Eighteenth session
Nairobi, 12-16 February 2001
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT):
PROGRESS REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DRAFT RESOLUTIONS PREPARED BY THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVES TO THE UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR
HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (HABITAT)

Note by the secretariat

1. In accordance with the relevant provisions of resolution 13/3 of the Commission on Human
Settlements, the secretariat is transmitting, in the annex to the present note, for the consideration of the
Commission, a letter dated 25 January 2001 addressed to the Executive Director of the United Nations
Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) by the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

2. In the letter, the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives has, inter alia, requested the
Executive Director to bring to the attention of the Commission the 7 draft resolutions which were prepared
by the Committee, the texts of which are attached to the letter.

* HS/C/18/1.
Madam,

On behalf of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNCHS (Habitat), I have the honour to forward herewith, for your attention, copies of the 7 below titled draft resolutions which were prepared by the Committee of Permanent Representatives for submission to the Commission on Human Settlements at its eighteenth session. These draft resolutions were prepared with a view to assisting the Commission 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 Commission, 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 drafts during their consideration by the Commission. The draft resolutions are as follows:

DR No.1/Rev.5  Work Programme and Budget of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 2002 - 2003

DR No.2/Rev.4  Establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as a subsidiary body of the Commission on Human Settlements

DR No.3/Rev.2  The Role of Local Authorities

DR No.4/Rev.2  Global Campaigns for Secure Tenure and Good Urban Governance

DR No.5/Rev.1  Draft resolution on the Implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/242 and other areas of Cooperation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme

DR No.6/Rev.1  International Cooperation and the review of Mechanisms for Monitoring the Implementation of the Habitat Agenda

DR No.7  Themes for the Nineteenth Session of the Commission on Human Settlements

I would be grateful if, in accordance with the provisions of operative paragraph 1 of resolution 13/3 of 8 May 1991 of the Commission on Human Settlements, these draft resolutions could be brought to the attention of the Commission, as official documents of the session, for further consideration and appropriate action.

Mrs. Anna Kajumulo Tibaijuka
Executive Director
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)
P.O. Box 30030
Nairobi
Please accept, Madam, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Chraibi
Chair of the
Committee of Permanent Representatives
to UN CHS (Habitat) and
Permanent Representative of Morocco
to UN CHS (Habitat)
Draft resolution No.1/Rev. 5

Work Programme and Budget of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the Biennium 2002-2003

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements, the Habitat Agenda and General Assembly resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, by which, inter alia, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) was designated as focal point, within the United Nations system, for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Noting, with satisfaction, the progress made in implementing the new strategic vision for a revitalized United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), in accordance with its resolution 17/7 (Revitalization of the Habitat Centre),

Recognizing the need for Habitat's work programme to continue focusing on well-defined strategic issues and objectives in order to more effectively contribute to the attainment of the goals of the Habitat Agenda,

Noting, with appreciation, the consultation with Member Governments by UNCHS (Habitat) during the preparation of the 2002-05 Medium-term Plan and its use as a framework for the preparation of the proposed work programme for the biennium 2002-03,

Welcoming the consultation with Member Governments, through the Committee of Permanent Representatives, during the elaboration of the programme of work for the biennium 2000-2001 and the preparation of the draft work programme and budget for the biennium 2002-2003,

Also welcoming the continuing efforts of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to improve the financial and administrative management of the Centre, to present a harmonized budget in line with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and to implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors in their report for the biennium ended 1999,

Noting that the contributions to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in 1999 and 2000, especially non-earmarked contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, have proven insufficient to fulfill the mandate of the Centre,

Expressing concern at the existing imbalance between earmarked and non-earmarked contributions and at the fact that only 34 and 26 governments in 1999 and 2000, respectively, contributed non-earmarked funds to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,

1. Approves the draft work programme for the biennium 2002-2003;

2. Confirms that the proposed work programme for 2002-03 is in line with the new strategic vision of UNCHS and reflects the structure and orientation of the proposed Medium-term Plan for the period 2002-2005;

3. Calls upon the Executive Director to report regularly to Member Governments, through the Committee of Permanent Representatives, on progress made in the implementation of the 2002-2003 work programme;

