decentralization, in accordance with resolution 19/12, and on the implementation of decentralization policies at the country level and the documentation of best practices,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts made by many countries around the world in engaging in decentralization reforms to create an environment that is conducive to improved urban governance and participatory democracy,

Welcoming the growing commitment of local authorities to effective decentralization and improved local governance, as reflected in, among other documents, the final declaration of the Founding Congress of United Cities and Local Governments, held in May 2004,

Convinced that effective decentralization can contribute to strengthening gender equality, promoting women’s empowerment in human settlements, as well as providing new opportunities for employment for young people and social inclusion,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director on the implementation of resolution 19/12 entitled “Recommendations on decentralization and strengthening of local authorities”,

1. Encourages the Executive Director to continue the international dialogue on decentralization at the third session of the World Urban Forum;

2. Welcomes the creation by local authorities and their associations of United Cities and Local Governments and the strengthening by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and its partners of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, as positive trends towards enabling local authorities to contribute to relevant international dialogues;

3. Takes note with appreciation of the “Draft guidelines on decentralization and the strengthening of local authorities”, prepared by the members of the Advisory Group of Experts on Decentralization in collaboration with the secretariat, as requested by resolutions 18/11 and 19/12;

4. Invites Governments to provide their comments on the draft guidelines to the secretariat before the end of 2005, and to document cases of best practices for incorporation in the compendium of best practices requested in resolution 19/12;

5. Requests the Executive Director to take these comments into account and to revise and finalize the guidelines during 2006, with the support of the Advisory Group of Experts on

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10 General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000.
11 HSP/GC/20/7.
Decentralization and in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, and to submit the guidelines to the Governing Council for its consideration at its twenty-first session;

6. [Encourages the Executive Director to [continue supporting the programme of work of the Advisory Group of Experts on Decentralization on decentralization and strengthening of local authorities;] [establish, in collaboration with United Cities and Local Governments, a global observatory of local democracy and decentralization, which shall assess, monitor and evaluate the state of decentralization and urban governance in the world and, among other things, the state of local democracy in that context];]

7. [Invites Governments which are in a position to do so to provide the United Nations Human Settlements Programme with the financial contributions necessary to ensure a successful dialogue on decentralization and to support the work of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, the Advisory Group of Experts on Decentralization [and the global observatory of local democracy and decentralization].]
Enhancing the involvement of civil society in local governance (L.6/Rev.4)

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 19/9 of 9 May 2003, by which it decided that one of the two special themes of the twentieth session of the Governing Council would be “Involvement of civil society in improving local governance”,

Recalling also the goals, principles, commitments and recommendations of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Recalling further paragraphs 25 and 30 of the Millennium Declaration, which call for more inclusive political processes, allowing genuine participation by all citizens in all countries, and for greater opportunities to be given to civil society in governance,

Recalling General Assembly Resolution 59/239 of 22 December 2004, calling for the empowerment of non-governmental organizations, including women’s groups and professional groups, to play a more effective role in the provision of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements in an urbanizing world,

Recognizing that urbanization, while providing opportunities for development, can also result, in the short-term, in a diminishing of social cohesion,

1. Calls upon Governments to create the appropriate institutional and legislative conditions for enhancing the involvement of civil society in local governance, including the deepening of decentralization to community and neighbourhood levels, as appropriate and practicable, strengthening participatory processes in the ongoing local government reforms in many countries, and building the capacities of women, young people and the urban poor in accelerating the attainment of the goal of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on improving the lives of slum-dwellers;

2. Requests the Executive Director to continue compiling lessons learned and best practices from innovative practices that enhance the involvement of civil society collected or tested by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme or its partners, or discussed at the World Urban Forum, including recommendations for overcoming the challenges encountered in the application of those innovations in human settlements work, and to improve the dissemination and exchange of such information in close collaboration with other parts of the United Nations system as well as other partners, in particular those with existing networks for the review and dissemination of such information;

3pre. [Urges Governments and other Habitat Agenda partners to cultivate civic and democratic values such as trust, reciprocity, transparency, accountability, a commitment to the rule of law and a respect for human rights, which are the foundations of a well-functioning civil society;]

3. [Encourages the Executive Director to develop tool-kits and recommendations for local authorities and civil society and to further consider modalities for enhancing civic and democratic values, taking into account the laws and culture of each country;]

4. Recommends that the promotion of civil society involvement in local decision-making and implementation of programmes be given due consideration in the monitoring activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including those being undertaken jointly with current and potential Habitat Agenda partners;

