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**Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements
Programme, including coordination matters**

Activities of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Report of the Executive Director

Addendum

Cooperation with agencies and organizations within the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations

Introduction

1. The present report reviews progress in respect of cooperation between the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and organizations and agencies within the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations during the period from 1 January 2007 to 31 December 2008. Particular aspects of cooperation with international, regional and domestic financial institutions and with the private sector are covered in more detail in reports on follow-up to the resolutions adopted by the Governing Council at its twenty-first session (HSP/22/2) and on progress in the implementation of the medium-term strategic and institutional plan (HSP/22/2/Add.2).

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I. Cooperation with organizations and agencies within the United Nations System in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Millennium Development Goals

2. During the reporting period UN-Habitat has been actively participating in the inter-agency coordination mechanisms described below.

A. Chief Executives Board

3. The Chief Executives Board at its meeting of April 2007 recognized that many of the challenges facing the United Nations system could only be met if the system brought to bear its collective capacities in a coherent and mutually supportive manner and that would allow it to deliver as one, especially in dealing with issues related to climate change. On behalf of the Chief Executives Board, the Secretary-General requested the Chair of the Board's High-level Committee on Programmes, supported by the Chief Executives Board secretariat, to undertake an assessment of the current role of the United Nations system in addressing climate change.

4. In relation to the above, the General Assembly in its resolution A/RES/63/221, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)", underscored the importance of the Habitat Agenda and of UN-Habitat's mandate regarding the issues of climate change. It encouraged "governments to promote the principles and practice of sustainable urbanization and strengthen the role and contribution of their respective local authorities in applying those principles and practice, in order to improve the living conditions of vulnerable urban populations, including slum-dwellers and the urban poor..."

B. United Nations Development Group

5. One of the recommendation of the Secretary-General's high-level panel report "Delivering as One" was to place the United Nations Development Group directly under the auspices of the Chief Executives Board to improve coherence and coordination on policy, management and development issues. Delivering as One is viewed by UN-Habitat as a unique opportunity to forge a more effective and coordinated response to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the country level. UN-Habitat has actively participated in and contributed to all of the main working groups of the United Nations Development Group, including by vice-chairing the working group on the Millennium Development Goals. It has consistently advocated an inclusive approach to the work of the United Nations country teams.

6. UN-Habitat used its Enhanced Normative and Operational Framework for country-level activities to engage United Nations country teams in six of eight Delivering as One pilot programmes with the aim of mainstreaming the Habitat Agenda in country programming and priority setting. Lessons learned are being incorporated in the next phase of the Framework, which will include country support teams for follow-up activities.

C. Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs and the Interagency Standing Committee

7. A key feature of UN-Habitat's strategy for human settlements and crisis is that it places affected populations at the centre of the recovery and reconstruction process. The people who are affected by disasters are thus empowered to be equal partners with governmental authorities in the rebuilding of their homes and livelihoods. This people's recovery process has been implemented in a number of countries, including Afghanistan, Indonesia, Maldives, Pakistan, Somalia, Sri Lanka and Somalia and Sudan.

8. In May 2008, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat was invited by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs to become a principal on the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. In August 2008, UN-Habitat successfully concluded a joint agreement with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, pursuant to which UN-Habitat will provide support for the Committee's emergency shelter cluster and will play a shelter recovery coordination function within the early recovery cluster in Myanmar.

9. Responding to requests from Committee's protection cluster in Geneva, UN-Habitat fielded several missions to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. UN-Habitat then, on behalf of the Committee's global cluster system, embarked on the development of a series of tools and guidelines addressing post-disaster shelter options, post-disaster land administration guidelines and tools and land tenure guidelines and a toolkit for post-conflict situations. A direct by-product of UN-Habitat's membership on the Committee has been improved access to the Central Emergency Response Fund.

D. Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs

10. The Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs is a United Nations body that promotes coherence and common approaches among United Nations entities working in the economic and social field. Its work is organized around 11 thematic clusters and carried out by an equal number of task forces. During the period under review the Committee addressed the timetables and working methods of the task forces, concluding that each should take stock of programmatic activities, suggest complementarities, review potential duplications, underscore possible synergies and explore joint activities. UN-Habitat participated in the task force on the thematic cluster "Sustainable Development and Human Settlements" and provided input in support of greater harmonization of budget submissions to the Office of the Controller.