4. Requests the Executive Director to ensure timely consultation with Member Governments, through the Committee of Permanent Representatives, during the preparation of future biennial budgets and programmes of work, as well as of medium-term plans;
5. **Endorses** the formats of the budget and programme of work presented for the biennium 2002-2003, including the harmonized budget and the programme of work presenting, *inter alia*, objectives, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and outputs for the two subprogrammes and the programme support, and **requests** the Executive Director to apply this format, or refinements thereof, in the preparation of future biennial budgets and programmes of work;

6. **Encourages** the Executive Director to continue the efforts to improve the administrative and financial management of the Centre, particularly with regard to the recommendations of the Board of Auditors concerning the expenditure control on trust funds and the observation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions regarding the accountability of UNON for the cost and quality of services provided to UNCHS;

7. **Urges** Member Governments to treat the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation as the central funding vehicle for their voluntary contributions to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and **calls upon** all Governments that are in a position to do so to increase their financial support to it, and to provide, to the maximum extent possible, their support as non-earmarked contributions in order to reduce the Centre's over-dependence on earmarked funding;

8. **Urges** the Executive Director to strengthen the resource mobilization capacity of the Centre and to consider the development of a medium-term fund-raising strategy, in an effort to increase and broaden the resource base and to put the Centre on a stable, adequate and predictable financial basis;

9. **Invites** all Governments and other donors to make known and pay their voluntary contributions at the earliest possible date, in order to enable the Centre to plan its staffing table and activities more effectively;

10. **Further calls upon** the Executive Director, in line with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, to take a cautious approach with regard to the establishment of new posts in the Foundation;

11. **Urges** the Executive Director to ensure that the bulk of additional funding received by the Centre during the biennium is allocated to the implementation of programme activities, rather than to administrative costs;

Establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as a subsidiary body of the Commission on Human Settlements

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolutions 12/8, 13/3, 15/9, 16/8, and in particular 17/5,

Also recalling the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council, especially rules 24 and 27, and the Rules of Procedure of the Commission on Human Settlements,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director on the role of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in document HS/C/18/2/Add.2 and HS/C/18/2/Add.2/Corr.1,

Recognizing and welcoming the role performed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives in accordance with the above resolutions;

Emphasizing the importance of efficient, transparent and representative governing structures of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to enable it to fulfill its role and mandate as contained in General Assembly resolutions 32/162 and 51/177, and in particular in the implementation of the Istanbul Declaration and the Habitat Agenda,

1. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council the establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as a subsidiary inter-sessional body of the Commission on Human Settlements;

2. Decides that, upon approval by the Economic and Social Council, the Committee of Permanent Representatives shall meet at least four times in a year with the participation of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and shall have, inter alia, the following terms of reference:

   (a) To review and monitor the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, as well as the implementation of decisions of the Commission on Human Settlements;

   (b) To review the draft work programme and budget of the Centre during their preparation by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements;

   (c) To prepare draft decisions and resolutions for consideration by the Commission on Human Settlements based on inputs from the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and on the results of the functions specified above;

   (d) The Committee of Permanent Representatives constitutes an inter-sessional governing body of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements with the Centre functioning as the Secretariat of the Committee;

   (e) Upon request by the Executive Director, during the inter-sessional period, to provide policy guidance on issues related to the work of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements;

3. Decides that the subsidiary body shall consist of the representatives of all States members of the United Nations and members of its specialized agencies which are accredited to UNCHS (Habitat);
4. Decides that the subsidiary body shall elect a bureau composed of a Chairperson, three Vice-Chairpersons and a rapporteur for a period of two years taking into account the principles of rotation and equitable geographical representation;

5. Authorizes the Bureau of the Commission, upon approval of ECOSOC, to establish the subsidiary inter-sessional body;

6. Proposes, subject to the approval of the Economic and Social Council, that the proceedings of the subsidiary body shall be conducted in English and that the Commission will at its nineteenth session decide on the use by the subsidiary body of the additional working languages of the Economic and Social Council;

7. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to report on the work of the Committee to the Commission on Human Settlements;

8. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following decision:

   "The Economic and Social Council,

   Recalling the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Council, especially rules 24 and 27,

   Having considered the recommendation of the Commission on Human Settlements as contained in Commission resolution 18/----,