5. Calls upon the Executive Director to promote [national] civil society involvement in relevant programmes and projects implemented by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;

6. Requests the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and other partners such as national Governments and development partners to assist in building the capacity of civil society so that it can participate effectively in local governance;

13 General Assembly resolution S-25/2, annex.
14 Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum)
15 General Assembly resolution 55/2.
7. Requests the Executive Director to include a reference to the implementation of the present resolution in her overall progress report on the activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, which will be submitted to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session.
Global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance (L.7/Rev.2)

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 56/205 of 21 December 2001 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, in which the Assembly expresses its support for the global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance as strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000 on the United Nations Millennium Declaration, especially operative paragraph 13, which emphasizes the significance of good governance for poverty eradication,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 59/239 of 22 December 2004 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, in particular, operative paragraphs 12 and 14, which encourage Governments to support the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Global Campaign on Urban Governance of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and call upon Governments and the Programme to continue to promote partnerships with local authorities, respectively,

Recalling its resolution 19/3 of 9 May 2003 on the global campaigns and, in particular, operative paragraph 12, requesting the Executive Director to report on the progress made in the implementation of the resolution at its next session,

Welcoming the establishment of the Advisory Group on Forced Evictions pursuant to Governing Council resolution 19/5 of 9 May 2003 and its commencement of documentation of unlawful forced evictions in support of the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure;

Convinced of the need to further strengthen and expand the two global campaigns in order to realize sustainable, equitable and inclusive development, and achieve the internationally agreed development goals and the Habitat Agenda,

Taking note of the recommendations of the independent evaluation of the two global campaigns commissioned by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme at the request of the Committee of Permanent Representatives,

1. Endorses the conclusion of the evaluation recognizing the centrality of the global campaigns as strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and the need to reflect that centrality in the organizational structure, budget and programme of work of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;

2. Requests the Executive Director to ensure that the campaigns have a higher global visibility, including through their promotion in global forums and a closer working relationship with the Cities Alliance, the World Bank and other bilateral and multilateral institutions;

3. Fully endorses the recommendation of the evaluation requesting an adequate level of funding of the global campaigns combining earmarked resources with core resources and contributions from other programmes of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;

4. Invites Governments which are in a position to do so to support the campaigns with financial resources;

5. Supports the suggestion to promote the two campaigns simultaneously at the global, national and local levels, with particular attention paid to the global and local dimensions of the campaigns;

6. Requests the Executive Director to further mainstream the principles of the campaigns through the activities and programmes of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and to ensure closer linkages with those activities and programmes and cost-effectiveness in resource utilization;

7. Also requests the Executive Director to ensure that the campaigns’ activities are periodically documented, that a forward-looking strategic plan is elaborated, that criteria are established for identifying priorities, taking into account opportunities for follow-up on the campaigns’ action plans and where the biggest impact can be made and that clear indicators specific to the campaigns’ objectives are established to assess their success and impact;
8. **Further requests** the Executive Director to ensure the continued support of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to countries in their individual and collective efforts to combat poverty and achieve the internationally agreed goal on slums of the Millennium Declaration through improved urban governance and enhanced security of tenure;

9. **Encourages** Governments and Habitat Agenda partners to mainstream the principles of the campaigns within their human settlements policies and programmes, to view the campaigns principally as a process for [political and] community mobilization, capacity-building, awareness, advocacy and for attracting visibility to the causes of secure tenure and good urban governance, including by supporting the conciliatory approach of the Advisory Group on Forced Evictions;

10. **Requests** the Executive Director to include a reference to the implementation of the present resolution in her overall progress report on the activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, which will be submitted to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session.
Implementing and monitoring the goal of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on improving the lives of slum-dwellers (L.8/Rev.3)

The Governing Council,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration\(^\text{16}\) and more particularly its paragraph 19, in which heads of State and Government committed themselves “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”, as reconfirmed in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,\(^\text{17}\)

Recalling also Governing Council resolution 19/5 of 9 May 2003, in which the Council decided that a continuing focus of its twentieth and future sessions should be the implementation and monitoring of the goal of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on improving the lives of slum-dwellers,

Noting with appreciation the elaboration of a strategy paper for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal on improving the lives of slum-dwellers\(^\text{18}\) and the establishment of an advisory group on forced evictions as requested by the Governing Council at its last session,