11. UN-Habitat also provided input on addressing key global development challenges to further the achievement of internationally agreed development goals for the purpose of agreeing on the seventh tranche of funding for the United Nations Development Account. The Development Account was established by the General Assembly in 1998 (General Assembly resolution 52/12 B) to provide money for technical cooperation projects for the benefit of developing countries in the priority programmatic areas under the responsibility of the fund's implementing entities, which include UN-Habitat.

E. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

12. Cooperation continued with United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) on the promotion of high-value agricultural-based products aimed for urban markets, within the framework of the Lake Victoria Local Economic Development initiative. Both UN-Habitat and UNIDO, in cooperation with the Common Fund for Commodities, provide technical support for the implementation of local development activities that strengthen urban-rural linkages. In line with UN-Habitat's Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan for 2008–2013, one objective of which is for UN-Habitat to play a truly catalytic role, the Lake Victoria Local Economic Development initiative has enabled UN-Habitat and UNIDO to bring on board other agencies, funds and programmes, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Labour Organization and the World Food Programme.

F. UN-Water

13. Working under the auspices of UN-Water Africa and in close collaboration with the African Development Bank, UN-Habitat contributed significantly to the work of the African Ministers' Council on Water, including in connection with the March 2008 First African Water Week (AWW-1), which was held in Tunis, and the draft Sharm el Sheikh Declaration, a key document presented during the eleventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Governments of the African Union, which took place in June 2008.

14. UN-Habitat also collaborated with the UN-Water Decade Programme on capacity-building under the auspices of the United Nations University in Bonn. This included the joint implementation of capacity-building programmes for journalists, mayors and water and sanitation professionals.

15. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat also participated actively in UN-Water meetings, notably in the Working Group on Sanitation and the Working Group on Indicators.

G. UN-Energy

16. In April 2008, during the first International Conference on Renewable Energies in Africa, held in Dakar, UN-Habitat was elected Chair of UN-Energy Africa for 2008–2010. UN-Habitat has taken part in all UN-Energy meetings and contributed substantively to the debate.

17. In collaboration with UNEP and the Governments of five East African Countries (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda), a project entitled "Promoting Energy Efficiency in Buildings in Eastern Africa" is being developed with funding from the Global Environment Facility under the focal

area on climate change. UN-Habitat has initiated projects in the area of renewable energy technologies to provide environmentally sound urban infrastructure and services. Lessons learned from these clean energy initiatives will be shared among the members of the UN-Energy family.

H. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

18. The United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and UN-Habitat continue to collaborate in promoting the sustainable urbanization agenda through normative work, research, capacity-building and knowledge management.

19. UN-Habitat also actively contributes to the Inter-Agency Committee on the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014), which is being coordinated by UNESCO, as well as the World Water Development Report, under the auspices of the Water Assessment Programme, hosted by UNESCO.

20. UNESCO and UN-Habitat are jointly disseminating a series of best practices on social sustainability in historic districts, including two joint publications released in 2008: a manual for local authorities entitled “Historic Districts for All: a social and human approach for a sustainable revitalization”, and another publication entitled “Best Practices on Social Sustainability in Historic Districts”. Training and learning events using these materials were organized jointly in Seville, Spain, in May 2008 and in Nanjing, China, in November 2008 on the occasion of the fourth session of the World Urban Forum.

I. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

21. UN-Habitat worked together with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to produce draft guidelines on access to basic services. The two have been helped in their efforts by an expert group comprising representatives of United Nations bodies, the World Bank, United Cities and Local Government (UCLG), service providers and non-governmental organizations. The group met in Geneva in November 2008, in Nairobi in May 2008, where they focused on least developed countries and beneficiary groups, and in Nanjing during the fourth session of the World Urban Forum. The draft guidelines have been circulated for comment to member States and others and will be available to the Governing Council at the current session. UN-Habitat and UNITAR have also begun to work with Veolia Environment to develop guidebooks targeted at elected and appointed policy makers, in response to the need to build capacity to implement guidelines. Veolia Environment is a large private sector firm providing advisory services and technical assistance in the field of the environment and basic services.

