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Human settlements

A
Report of the Commission on Human Settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, containing the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, and 3362 (S-VII) of 16 September 1975 on development and international economic co-operation,

Recalling also its resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977 on institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements and 34/116 of 14 December 1979 on the strengthening of human settlements activities,

Recalling further the principles and aims contained in the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, and the other recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, as well as those contained in resolution 4/1, entitled "Manila Communique on a Human Settlements Movement", adopted on 6 May 1981 by the Commission on Human Settlements,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/46 A of 27 July 1982 on international co-operation in the field of human settlements,

Having considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its fifth session,

1. Takes note of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its fifth session;

2. Reaffirms the importance of human settlements activities in the promotion of national, economic and social development and in the enhancement of the quality of life for the poor and the disadvantaged, particularly in the developing countries;

3. Commends the Commission on Human Settlements on the effective manner in which it continues to discharge its mandate in assisting Governments to tackle the serious problems of human settlements development;

4. Urges the Commission on Human Settlements to continue to take account of and to provide adequate support to technical co-operation among developing countries in the formulation and implementation of its programmes on human settlements.

B

Mobilization of financial resources for the development
and improvement of human settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977 on institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements, by which it, inter alia, provided for the mobilization and utilization of resources in the various regions in the field of human settlements,

Bearing in mind other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including, in particular, resolutions 31/109 of 16 December 1976, 35/77 D of 5 December 1980 and 36/72 of 4 December 1981,

Recalling also its resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, the annex to which contains the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, in particular paragraphs 159 and 160 of the Strategy on the development and improvement of human settlements,

Considering that human settlements policies are inseparable from the goals of social and economic development and that solutions to the problems of such settlements must, consequently, be conceived of as an integral part of the development process of individual countries and the world community,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1981/69 A of 24 July 1981, particularly paragraphs 4 and 5 thereof on the need for adequate financing for the projected activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),

Disturbed by the current trends affecting the resources available for the development and improvement of human settlements, resources which are clearly insufficient to meet existing requirements,

Convinced of the need for urgent action to improve the living conditions of the masses of people in human settlements, particularly in the developing countries,

Recognizing that such action is primarily the responsibility of Governments at the national and local levels,

Recognizing further that the international community should provide, both at the global and regional levels, encouragement and support to Governments determined to take effective action to ameliorate conditions, especially for the most disadvantaged, in rural and urban human settlements,

1. Expresses its appreciation to those Governments that have so far made financial contributions to the activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

2. Urges recipient countries, consistent with their own national priorities, to give consideration to allocating an appropriate portion of the development aid resources they receive from multilateral sources to the specific financing of national projects for the development and improvement of human settlements;

3. Further urges donor and recipient countries to give consideration to the utilization of parts of bilateral assistance funds for the financing of human settlements activities of interest to them;

4. Appeals to international and regional financial institutions to allocate an appropriate portion of their development aid resources to the development and improvement of human settlements in the developing countries, in accordance with the priorities of the recipient countries;

5. Reiterates its urgent appeal to Member States, particularly developed countries and others in a position to do so, to contribute and, if possible, to increase their contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in support of the activities of the Centre.

C

Co-ordination of human settlements programmes
within the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 35/77 C of 5 December 1980, in which it invited the Secretary-General to arrange, in consultation with the members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to participate in all aspects of the work of that Committee and its subsidiary machinery,

Recalling also section III, paragraphs 5 (a) and (b), of its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, in which it called upon the Centre to ensure the harmonization at the intersecretariat level of human settlements programmes planned and carried out by the United Nations system and to assist the Commission on Human Settlements in co-ordinating human settlements activities in the United Nations system, to keep them under review and to assess their effectiveness,

Recalling, in particular, section VI, paragraph 4, of its resolution 32/162, in which it decided that the existing mechanisms of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination must be strengthened to ensure that co-ordination in the field of human settlements is effective throughout the United Nations

system,

Convinced that the implementation of the mandates of the Commission on Human Settlements and the Centre with respect to the co-ordination and harmonization of human settlements activities in the United Nations system can be most efficiently assured through the Centre's participation in all aspects of the work of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination and its subsidiary machinery,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/46 A of 27 July 1982, particularly paragraph 3 thereof,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to accelerate his efforts to arrange consultations with the members of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, with a view to arranging for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to participate in all aspects of the work of the Committee and its subsidiary machinery in order to strengthen the co-ordination of human settlements programmes within the United Nations system, and to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session on the results of those efforts;

2. Urges the Commission on Human Settlements and the Centre to accelerate their efforts to achieve greater harmonization and co-ordination of human settlements activities in the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates under General Assembly resolution 32/162, and calls upon the appropriate specialized agencies and other bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to co-operate with the Commission and the Centre in those efforts.