Taking note of the reports of the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, especially the Report of the Secretary-General on human settlements and the Chair’s summary, which urge Member States to facilitate access to land, land-use planning, and tenure security by the urban poor,

Taking note also of the recommendations of the World Urban Forum at its second session, particularly those from the thematic dialogue on Urban Poor,\(^\text{19}\)

Taking note further of the report of the thirty-third session of the Statistical Commission\(^\text{20}\) which endorsed the Monitoring Urban Inequities Programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme as a relevant and effective strategy for monitoring the goal of the Millennium Declaration on improving the lives of slum-dwellers, and its relation to other internationally agreed development goals,

[Taking note of the modest level of the global target on improving the lives of slum-dwellers and the lack of a clear reference against which to monitor progress and revise and develop policies,]

1. [Invites the General Assembly to ensure that measures are taken to review the existing target on slum-dwellers in the light of the need to assist Governments with policies and methods that embrace not only the 100 million of the estimated existing slum-dwellers, but also the projected total of 1.4 billion slum-dwellers by 2020, as recommended by the Millennium Project;]

2. Requests the Executive Director to continue to work to fulfil the goal of improving the lives of slum-dwellers in line with the strategy paper for the implementation of the Millennium Development Goal on improving the lives of slum dwellers [and the United Nations Millennium Task Force 8 report\(^\text{21}\)];

3. Also requests the Executive Director, taking into account the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,\(^\text{22}\) to explore all available options to increase the financial resources which could support the achievement of that goal, including through the Slum Upgrading Facility;

\(^{16}\) See General Assembly resolution 55/2.
\(^{17}\) Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum).
\(^{18}\) HSP/GC/20/6
\(^{21}\) Report entitled “A home in the city: improving the lives of slum dwellers”.
4. *Invites* Governments and local authorities, as appropriate, to allocate the necessary financial, human and technical resources to meet the human settlements-related goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and to develop, implement and monitor national and local action plans for slum upgrading;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director to encourage Governments and, at their request, assist them, in the development or implementation of policies and action plans on slum upgrading, including through the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Director to document initiatives undertaken by various Governments and other stakeholders on the implementation of the goal on improving the lives of slum-dwellers, such as the preparation and implementation of policies and legislation on slum upgrading and prevention of new slums, and to provide advice and support as necessary;

7. *Further requests* the Executive Director to encourage cooperation at the international and regional levels and partnership between Governments and other stakeholders on national initiatives, legislation and policies related to the goal on improving the lives of slum-dwellers through meetings and forums [such as the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development and the European Commission/United Nations Human Settlements Programme Regional Workshop on Urbanization Challenges in Africa] [and the annual meetings of Ministers of Housing and Urban Development of the Latin America and Caribbean Countries (MINURVI)];

8. *Requests* the Executive Director to strengthen the Global Urban Observatory through the incorporation of the Monitoring Urban Inequities Programme, and to support actively local and national urban observatories;

9. *Encourages* the Executive Director to continue developing partnerships with national statistical offices, the United Nations Statistics Division, and all relevant partners to incorporate the slum and the secure tenure indices into national population censuses and other surveys and to encourage the release of data thus collected into the public domain;

10. *Invites* member States and Habitat Agenda partners that are in a position to do so to provide financial and substantive support to the monitoring activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including to enable it to develop further methodologies for data collection, analysis and dissemination on a gender-disaggregated basis and to evaluate concepts and sources of city and intra-city statistics;

11. *Also invites* all member States to actively contribute to the next session of the World Urban Forum, to be held in Vancouver, including by presenting an assessment of the progress they are making in achieving the goal of the Millennium Declaration on improving the lives of slum-dwellers, in collaboration with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;

12. *Requests* the Executive Director to include a reference to the implementation of the present resolution in her overall progress report on the activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, which will be submitted to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session.
Gender equality in human settlements development (L.9/Rev.2)

The Governing Council,

Recalling paragraphs 15, 40 and 46 of the Habitat Agenda\textsuperscript{23} emphasizing the provision of legal security of tenure and equal access to land to all people, including women, and the commitment by Governments to the goal of gender equality in human settlements development,

Bearing in mind the Declaration adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session as orally amended\textsuperscript{24} and the review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action\textsuperscript{25} adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, in which Governments pledged to accelerate efforts to achieve equality for women and fulfill the Beijing commitments,