22. UN-Habitat and UNITAR are also collaborating on local government training and capacity-building. Within the reporting period, joint needs assessments were carried out in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. This was followed by training-of-trainers and workshops for municipal councillors, making use of UN-Habitat’s capacity-building tools.

J. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

23. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat continued its collaboration with various partners as part of the United Nations Housing Rights Programme (UNHRP), an initiative jointly implemented by UN-Habitat and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. UN-Habitat and the Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE) cooperated in the updating of housing rights legislation, which was published through the Housing Rights Documentation Centre on the UN-Habitat website. Funded by UN-Habitat, COHRE continued producing the “Housing & ESC Rights Law Quarterly”, a housing, economic, social and cultural rights advocacy tool. UN-Habitat contributed to a project of the High Commissioner on the development of a set of indicators for monitoring compliance with the right to adequate housing.

K. United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

24. In cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the International Organization for Migration and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, UN-Habitat organized an international expert group meeting on urban indigenous peoples and migration in Santiago, Chile, in March 2007.

25. At its 2007 annual meeting the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues requested UN-Habitat to take the lead on implementing recommendations emanating from an expert group meeting. As a follow-up, UN-Habitat started an initiative under the umbrella of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues to elaborate policy guides for the provision of housing and other urban services for indigenous communities in cities. The initiative adds an urban dimension to the more general “Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples” developed by the United Nations Development Group task team on mainstreaming and integrating indigenous issues into United Nations operational activities and has already resulted in the preparation of a “Policy Guide to Housing for Indigenous Peoples. The special session on challenges faced by indigenous peoples in urban areas that took place during the fourth session of the World Urban Forum provided key inputs that were incorporated into the final draft of the Policy Guide.

L. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

26. Cooperation continued with FAO in the areas of urban food security and rural-urban linkages, notably in the formulation and implementation of the Lake Victoria Local Economic Development initiative.

27. A joint publication on land governance policy guidelines will be published early in 2009. In connection with that, UN-Habitat, through its Global Land Tool Network, co-funded an FAO expert group meeting on the early development of a code of conduct on good governance and land administration. The meeting was held in Rome in November, 2008.

M. United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

28. UN-Habitat and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) jointly published a series of seven well-received “quick guides for policy makers” on housing the urban poor in Asia. The publications have been disseminated through joint launches and workshops including at the World Urban Forum in Nanjing. UN-Habitat and ESCAP have agreed to collaborate in the field of cities and climate change, focusing on clean development mechanisms and advocacy in the Asian and Pacific region

N. United Nations Environment Programme

29. A comprehensive report on cooperation between UN-Habitat and the United Nations Environment Programme during 2007 and 2008, prepared jointly by the Executive Directors of the two programmes, may be found in document HSP/GC/22/2/Add.4.

O. United Nations Development Programme

30. UN-Habitat, through United Nations country teams and joint programming with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other United Nations partners, contributed actively to mobilizing national resources and external support for attaining the human-settlements-related Millennium Development Goals. Activities emphasized strengthening local and national capacities in human settlement development and management.

31. In October 2008 UN-Habitat and UNDP renewed an open-ended memorandum of understanding on Habitat Programme Managers. To date, 39 Habitat Programme Managers are operating out of UNDP Offices around the world: 25 in Africa, 8 in Asia and 6 in Latin America and the Caribbean. Habitat Programme Managers proved their worth throughout 2008 by helping to implement the Enhanced Normative and Operational Framework and assisting in the development and approval of UN-Habitat country programme documents in 33 countries.

32. Activities with UNDP are being implemented in Burundi, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Rwanda, Somalia and Zimbabwe in Africa. In Asia and the Pacific joint activities are under way in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. In Latin America and the Caribbean, joint activities are being carried out in Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru.

P. International Labour Organization

33. UN-Habitat and the International Labour Organization, jointly with UNDP, continue to share tools and experiences on public and private partnerships. During the reporting period two training workshops on pro-poor public and private partnerships were organized, as a result of which the subject of such partnerships is now fully integrated in the annual programme of courses offered by the ILO International Training Centre.