   Recognizing the need for a properly mandated subsidiary body that can act during the inter-sessional period in terms of review and monitoring the implementation of the decisions and resolutions adopted by the Commission,

   (a) Approves the establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as an inter-sessional subsidiary body of the Commission on Human Settlements and endorses the terms of reference given to it by the Commission;

   (b) Decides that the Committee of Permanent Representatives may set up subsidiary bodies without prior decision of the Council or the Commission on Human Settlements;

   (c) Invites the Commission on Human Settlements to amend its Rules of Procedure in order to take into account the establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as an inter-sessional subsidiary body of the Commission on Human Settlements;

   (d) Requests the Commission on Human Settlements and the Secretary-General to report to the Council on the implementation of the present decision."

9. Requests the Executive Director to take action regarding the establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as a subsidiary body of the Commission only within the framework of expenditures that has existed for the informal operation of the Committee of Permanent Representatives and without prejudice to any new resources that may be made available;

10. Requests the Executive Director to report on the implementation of this resolution to the Committee of Permanent Representatives and to the Commission at its nineteenth session.
Draft Resolution No. 3/Rev.2

The Role of Local Authorities

[The Commission on Human Settlements.

Recalling the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements 1/ adopted by the General Assembly, which identifies local authorities as the closest partners of Governments and as essential in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and also recalling paragraph 213 of the Habitat Agenda which states that local authorities should be supported in their efforts towards implementing the Habitat Agenda inasmuch as local action is required.

Further recalling paragraph 207 of the Habitat Agenda which calls upon the international community to promote and facilitate the transfer of expertise in support of the implementation of plans of action through, inter alia, supporting existing and new networks to facilitate the sharing of experiences on best practices through South-South forms of cooperation,

Recalling its resolution 17/16 of 14 May 1999 on local implementation of the Habitat Agenda with particular attention to Local Agendas 21, requesting the Executive Director to increase efforts to sensitize and assist countries in the local level implementation of both the Habitat Agenda and Agenda 21,

Further recalling its resolution 17/1 of 14 May 1999 on follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) requesting the Executive Director to ask countries to include in their national reports information on “best practices” and “lessons-learned” related to the 20 key items selected from the commitments and recommendations of the Habitat Agenda, and endorsed by the Committee of Permanent Representatives, on which Governments were asked to report,

Noting with satisfaction the important contributions made by local authorities from all over the world to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, as evidenced by the documentation of over 1,150 best practices since 1995 through the Dubai International Award for Best Practices in Improving the Living Environment, 2/

Taking note of the recommendations made in the Chengdu Declaration, adopted by over 200 representatives of Government, local authorities, civil society and academia at the Chengdu International Conference on Urban Construction and the Environment in the 21st Century, held in Chengdu, China, on 16-18 October 2000, 3/

1. Welcomes the reports of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) regarding Local Implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including the role of local authorities, 4/ regarding Consultations on Decentralization and the Strengthening of Local Authorities and their networks for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, 5/ and regarding Lessons Learned from Best Practices; 6/


4/ See HS/C/18/3 Local Implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including the role of local authorities.

5/ See HS/C/18/3/Add.1 Consultations on Decentralization and the Strengthening of Local Authorities and their networks for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda: Progress Report of the Executive Director.
2. **Notes with appreciation** those countries that have incorporated information on best practices and lessons learned in their national reports and those best practices documented on Habitat’s Best Practices Database using the incentive of the Dubai International Award for Best Practices in Improving the Living Environment, and urges all countries to submit documented best practices and lessons learned on a regular basis;

3. **Invites** Governments to:

   (a) Fully integrate sustainable urban development within national sectoral policies and priorities and to establish national standards and regulatory frameworks to ensure effective implementation of human settlements programmes at the local level;

   (b) Adopt policies and instruments of empowerment that decentralize authority as well as financial, technical and human resources to the local level, ensuring that new responsibilities are matched by the requisite resources and any necessary capacity-building programmes;

   (c) Organize best practice competitions, policy round tables, training seminars and networks of Inclusive Cities to facilitate the process of identifying and learning from best practices and scaling up successful shelter and urban development programmes;

   (d) Support the increased participation of local authorities in the work of the Commission on Human Settlements, in the work of the UNCHS (Habitat) and in the implementation of the global campaigns for urban governance and secure tenure.