Recalling the linkage between the Habitat Agenda and the Beijing Platform for Action, which recognizes the importance of land, housing and property to women’s livelihoods and draws attention to the important link between women’s poverty and homelessness, inadequate housing, and lack of access to economic resources such as credit, land ownership and inheritance,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 59/168 of 20 December 2004, calling on Governments, the United Nations system and other relevant actors to integrate gender perspectives into the implementation of and follow-up to recent United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions,

Noting the need to build the capacity of local authorities in gender mainstreaming in urban governance, including in municipal planning and management, by strengthening linkages between women’s organizations, community groups and local authorities, documenting lessons emerging from grassroots women’s efforts to cooperate with local authorities and by strengthening women’s networks, bearing in mind women’s contribution to sustainable human settlements development, the urbanization process, slum upgrading and basic services delivery, especially in the implementation of water and sanitation programmes,

Recognizing the need to incorporate gender perspectives in disaster management policy and practice, from vulnerability reduction to relief, and rehabilitation to developments,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director on progress made in the implementation of Governing Council resolution 19/16 of 9 May 2003 on Women’s roles and rights in human settlements development and slum upgrading,\textsuperscript{26}

1. Requests Governments and local authorities to involve women in decision making at all levels of government and to encourage their participation in human settlements development planning, strengthen gender mainstreaming in municipal governance, including in resource allocation and delivery of basic services including water and sanitation programmes;

2. Encourages Governments and local authorities to adopt appropriate policies and to provide mechanisms and resources to address violence against women in cities and towns, and to develop partnerships with women’s organizations, human rights organizations, and other relevant entities;

3. Urges Governments to make certain that in post-conflict or disaster situations, the special needs, vulnerabilities, priorities and capacities of women are recognized and equally addressed alongside those of men;

4. Calls upon the Executive Director to ensure that all normative and operational activities developed and implemented by the various divisions, branches and units of UN-Habitat address gender equality and women’s empowerment in human settlements development, by incorporating gender impact assessment and gender disaggregated data criteria in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of these activities;

\textsuperscript{24} E/CN.6/2005/L.1.
\textsuperscript{25} Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.
\textsuperscript{26} HSP/GC/20/2.
5. *Requests* the Executive Director to prepare a publication on and disseminate best practices on gender mainstreaming and women’s empowerment in human settlements development at the local, municipal and national levels;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Director to include a report on the implementation of the present resolution in her progress report to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session.]
Thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (L.10/Rev.3)

The Governing Council,

Recalling the commitments made by Governments in the United Nations Millennium Declaration\textsuperscript{27} and at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to reduce by half, by the year 2015, the proportion of people unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water and the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation \[, and to improve the lives of 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020.\]

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 57/275 of 20 December 2002, requesting the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to support developing countries in implementing those targets in order to increase access to clean water, sanitation and adequate shelter, and to further support the implementation of the Water for African Cities Programme, as requested by the New Partnership for Africa’s Development,

Recalling further the commitments and recommendations of the Habitat Agenda on the twin goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium\textsuperscript{28} adopted by the General Assembly in June 2001,

Welcoming the importance given to the issues of water, sanitation and human settlements as the thematic cluster of the first implementation cycle 2004–2005 of the Commission on Sustainable Development,

Recalling its resolution 19/6 of 9 May 2003 on water and sanitation in cities,

Welcoming the support provided so far to the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund,

Taking note of the Chair’s summary of the twelfth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development,\textsuperscript{29} which clearly underscored that achieving the internationally agreed goals on water, sanitation and human settlements and achieving the poverty eradication target are inextricably linked and play a crucial role in sustaining economic growth, social development and environmental protection,

Noting with satisfaction that the outcomes of the second session of the World Urban Forum have been taken into account in the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on human settlements for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development;\textsuperscript{30}

1. Encourages Governments at all levels to pursue actively the integration of the three themes of water, sanitation and human settlements at the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as human settlements provide a concrete context for policy actions which can help translate global goals and policies into operational reality;

2. Also encourages Governments to prioritize urban water, sanitation and human settlements policy actions in national development programmes and policies, poverty reduction strategy papers and other policy documents;

3. Recommends that a chair’s summary be prepared on the outcome of the discussions of the issues related to water, sanitation and human settlements at the twentieth session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme for submission at the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

4. [Encourages the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to contribute to the [follow-up of the thirteenth session] [organizers] of the Commission on Sustainable Development, its compendium of best practices, tool kits on good urban governance, and other knowledge on practical and effective policy options that have fostered the development of sustainable human settlements;]

5. [Recommends that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme be a focal point for following up and monitoring the outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development pertaining to human settlements;]