34. In October 2008 ILO and UN-Habitat made presentations on their tools and experiences in the area of employment at an inter-agency international conference on local economic development. In response to the growing challenge of urban unemployment, ILO, UN-Habitat and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), through a grant from the Cities Alliance, are preparing a policy advisory note focusing on integrating employment into city development and slum upgrading strategies and urban infrastructure investments. ILO is also actively involved in developing normative guidelines for access to basic services.

35. At the fourth session of the World Urban Forum ILO and the trade union federation Building and Wood Workers' International, in collaboration with UN-Habitat, organized a special session on the role of local authorities in promoting "decent work".

Q. World Bank Group

36. During the period under review UN-Habitat and the World Bank Group deepened their working relations through joint programming. The Urban Anchor served as the unit within the World Bank Group for the coordination of joint programming with UN-Habitat. The work was coordinated through two Vice-Presidencies: the Finance and Private Sector Development Network and the Sustainable Development Network. The Vice-Presidency for Finance also provided advisory support to the Monitoring and Steering Committee of UN-Habitat's Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operation. Joint programming initiatives were also undertaken in support of the Global Urban Observatory, which seeks to monitor trends in urbanization and slum formation.

37. Joint programming on housing finance was initiated with the Housing Finance Unit of the Finance and Private Sector Development Network. The initiative is funded by FIRST, a trust fund of the World Bank that supports second-generation financial sector reform in developing countries.

38. UN-Habitat worked with the Water Anchor of the Sustainable Development Network to launch pre-investment capacity-building in water demand management with the aim of accelerating World Bank investments in water and sanitation in select countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The Energy Anchor and Urban Anchor of the World Bank and the Urban Environment Planning Branch of UN-Habitat prepared an agenda for joint seminars, publications and capacity-building initiatives designed to promote cities and climate change. UN-Habitat prepared inputs for the World Development Report 2009 and the World Bank prepared inputs for the State of the World's Cities Report 2008.

R. United Nations Children's Fund

39. In a three-way collaboration UN-Habitat, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) are implementing joint projects, including an arsenic mitigation project in Nepal. UN-Habitat is also working closely with UNICEF and WHO in supporting the Government of Nepal in the development of a sanitation programme.

40. Habitat expanded its collaboration with UNICEF on the latter's Child Friendly Cities initiative. A memorandum of understanding with UNICEF is being prepared to formalize this collaboration and to provide for further collaboration on other initiatives such as the Global Partnership Initiative for Urban Youth Development and the Safer Cities Programme.

S. Inter Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality

41. As an active member of the Inter Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality UN-Habitat serves on various taskforces, including the Taskforce on Violence against Women, which is spearheading a system-wide response to the Secretary General's campaign, "Unite to End Violence against Women". UN-Habitat also serves on the United Nations Development Group's gender taskforce on strengthening gender mainstreaming at the country level and the gender and water taskforce.

T. United Nations Development Fund for Women

42. UN-Habitat has forged a partnership with the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and UNDP to support local governments in Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone and the United Republic of Tanzania on women's safety in urban areas and the promotion of gender equality in local governments.

43. In July 2008 UN-Habitat reached an agreement with UNIFEM to develop a joint training programme on women's safety audits and to address violence against women in public spaces in cities in Latin America and the Caribbean. The UNIFEM Latin American and Caribbean office and UN-Habitat held a workshop entitled "Women Safety" during the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime's eighth annual Crime Prevention Colloquium, which took place in Querétaro, Mexico, in November 2008. In addition, a pilot training workshop for the Caribbean on how to use the women's safety audit was held in Kingston, Jamaica, in November 2008, in conjunction with the University of Technology, Jamaica.

44. In partnership with UNIFEM and Women in Cities International, UN-Habitat organized the Fourth Awards and Competitions for Women Friendly Cities in Latin America and the Caribbean on the theme "Women and Girls' Safety and Security". An award ceremony for the winning cities, non-governmental organizations and individuals was held in March 2008 in Costa Rica.

45. UN-Habitat is a member of the UNIFEM Local Project Approval Committee and the local committee of the Violence against Women Trust Fund. UN-Habitat is also represented on the UNIFEM Regional Coordination Group for the Asia/Pacific region, which was set up in 2008.

U. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

46. Together with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UN-Habitat and other United Nations bodies have collaborated in the development of a publication entitled "Growing Up Together". UN-Habitat is also a regular contributor to Youth Flash, a United Nations information service that provides updates on the youth agenda of the United Nations and partnering youth organizations around the world.

II. Cooperation between UN-Habitat and intergovernmental organizations outside the United Nations System

A. The European Commission

47. The European Commission and its humanitarian arm – the European Commission Humanitarian Aid Office, or ECHO – have been contributing to UN-Habitat designed projects in 15 African, Caribbean and Pacific countries designed to improve living conditions of the poorest of the poor. Lessons learned from the first phase of the project are being integrated into an expanded programme involving 30 countries. The programme is designed to build capacity at the local and national levels to achieve the Millennium Development Goals through slum upgrading policies and improvements in urban infrastructure and services. Negotiations are under way to extend the programme to all 79 ACP member States. UN-Habitat expects that the expanded programme will be launched in mid-2009 during a joint EC/ACP/UN-Habitat high-level conference on urbanization challenges in the ACP countries that is to be held in Nairobi.

B. African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development

48. At its twenty-first session the Governing Council of UN-Habitat adopted a resolution on the establishment of an African fund for slum prevention and upgrading. The resolution called for studies to be carried out as a prelude to the establishment of the fund. As part of its response to that resolution, UN-Habitat assisted in the preparation of the substantive background documents for the second African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban development, which was held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 28 to 31 July 2008. UN-Habitat kept a record of the proceedings and took care of the logistical arrangements for those who attended the conference. The conference participants considered the theme "Implementing Goal 7, Target 11: Overcoming the Finance and Resource Challenges for Sustainable Housing and Urban Development". A total of 40 countries were represented at the conference. At its conclusion the conference participants adopted the "Abuja Resolution" and an action plan that provided guidelines on financing for housing, slum upgrading and urban development in general, the

institutionalization of the conference itself and the establishment of a review and monitoring mechanism on housing and slums.

B. Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development

49. UN-Habitat facilitated the deliberations of a working group on the delivery of the Millennium Development Goals on water and sanitation during the second Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development, which took place in May 2008 in Teheran and led to the adoption of an action plan. UN-Habitat continued to provide substantive and technical assistance for the ministerial conference and for the regular meetings of the Bureau of the second session.

C. Parliamentarians and UN-Habitat

50. The group Global Parliamentarians on Habitat continued to play a very active role in raising awareness of the policy and legislative issues relating to sustainable urbanization and urban poverty reduction. Members of the group helped shape the agenda of a number of global events to help mainstream the Habitat Agenda and the human-settlements-related Millennium Development Goals. In parallel, collaboration was intensified at the regional level throughout 2007–2008 with regional associations in Europe and the Americas and with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the Association of European Parliamentarians for Africa.

D. African Development Bank

51. The African Development Bank, through the UN-Habitat Water for African Cities Programme, is currently operational in 18 cities in 15 countries. The Bank's Zanzibar Water and Sanitation Project has led to a fast track process for the signing of loan agreements. In Kenya further support for preparatory work for a sanitation diagnostic study for 26 communities in the Lake Victoria South Water Services Board under that project is almost complete.

52. A recent partnership between UN-Habitat and the East African Community has provided a framework of collaboration for expanding the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Initiative to another 15 towns in 5 countries. This is to be done in partnership with the African Development Bank.

E. Inter-American Development Bank

53. During the reporting period UN-Habitat entered into a strategic partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank. A memorandum of understanding between UN-Habitat and the Bank, signed in 2008, identifies the areas of collaboration. Under the overall framework of this collaboration, UN-Habitat initiated in 2008 a number of projects in Bolivia and Mexico.

F. Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance

54. Since June 2008, Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance missions have been fielded, including with Netherlands Water Partnerships, the Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority and the United Nations Secretary General's Advisory Board, in efforts to strengthen partnerships. The Abu Dhabi Water and Electricity Authority has agreed to establish a regional water and sanitation office within its offices in Abu Dhabi to host and further strengthen the Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance Secretariat.