4. **Calls upon** local authorities and their associations to:

   (a) Adopt comprehensive city development strategies as a means of mobilizing all stakeholders, including representatives of civil society and the private sector, behind a common vision and action plan for addressing issues related to adequate shelter for all and sustainable urban development;

   (b) Provide improved access to legal security of tenure and equal access to land to all people, including women and those living in poverty, as a key element of slum upgrading and poverty reduction strategies;

   (c) Ensure that women and men have equal access to decision-making processes, resources and basic services and that this access is measured through gender disaggregated data;

   (d) Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of local revenue collection and use;

   (e) Increase their accountability to local communities through transparent processes and by creating public feedback mechanisms such as local urban observatories, ombudsman offices, “citizen report cards,” and procedures for public petitioning.

5. **Calls upon** the international community to:

   (a) Support international, regional and national associations and networks of local authorities and the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities and promote their contribution to the work of the Commission on Human Settlements and UNCHS (Habitat);

   (b) Support local authorities through improved training, peer-to-peer learning, city-to-city transfers and international exchanges based on documented examples of best practices, good policies and action plans that match the demand for solutions with proven practice;

(c) Support the implementation of Habitat’s global campaigns for urban governance and secure tenure.

6. Calls upon the Executive Director to:

   (a) Continue to involve local authorities and their international associations in the preparation, implementation and evaluation of the work programme of the Centre, and particularly in the two global campaigns;
   (b) Identify specific measures and their policy and capacity-building implications for the transfer and scaling up of best practices, particularly in the 20 key areas;
   (c) Continue and expand the identification, analysis and dissemination of best practices, good policies and enabling legislation and action plans, with a particular focus on sustainable urban development and urban poverty reduction;
   (d) Report on progress made in the implementation of this resolution at the nineteenth session of the Commission.]
Draft resolution No. 4/Rev. 2

Global Campaigns for Secure Tenure and Good Urban Governance

Reference Documents: Theme Paper on Security of Tenure (HS/C/18/6) and Theme Paper on Urban Governance (HS/C/18/7)

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling the goals and principles, commitments and recommendations of the Habitat Agenda on “Adequate shelter for all” and “Sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world”,

Also recalling General Assembly resolution 54/209 of 22 December 1999 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) which endorses “two global campaigns, concerning secure tenure and urban governance, as strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda”, and resolution 17/1 of 14 May 1999 of the Commission on Human Settlements on the same topic,

Noting with appreciation the initial activities undertaken by UNCHS (Habitat) for the conceptualization and implementation of the campaigns, including the launches of the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the activities and partnerships underway for the Global Campaign for Good Urban Governance and, in this connection, the financial support already received from several member States;

Also noting with appreciation the active partnerships established with new and existing Habitat partners around the two campaigns and recognizing the activities initiated within these new working relationships,

Noting with concern the inadequate provision of affordable land in urban areas, the expansion of informal settlements, the increase of urban poverty and the continuing exclusion of the urban poor, in particular women-headed households,

Acknowledging the importance of secure tenure and good urban governance in achieving adequate shelter for all and sustainable urban development and recognizing the need to continue and expand the broad-based, inclusive and global process involving local authorities, organizations representing the inadequately housed and homeless and all other Habitat Agenda partners in implementing campaign activities at the local, national, regional and global levels,

1. Calls upon the Executive Director to ensure continued expansion of the global campaigns through the elements and activities of normative debate, awareness raising, capacity-building and technical cooperation;

2. Endorses the addition of the adjective “good” to the title of the Urban Governance Campaign, the term “urban governance” on its own being a neutral concept;

3. Takes note of the draft normative frameworks of the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Global Campaign for Good Urban Governance and the broad-based, inclusive and consultative processes, which seek to promote norms of secure tenure and good urban governance;

4. Takes further note of the collaboration with organizations representing the inadequately housed and homeless in the Campaign for Secure Tenure, and with local authorities and their associations in the Campaign for Good Urban Governance;
5. **Recommends** that Governments, in cooperation with civil society partners, initiate and encourage debate and adoption of norms \(^{7/}\) of secure tenure and good urban governance at the national and local levels and contribute to the elaboration by UNCHS (Habitat) of Declarations on Secure Tenure and Good Urban Governance for consideration by the Commission at its nineteenth session;