\textsuperscript{27} General Assembly resolution 55/2.
\textsuperscript{28} General Assembly resolution S-25/2, annex.
\textsuperscript{30} HSP/GC/20/2/Add.1.
5bis. [Recommends also that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme be a focal point for following up and monitoring the outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development that pertain to water and sanitation in human settlements;]

6. Invites Governments which are in a position to do so to support the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in its activities following up the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, with financial resources primarily routed through the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

7. Also invites all Habitat Agenda partners to support and utilize fully the activities and programmes of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in the implementation of the outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

8. Requests the Executive Director to inform Governments, through the Committee of Permanent Representatives, on the relevant outcomes of the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and to include a reference to the implementation of the present resolution in her overall progress report to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session.
Small island developing States (L.11/Rev.1)

[The Governing Council,

Welcoming the adoption of the Mauritius Declaration and Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, which was adopted on 13 January 2005 at the International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, 10–14 January 2005,

Recognizing that small island developing States experience specific problems arising, among other things, from their small size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragile ecosystems and limited fresh water supply,

Noting with concern that the development of human settlements in small island developing States is impeded by annual natural disasters, which routinely destroy the housing stock and other human settlements infrastructure,

Noting the rapid rate of urbanization of small island developing States, which is accompanied by the growth of slums, poverty, and rising insecurity,

Emphasizing the importance of the effective implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and the Mauritius Strategy for Further Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

1. Encourages Governments to support the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

2. Requests the Executive Director to assist in raising the awareness of the international community of the challenges related to sustainable human settlements development in small island developing States;

3. Also requests the Executive Director to assist small island developing States in areas relating to disaster preparedness, land registration, urban planning guidelines, hurricane-resistant housing and the development of a training programme for local authorities and community development groups on the administration and sustainable development of cities and other human settlements in small island developing States;

4. Invites the international community to provide financial support for the programmes and projects of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in small island developing States;

5. Requests the Executive Director to further strengthen cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes related to small island developing States to ensure the effective implementation of the human settlements elements contained in the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.]
Habitat Programme Managers and regional offices (L.12/Rev.2)

The Governing Council,

Acknowledging that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme is the lead United Nations agency in all areas of shelter and human settlements development and has the responsibility to promote, facilitate and provide technical cooperation to developing countries and countries with economies in transition,

Bearing in mind that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme is a member of the United Nations Development Group, whose principal objective is to strengthen the policy and programme coherence of United Nations development activities,

Recalling its resolution 19/7 of 9 May 2003, which requests the Executive Director, in the framework of a continuous updating of the regionalization strategy, taking into account the ongoing United Nations reform processes, to strengthen the regional presence and cooperation of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including by strengthening existing regional offices as necessary and, in consultation with interested Governments and the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to study the establishment of new offices in a cost-effective way and subject to the availability of adequate long-term financial support from concerned regions, countries and cities,

Reaffirming that the complementarity and synergy between operational and normative functions constitutes a major asset and comparative advantage of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 57/275 of 20 December 2002, welcoming increased cooperation between the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations Development Programme, and noting with interest the envisaged placement of locally recruited UN-Habitat programme managers in selected United Nations Development Programme offices in recipient countries, in consultation with relevant Governments,

[Taking note of General Assembly resolution 59/250 of 17 December 2004, inviting the governing bodies of all organizations of the United Nations development system to consider means to strengthen their country-level capacities, to address systematically the funding of their operational activities and to explore additional sources of financial support and alternative funding modalities so as to secure, on a predictable, continuous and sustained basis, the critical mass of resources required to ensure adequate functioning and pursuit of long-term development objectives,]

[Recalling that resolution 59/250 requests programmes and funds to rationalize country presence through common premises and co-location of members of the United Nations country team,]

1. Agrees that the work of Habitat Programme Managers, taking into account host country priorities, shall mainly focus on:
   (a) Promoting the integration of sustainable urbanization in United Nations development assistance frameworks and national development strategies and plans, including poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist;
   (b) Promoting the global and normative mandate, programmes and campaigns of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme;
   (c) Supporting operational activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme at the national and local levels;

2. Acknowledges that Habitat Programme Managers report, under the overall guidance of United Nations resident coordinators, to regional offices while contributing to all normative, advocacy and monitoring activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in collaboration with other units at headquarters;

3. Affirms that Habitat Programme Managers should be sustainably funded from a combination of [general purpose contributions,] special purpose earmarked contributions, including global programmes of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and host country contributions;