55. The Global Water Operators Partnership Alliance, in collaboration with Cap-Net, started the development of integrated water resource management capacity-building materials for water utilities and the development of a geo-referenced utility benchmarking system with Google and IB-Net. Workshops were held in July and November 2008 in relation to these two initiatives.

G. Asian Development Bank

56. The Water and Sanitation Programme of UN-Habitat has a strategic partnership with the Asian Development Bank. A second memorandum of understanding UN-Habitat and the Bank was signed in 2007 covering the period 2007–2011. The memorandum commits each of the two partners to provide \$10 million in grant funds for raising political awareness, building capacity, implementing pilot and demonstration projects and preparing investment plans for Asian cities.

III. Cooperation with other Habitat Agenda partners, including non-governmental organizations

57. The present chapter provides information on collaboration between UN-Habitat and other Habitat Agenda partners including local authorities and non-governmental organizations outside the United Nations System. Activities are clustered according to the main focus areas of UN-Habitat's Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan and major cross-cutting issues.

A. Cooperation with local authorities

58. Local authorities were identified as the front line actors and the closest partners to central Governments in implementing the Habitat Agenda. Cooperation with local authorities thus cuts across all of UN-Habitat's work at the global, regional and country levels.

59. At the global level the main focus of cooperation during the period under review was with UCLG to develop a strategy for disseminating the "Guidelines on Decentralization and the Empowerment of Local Authorities" adopted by the Governing Council at its twenty-first session.

60. UCLG participated actively in providing inputs for the policy and strategy papers for the Global Campaign on Sustainable Urbanization and focus areas 2 and 3 of the Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan.

61. Also at the global level, UNEP, UN-Habitat and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability entered into a tripartite agreement focusing on the role of cities in global environmental issues and city-to-city cooperation. UNEP, UN-Habitat and ICLEI have been working together on publications and many events, including a local government event entitled "Local Action – Local Solutions" during the thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which took place in Bali, Indonesia, in December 2007, and the "Local Government Climate Sessions" that were held during the fourteenth session of the Conference in December 2008 in Poznan, Poland.

62. At the country level, one of the areas of growing interest and demand has been UN-Habitat's collaboration with local authorities in the area of crime prevention and safety, with a particular focus on women and youth. Joint safety audits leading to crime prevention strategy formulation were carried out with local authorities in Burkina Faso, Burundi, Kenya and Tanzania in Africa; in Colombia, Jamaica and Mexico in Latin America and the Caribbean and in Serbia in Europe.

B. Pro-poor land and housing

63. Members of the Advisory Group on Forced Evictions to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat come from key Habitat Agenda partners such as the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights, COHRE, Environment and Development Action - ENDA-Tiers Monde, Habitat International Coalition, International Alliance of Inhabitants and Slum Dwellers International. The Advisory Group launched its second report and contributed to a training event on alternatives to unlawful forced eviction at the fourth session of the World Urban Forum that was jointly organized with the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies, COHRE and the Huairou Commission. Together with the International Cooperative Alliance, UN-Habitat prepared the "Cooperative Housing Bibliography for Developing Countries".

64. The Global Land Tool Network, an initiative led by UN-Habitat and global partners, was fully implemented during the reporting period. There are over 30 regional and international partners who form the Network, including multilateral and bilateral organizations, members of international civil society, professional associations and research and training institutions. UN-Habitat organized an expert group meeting on the production of guidelines for land policy for Africa in collaboration with the African Union, the Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank. Work was also undertaken with COHRE, Hakijamii, the Huairou Commission and Shack Dwellers International to identify key grassroots issues that should be taken into account in developing affordable land registration, acquisition and management systems.

65. A gender evaluation framework for assessing land record and tax systems was jointly developed with the International Federation of Surveyors and the Huairou Commission.

C. Environmentally sound basic urban services and infrastructure

66. UN-Habitat's water and sanitation programmes in Asia and in Latin America and the Caribbean implemented a strategic initiative to promote human-values-based water and sanitation education with the South East Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO). A publication, *Manual on the Right to Water and Sanitation*, developed with COHRE, was also prepared

67. Also implemented were a number of community-based water supply initiatives with international non-governmental organizations such as Plan International, Water for People, Gender Water Alliance, Norwegian Church Aid, Wateraid and Practical Action (Nepal).