6. **Further recommends** that the Executive Director creates a UNCHS (Habitat) Law Unit which would provide technical assistance with regard to human settlements legislation;

7. **Takes note** of the initiative to illustrate and promote Inclusive Cities – formerly designated as Illustrative Cities - as a means of advocacy and capacity-building and calls upon Governments to support this initiative in their efforts to advance practical application of the norms of both campaigns;

8. **Calls upon** Governments to develop actions at the national and local levels to provide equal access to land for all people, including women and those living in poverty, and to promote security of residential tenure in line with the guidelines presented by UNCHS (Habitat);

9. **Invites** all stakeholder groups and potential partners of UNCHS (Habitat) in the implementation of the Global Campaigns for Secure Tenure and Good Urban Governance, to mobilize at the highest possible level their support and contributions and to formalise partnerships with UNCHS (Habitat) to realize the goals of the campaigns;

10. **Welcomes** the initiation of joint activities between UNCHS (Habitat) and other United Nations organizations to implement the two campaigns, in particular the United Nations Housing Rights Programme in collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, linked to the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure as acknowledged by resolution 17/20 of the Commission on Human Settlements;

11. **Calls upon** all Governments and external support agencies in a position to do so, to provide financial and technical support to the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Global Campaign for Good Urban Governance, particularly to enable the participation in the Campaigns of least developed countries and their national and local civil society partners;

12. **Further requests** the Executive Director to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the nineteenth Session of the Commission for Human Settlements.

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\(^{7/}\) The term “norm” refers to generally accepted standards or principles and should not be understood to imply that they are intended to be implemented through internationally binding legal instruments
Draft resolution No. 5/Rev.1


The Commission on Human Settlements,

Considering General Assembly resolution 40/199 of 17 December 1985 on cooperation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme,

Noting the importance of this cooperation for the effective implementation of Agenda 21 and of the Habitat Agenda, specifically Chapter IV, Section C, D, and E,

Recalling its resolutions 15/8 of 1 May 1995 and 16/20 of 7 May 1997 on cooperation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme in the Sustainable Cities Programme as well as its resolution 17/6 of 14 May 1999 on the report of the Secretary-General on Environment and Human Settlements,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999 on the Report of the Secretary-General on Environment and Human Settlements with its provisions for cooperation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme, especially paragraph 1 on strengthening the United Nations in the field of environment and human settlements, paragraph 3 on cooperation between UNEP and Habitat, paragraph 5 on establishing the environmental management group, paragraph 8 on the engagement of major groups, paragraph 9 on improving information and monitoring, paragraph 11 on capacity-building and technical assistance, and paragraph 14 on developing indicators,

Taking note of the joint progress report of the Executive Directors of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme on cooperation between the Centre and the Programme (HS/C/18/10),

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of cooperation under the four subject areas reported in HS/C/18/10, namely (a) assessment of environmental conditions in human settlements, (b) environmental aspects of policies, planning and management of human settlements - both rural and urban, (c) environmentally sound and appropriate human settlements technology, and (d) research, training and the dissemination of information on environmentally sound human settlements planning and management - especially the achievements of the joint Sustainable Cities Programme, the joint Urban Environment Forum, the joint Task Force on the Balkans, and of the joint Water for African Cities Programme,

Noting with concern that the future of the long-term cooperation in the joint Sustainable Cities Programme is unclear since neither the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) nor the United Nations Environment Programme has been able to commit the necessary resources for their respective contributions for 2001 and onwards,

1. Welcomes progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/242 in (a) strengthening the United Nations in the field of environment and human settlements through the appointment by the Secretary-General of an Executive Director for the Centre; and through the efforts of the Centre in (b) increasing cooperation between UNEP and Habitat within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic and organizational identities, (c) preparing for the establishment of the environmental management group, (d) engaging major groups and civil society in Habitat's work, (e) strengthening its information and monitoring capacities, (f) providing technical assistance and building capacities in developing countries, and (g) continuing the development of indicators in the area of environment and human settlements;
2. Requests the Executive Director to implement further General Assembly resolution 53/242 with a coherent strategy for all parts of the Centre and in coordination with the United Nations Environment Programme and its complementary but separate responsibilities vis-à-vis General Assembly resolution 53/242;