3bis. Requires the Executive Director to continue deployment of Habitat Programme Managers in developing countries only once secure funding is assured, and once the evaluation to take place in 2006 has been considered by the Governing Council at its twenty-first session;]
4. *Invites* all Governments which are in a position to do so, including host countries, to support the financial viability of the Habitat Programme Manager network, ideally through multi-year contributions;

5. *Also invites* Governments to support the regional offices of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme financially and/or through in-kind contributions in order to expand their operational support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

6. *Requests* the Executive Director, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, to organize an evaluation of the performance and impact of Habitat Programme Managers during 2006 and to report on it to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Director to submit to the Governing Council, for consideration at its twenty-first session, an updated regionalization strategy that takes into account ongoing United Nations reform processes and includes a plan for selecting future Habitat Programme Manager placements, the balance between regional offices and country presence, and the planned future structure of the regional and country presence of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, including its financing.
Provisional agenda for the twenty-first session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (L.13/Rev.1)

The Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Human Settlements Programme recommends to the Bureau of the Governing Council the following provisional agenda for the twenty-first session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme scheduled for [16 to 20 April 2007] [7 to 11 May 2007]:

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers.
3. Credentials.
4. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
6. [Special themes: (to be determined according to the procedure in draft resolution L.14/Rev.1).
7. Cooperation with local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners.
9. Coordination matters:
   (a) Cooperation with agencies and organizations within the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations;
   (b) Matters arising out of the resolutions of major legislative organs of the United Nations and other intergovernmental bodies which are brought to the attention of the Governing Council.
10. Other matters.
12. Adoption of the report of the session.
13. Closure of the session.
Organization and themes for future sessions of the Governing Council
(L.14/Rev.1)

The Governing Council,

Recalling its resolution 5/15 of 7 May 1982 in which it decided to designate the subjects of the special themes of its sessions two years in advance,

Also recalling its resolution 16/12 of 7 May 1997 in which it decided to provide, at future sessions of the Council, opportunities for partners to engage in a dialogue among themselves and with Governments,

Further recalling its resolution 19/5 of 9 May 2003, in which it decided that a continuing focus of its twentieth and future sessions should be the implementation and monitoring of the goal of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on improving the lives of slum-dwellers,

Noting that the World Urban Forum now provides an opportunity for extensive dialogue among Governments, local authorities and other Habitat Agenda partners,

Recognizing the importance during sessions of the Governing Council of a focused, interactive high-level segment on priority policy issues,

1. Endorses the recommendations of the Committee of Permanent Representatives on improving preparations for the Governing Council, which are contained in the appendix hereto,

2. Decides that the special themes referred to in resolution 5/15 shall no longer be chosen two years in advance, but shall instead be selected by the Bureau of the Governing Council at least six months before the start of each session of the Governing Council, on the basis of advice from the Executive Director, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, taking into account the outcome of the sessions of the World Urban Forum and the requirement for a continuing focus on the implementation and monitoring of the goal of the Millennium Declaration on improving the lives of slum-dwellers;

3. Also decides that the high-level segment and the dialogues referred to in its resolution 16/12 should normally focus on those special themes and should constitute the substantive debate on the special themes;

4. Requests the Committee of Permanent Representatives to recommend to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session, through the Bureau of the Governing Council, further proposals for improving the structure and organizational arrangements of the twenty-first and future sessions of the Governing Council including, in particular, the high-level segment;

5. Also requests the Executive Director to prepare a background paper for use by the Committee of Permanent Representatives in complying with the request set forth in the preceding paragraph.
Appendix

Recommendations for improving the preparations for future sessions of the Governing Council

I. Preparatory phase of the Governing Council

A. Organization of the work of Committee of Permanent Representatives working groups

1. The organization of the meetings of the Committee of Permanent Representatives working groups should be improved by preparing a schedule of meetings in advance, distributing clear agendas which identify the documents to be discussed under each item and ensuring that all relevant documentation is circulated two weeks in advance in both hard-copy and electronic form.

2. The agendas of the meetings of the working groups should be short and streamlined.

B. Preparation of the work programme and budget

10. Provision should be made for the Committee of Permanent Representatives to give the proposed work programme and budget timely and detailed consideration.