68. In the African region partnership with Google.org on improving the monitoring of the Millennium Development Goals relating to water and sanitation services was strengthened.

69. In collaboration with the African Institute of Sathya Sai Education, UN-Habitat implemented the Human Values in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Education in Schools Programme in 14 cities taking part in the Water for African Cities Programme, as well as in Niger.

70. In partnership with the Sulabh International Academy of Environmental Sanitation, UN-Habitat provided training on sanitation technologies for officials and other representatives of countries participating in the Water for African Cities Programme.

D. Innovative human settlements finance

71. UN-Habitat's Slum Upgrading Facility Programme Management Unit, through the Facility's pilot team, responded to local demand for support for financial services to under-served settlements. This was to be provided through new local financial facilities that were created for the purpose of upscaling the Slum Upgrading Facility concept throughout the four pilot countries. UN-Habitat has also been providing direct projects development support to slum dwellers through local community-based organizations in Ghana and Sri Lanka to enable them develop bankable projects and financial instruments.

72. The Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operation expert meeting in April 2008 brought together more than 50 participants from the World Bank, domestic financial institutions from developing countries, developers, non-profit organizations, private foundations and researchers. Consultations continue with various partners (national Governments, international financial institutions and national and international non-governmental organizations) on the implementation and funding of pipeline projects in Bangladesh, El Salvador, Kenya, Laos, Malawi, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Philippines, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

E. Urban planning, management and governance

73. To respond to growing demands for urban environmental planning and management expertise, UN-Habitat has been conducting capacity-building activities through a wide range of national training institutions in China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

74. UN-Habitat also collaborated with the International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation in the area of geographical information systems to support the development of tools and jointly organized courses for environmental management information systems.

75. UN-Habitat is spearheading the development of the Sustainable Urban Development Network (SUD-Net), an innovative network focusing on promoting interdisciplinary approaches to sustainable urban development. SUD-Net members include governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, local authorities and city networks and research and training agencies, among others. The first two components of SUD-Net include the Cities and Climate Change Initiative and the network of Habitat Partner Universities.

76. *A Training Companion for Participatory Budgeting in Africa*, a publication issued in English and French versions, was developed with the Municipal Development Partnership for Eastern and Southern Africa, the International Urban Management Centre and Environmental Development Action in the Third World. Also, a series entitled *A Trainer's Guide for Local Economic Development* has been developed jointly with EcoPlan International to assist trainers in the design and delivery of training workshops based on the *Local Economic Development* series. As noted earlier, a *Quick Guide* series for

policy makers was launched on the theme of “housing the urban poor in Asian cities” in partnership with ESCAP.

77. UN-Habitat partnered with Simon Fraser University of Canada to deliver a course on strategic planning for sustainable community economic development. In 2007, The Canadian Institute of Planners bestowed UN-Habitat and Ecoplan International an award of excellence in recognition of their work in local economic development.

78. UN-Habitat developed, in collaboration with the Alberto Hurtado University in Santiago, a guide for local prevention and citizen security for the Latin American and Caribbean region. The guide is addressed to local governments and other local actors in order to facilitate access by decision makers to knowledge and support local interventions and the integration of urban safety concerns into local plans and urban development initiatives. It makes available state-of-the-art knowledge to local authorities and local actors in the region.

79. The International Urban Training Centre was officially launched in May 2007 by the Province of Gangwon, Republic of Korea, and UN-Habitat.

F. Youth

80. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat has signed cooperation agreements with 41 youth and youth serving organizations, municipalities and non-governmental organizations to begin the implementation of youth programmes. Some of these organizations include the International Olympic Committee, The Joaquim Chissano Foundation, the Kenya Red Cross Society, Umande Trust, Environmental Youth Alliance, the Maryknoll Sisters and others.

81. During the reporting period, UN-Habitat also focused on cooperation with major networks and youth groups. Five-hundred young people from across the globe participated in and made constructive inputs to the fourth session of the World Urban Forum and the World Urban Youth Forum and the launch of the Opportunities Fund for youth-led development.