3. Requests the Executive Director to continue to expand cooperation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme, particularly in the Sustainable Cities Programme with a view to more fully realise the proven potential of this initiative for integrating and coordinating the activities of the United Nations system with those of local communities and local authorities and to focus and advance their collective energy and know-how in the environment-settlements nexus;

4. Requests the Executive Director to expand on the joint work in the Water for African Cities Programme and to establish a mechanism for coordinated decision-making and oversight;

5. Requests the Executive Director to continue collaboration in the joint assessment of human settlements vulnerability to natural and human-made disasters and in the joint formulation and implementation of vulnerability reduction strategies;

6. Encourages all Governments to actively support this cooperation technically and financially;

7. Requests the Executive Director to report to the Commission on the progress in implementing this resolution at its nineteenth session.
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND THE REVIEW OF MECHANISMS FOR MONITORING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HABITAT AGENDA

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolution 17/17 of 14 May 1999 on international cooperation for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Also recalling paragraph 195 of the Habitat Agenda, which emphasizes that the implementation of the Habitat Agenda is the primary responsibility of each country at all levels, but that the overall decline in official development assistance is a serious cause of concern in many developing countries,

Further recalling paragraph 211 of the Habitat Agenda, which contains an appeal to all multilateral and bilateral development agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions to establish and/or strengthen cooperative mechanisms to integrate commitments and actions concerning adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development into their policies,

Acknowledging decision 2000/1 (A/55/3) of the coordination segment of ECOSOC which requests the Secretary-General to consider adopting a Habitat task manager system to facilitate coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda by the United Nations system, and to streamline reporting to the Commission on Human Settlements and to the Council,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on “International cooperation and the review of mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the Habitat Agenda” (HS/C/18/4);

2. Reiterates the appeal for Member States to make voluntary financial contributions to the Secretariat to assist developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, including representatives of Parliaments, national associations of local authorities, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations networks, to participate fully in the Special Session;

3. Calls upon the United Nations system of organizations and agencies to demonstrate its capacity and complementary action and to make such efforts visible at regional, national and local levels, concerning the coordinated implementation of the goals of the Habitat Agenda, including the mobilization of additional international financial and technical support;

4. Requests the Executive Director to take appropriate steps to translate into action the agreed conclusions of the ECOSOC coordinating segment regarding the review by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) of the follow-up of the commitments made by UNDG members on implementing the goals of the Habitat Agenda, and the review by the Secretary-General of the matter of participation of UNCHS (Habitat) in all aspects of the work of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) and its subsidiary machinery, in light of Habitat’s role as focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

5. Further requests the Executive Director to take appropriate action to effectively initiate the Habitat Agenda task manager system to facilitate coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda by the United Nations system of organizations and agencies and by international partners;

6. Welcomes the request made to the Executive Director by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/195 to take a leadership and coordinating role in the Cities Alliance initiative launched by the Centre and the World Bank to promote operational partnerships for the reduction of urban poverty;
7. **Calls** for increased international support to develop Cities Alliance operational activities in cities of developing countries;

8. **Further requests** the Executive Director to take appropriate action to merge the Urban Environment Forum and the International Forum on Urban Poverty into a new Urban Forum which should involve multilateral and bilateral agencies, international associations of local authorities and umbrella non-governmental organizations, with a view to strengthening the coordination of international support to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

9. **Requests** the Executive Director to submit a report to the Special Session on the review of the scale and nature of the support provided by international development agencies and organizations to meet the goals of the Habitat Agenda.
Draft resolution No. 7

**Themes for the Nineteenth Session of the Commission on Human Settlements**

Reference Documents: Report on Future Themes for the Commission (HS/C/18/13)

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling the goals and principles, commitments and recommendations of the Habitat Agenda on “Adequate shelter for all” and “Sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world”,

Decides that the two special themes of the nineteenth session of the Commission on Human Settlements be “pro-poor shelter and urban development strategies” and “the rural dimension of sustainable urban development”.

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