11. At least six weeks in advance of the first discussions of the proposed work programme and budget, the secretariat should distribute it to the Committee of Permanent Representatives. The Working Group on Finance, Budget and Administrative Matters should hold comprehensive discussions of the proposed work programme and budget, in cooperation with the secretariat, and make recommendations to the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

12. The proposed work programme and budget and each subprogramme thereof should be prioritized and annotated to show clearly how each element flows from existing mandates. The draft work programme and budget should clearly identify items which depend on the adoption of decisions by the Governing Council.

13. The broad outlines of the proposed work programme and budget and its underlying mandates should be presented for discussion to the relevant working group of the Committee of Permanent Representatives before the full proposed work programme and budget is drafted.
II. Conduct of sessions of the Governing Council

A. Structure of sessions of the Governing Council

14. Consultations should be started as early as possible on the structure of each session of the Governing Council.

15. The dialogues should focus on the two special themes for the Governing Council and should constitute the main substantive debate on those special themes.

16. Priority items should be placed on the Governing Council agenda for consideration early in the session.

17. The selection of themes for each session should take into account relevant emerging issues and the outcomes of intergovernmental meetings relevant to the work of UN-Habitat. In that connection, General Assembly resolution 57/270 B, on integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, should be taken into account.

18. Multi-year mandates should be considered so that certain items need not be on the agenda of each session of the Governing Council. Items with multi-year mandates should be kept under review by the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

19. A working group to consider the work programme and the budget should be established at the beginning of the Governing Council session to give the working group sufficient time to consider the work programme and budget carefully.

B. Conduct of sessions of the Governing Council.

20. The number of parallel and social events should be kept to a manageable level.

21. In accordance with the established practice, an alphabetical seating pattern should be followed at all sessions of the Governing Council.

22. The Executive Director, in consultation with the Committee of Permanent Representatives, should establish a structure for the theme related Dialogues well in advance of the Governing Council for submission to the Bureau of the Governing Council.

23. Ministers should be encouraged to participate in the theme-related dialogues. The discussions during and the outcome of those dialogues should be taken into consideration in the negotiations on related draft resolutions.

24. Participants in the theme-related dialogues should be encouraged to engage in interactive dialogue. Written statements, although acceptable, should not replace open dialogue.

25. Each theme-related dialogue should have a moderator/facilitator and one resource person to encourage interactive debate.

26. If the Governing Council, after careful consideration of the recommendations of the Bureau and the Committee of Permanent Representatives, establishes subsidiary organs, subcommittees or working groups, meetings of the Committee of the Whole and those of the plenary should not be held simultaneously, to the extent possible.

27. To enhance accessibility, the possibility should be considered of showing the proceedings on a television monitor outside the meeting room.

28. The establishment of working and contact groups and their schedules/venues, and of regional group meetings, should be clearly announced in both plenary meetings and meetings of the Committee of the Whole. The information should also be posted on a prominent announcement board.
Sustainable development of [the] Arctic Cities (L.15/Rev.1)

The Governing Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 59/239 of 22 December 2004 on the implementation of decisions of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

Recalling also the resolution of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium\(^{31}\) as well as the development goals set forth in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,\(^ {32}\)

Recalling further [Taking into account] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development of 2002,\(^ {33}\)

Recognizing that one of the priorities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme is the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the development goals soliciting international cooperation in providing adequate shelter for all and sustainable development of human settlements set forth in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Noting with concern that the development of human settlements of the far north and the Arctic region is impeded by severe climatic conditions coupled with environmental pollution, a decrease in the number of indigenous people and their growing vulnerability,

Acknowledging the special needs in providing adequate shelter for the indigenous people of the Arctic region and the need to ensure sustainable development of human settlements based on the principles of good governance,

Welcoming [Positively assessing] the fruitful work of the Arctic Council in promoting the cooperation, coordination and joint action of stakeholder countries of the Arctic region with a view to developing and implementing principles of sustainable development for the Arctic region [Programme on Sustainable Development], including principles relating to the protection of the environment and the health of the indigenous population and the improvement of the social and economic conditions of Arctic communities,

1. Requests the Executive Director to assist in raising the awareness of the international community of the sustainable development challenges of the far north and the Arctic region, including those faced by the indigenous people residing in those areas;

2. Invites the Executive Director to consult [draft in cooperation] with the United Nations Environment Programme, the Arctic Council, the World Bank and other partners and stakeholders on the possibility of developing a dedicated programme of action to provide assistance to the people of the far north and the Arctic region in pursuing the sustainable development of cities and other human settlements, promoting improved shelter infrastructure and wider use of resource saving technologies, and facilitating scientific capacity-building, taking into consideration the experience of Canada, China, Finland, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden, United States of America and other stakeholder countries in creating favourable living conditions for indigenous peoples of the far north and the Arctic region;

3. Requests the Executive Director to develop a training programme for municipal authorities on the administration of sustainable development of cities and large human settlements and to create an electronic database on the status of selected cities of the far north and the Arctic region;

4. [Also requests the Executive Director to organize in 2005–2006 an ad hoc meeting between the Arctic Council members, stakeholder countries and international organizations to define the global priorities for cooperation in the area of sustainable development of human settlements of the far North and the Arctic region];

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\(^{31}\) General Assembly resolution S-25/2, annex.