82. An International Youth-led Urban Development Platform was established in 2008, bringing together non-organized youth formations that otherwise would not be represented in the formal youth structures participating in the global, regional and national arenas. This platform brings to the forefront innovative stories of individual action that are making a difference to communities. These formations are increasingly using the internet as a social networking tool and urban art forms to combat exclusion, delinquency and violence and to fight indifference, intolerance and all forms of discrimination.

G. Gender equality

83. During the reporting period UN-Habitat has forged partnerships with Gender Links and the Golda Meir University to roll out the publication *Gender and Local Governance: A Training Sourcebook for Local Governments*.

84. UN-Habitat entered into a partnership with the International Development Research Centre to organize the first international conference on local power, women’s rights and decentralization. Other partners for the conference included UNDP, the World Bank, UNIFEM and IDEA International.

85. UN-Habitat is expanding its collaboration with new women’s networks including the Commonwealth Planners Association - Women in Planning, Gender Links, the Metropolis Women’s Network, the Women in Cities Network, the Committee of Women Representatives of the Commission of European Municipalities and Regions and the Federation of Women Lawyers.

86. UN-Habitat adapted the women’s safety audit to different national and regional contexts and provides training at the city and regional levels for the application of the audit. The tool has been tested extensively and is, to date, the most widely used assessment and planning tool on issues of women safety in urban contexts. Preliminary results of a global survey on women’s safety found that the women’s safety audit was the tool most often used to identify factors that make women feel unsafe in the public realm. A comparative study conducted in 2008 documents its impact in cities as different as New Delhi, Durban, Nairobi, Cameroon, Dar es Salaam, Moscow, Mumbai, Rosario and Burundi.

H. Other Habitat Agenda partners

87. Operational projects in the areas of water and sanitation, housing and urban data management were also implemented with private sector firms through corporate social responsibility funds. The firms include Coca-Cola India, Oxyana Mines Australia, Google, BASF and Merrill Lynch in partnership with the Global Housing Foundation.
88. UN-Habitat works with Habitat partner universities in building the capacity of tertiary institutions in teaching and research regarding the sound development of human settlements to meet the needs relevant to their context. The pilot phase of this initiative ended with a round table event at the fourth session of the World Urban Forum, in which 40 universities from around the world participated.
89. Over 70 civil society organizations gathered for the African Summit of Civil Society Organizations at UN-Habitat headquarters in Nairobi from 17 to 19 January 2007. The Summit brought together 95 participants from 19 countries to discuss how best to strengthen Africa's civil society infrastructure.
90. In April 2007 the Business Partnership for Sustainable Urbanization held a meeting on the theme of "making cities better places to work, to live and to do business". The Business Partnership for Sustainable Urbanization was launched as a new platform to disseminate and share first-hand knowledge on urbanization issues, stimulate the private sector's interest and create a framework that invites business to contribute effectively to sustainable urbanization.
91. In 2008, UN-Habitat and the People's Movement for Human Rights Learning prepared a joint publication entitled *Human Rights Cities – Civic Engagement for Societal Development*.

IV. Lessons learned and pointers for the future

92. The adoption of the Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan for 2008–2013 renewed UN-Habitat's enthusiasm and commitment to partnerships and cooperation, the importance of which was recognized in the Habitat Agenda. One objective of the Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan is for UN-Habitat to pursue a robust and truly catalytic role. That objective has permeated the work of the entire programme throughout its normative, capacity-building and operational activities. UN-Habitat's renewed commitment has been welcomed by a wide range of partners, both new ones and the original Habitat Agenda partners that participated in shaping the Habitat Agenda in 1996.
93. The present report provides but a glimpse of the depth and breadth of what has been achieved in less than two years in UN-Habitat's pursuit of a consistent approach to partnerships and cooperation. There have of course been a few problems, some of which are highlighted in document HSP/GC/22/2/Add.3, on the review of the effectiveness and efficiency of UN-Habitat's governance structure. Problems notwithstanding, the lessons learned from applying a systematic approach to partnerships and cooperation are being integrated into the strategy and thinking that will shape the Global Campaign for Sustainable Urbanization.
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