\(^{32}\) General Assembly resolution 55/2.


5. *Invites* the Executive Director to submit a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session.
Housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living for persons who are vulnerable and disadvantaged (L.16/Rev.1)

The Governing Council,

Recognizing adequate housing as an important component of the right to an adequate standard of living, as confirmed in paragraph 61 of the Habitat Agenda,

Recognizing also the need to give special attention, in providing access to shelter, to persons with disabilities, single parent families and especially single mothers, aged persons, orphans and abandoned children, refugees and internally displaced persons, minorities and indigenous people,

Bearing in mind the importance of increasing cooperation between UN-Habitat and relevant human rights organizations,

Recalling paragraphs 12, 13, 14, 16 and 17 of the Habitat Agenda, related to the right of young people, displaced persons, indigenous people, persons with disabilities and aged persons to an adequate standard of living, adequate shelter and full and equal participation in political, social and economic life,

Recalling also paragraph 40 of the Habitat Agenda emphasizing the promotion of shelter and basic services and facilities for education and health for homeless or displaced persons, indigenous people, women and children who are survivors of family violence, persons with disabilities and older persons,

Recalling further paragraph 24 of the Habitat Agenda, [which states that the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, will be undertaken with full respect for various religious and ethical values] [regarding implementation of such Agenda],

Recalling the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its Protocol,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/21 entitled “Adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living” of 16 April 2004, and particularly its focus on the conditions of the poor, as well as women and children, and members of groups requiring special protection, such as persons with disabilities, indigenous people and persons belonging to minorities,

Recognizing that poor women, single family parents and especially single mothers, homeless children, persons with disabilities and persons belonging to other vulnerable and disadvantaged groups are particularly severely affected by forced eviction, and emphasizing the need to promote policy alternatives to forced eviction through campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance,

Recognizing also the activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights joint Housing Rights Programme in the fields of advocacy, research and development, networking, monitoring and evaluation and capacity-building,

Recognizing further the work of the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing of the Commission on Human Rights related to the housing rights of women and persons belonging to other vulnerable and disadvantaged groups,

Taking into account that effective decentralization might provide new opportunities for vulnerable and disadvantaged persons,

1. Requests the Executive Director, in developing and implementing UN-Habitat gender policy, to integrate the protection of persons belonging to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups into all UN-Habitat activities, including the campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance in slum upgrading projects;

2. Also requests the Executive Director, in consultation with Governments, to develop or, where they already exist, to strengthen mechanisms for monitoring the impact of human settlement policies and programmes on the lives and work of disadvantaged persons in cities including those in low-income areas and slums, and for enhancing vulnerable and disadvantaged persons networks and other organizations active in the area;
3. Encourages Governments to adopt appropriate policies and to create mechanisms and allocate appropriate resources in order to address social problems resulting from lack of adequate shelter, such as family violence and discrimination, juvenile delinquency and criminality;

4. Urges Governments to include in their laws housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living for vulnerable and disadvantaged people, and to take the necessary actions for the concrete implementation of those rights;

5. Also urges Governments to seek alternatives to forced evictions affecting vulnerable and disadvantaged persons;

6. Requests Governments and local authorities to strengthen mainstreaming in municipal planning and development as well as the participation of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in human settlements development programmes, resource allocation and in delivery of basic services;

7. Calls upon Governments to strengthen mechanisms protecting the access of vulnerable and disadvantaged persons to adequate housing, property and land, especially secure access to credit and inheritance, including for those affected by HIV/AIDS, through appropriate constitutional, legislative and practical administrative measures;

8. Also calls upon [invites/requests] Governments to provide financial support for the implementation of the joint Housing Rights Programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

9. Requests the Executive Director to include a report on the implementation of the present resolution in her progress report to the Governing Council at its twenty-first session.