

REPORT
OF THE COMMISSION
ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
on the work of its sixth session

25 April - 6 May 1983

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OFFICIAL RECORDS: THIRTY-EIGHTH SESSION
SUPPLEMENT No. 8 (A/38/8)



UNITED NATIONS

New York, 1983

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Commission on Human Settlements was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977.

2. The report of the Commission on the work of its ^{seventh} sixth session is submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with section II, paragraph 6, of resolution 32/162.

3. The Commission consists of 58 members elected for a three-year term: 16 from African States, 13 from Asian States, 6 from Eastern European States, 10 from Latin American States and 13 from Western European and other States. At present, the Commission is composed of the following members:

Algeria***	Greece**	Papua New Guinea***
Argentina*	Guinea*	Peru***
Bangladesh**	Hungary***	Philippines*
Barbados*	India**	Romania**
Bolivia**	Indonesia***	Sierra Leone***
Bulgaria*	Italy**	Somalia*
Burundi*	Jamaica*	Spain*
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic**	Japan*	Sri Lanka**
Canada***	Jordan**	Sudan**
Chile**	Kenya**	Swaziland*
Colombia***	Liberia**	Sweden***
Cuba***	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya***	Syrian Arab Republic*
Cyprus**	Malaysia***	Uganda***
Denmark*	Mexico*	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics*
El Salvador**	Morocco**	United Republic of Tanzania*
Finland*	Netherlands***	United States of America*
France***	New Zealand**	Zambia*
German Democratic Republic***	Nigeria***	Zimbabwe**
Germany, Federal Republic of**	Norway***	
	Pakistan*	

~~One seat for the Group of Asian States is still to be filled.~~

* Term of office expires on 31 December 1983.

** Term of office expires on 31 December 1984.

*** Term of office expires on 31 December 1985.

4. The sixth session of the Commission on Human Settlements was held at Helsinki from 25 April to 6 May 1983, at the ~~Dipoli Congress Centre, Espoo~~, at the invitation of the Government of Finland, and in accordance with section I of General Assembly resolution 31/140 of 17 December 1976.

II. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening of the session

5. The session was inaugurated by ~~His Excellency Mr. Kalevi Sorsa, the Prime Minister of Finland.~~ A summary of his address is reproduced in annex ~~V.A.~~ The Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) delivered a message from the Secretary-General marking the occasion; the text is reproduced in annex ~~IV.~~ ~~The Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, the Honourable Mr. Ranasinghe Premadasa, delivered an address to the session.~~ A summary of his address appears in annex ~~V.D.~~ The Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) made a statement in which he reviewed the state of human settlements development. A summary of the statement of the Executive Director appears in annex ~~V.C.~~ Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, in accordance with which the Executive Directors of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) address each other's governing bodies, the Executive Director of UNEP made a statement on collaboration on the development of environmentally sound human settlements between UNEP and the Centre. A summary of his statement appears in annex ~~V.D.~~

6. The session was opened by Mr. ^{Armo Hännys} ~~Yuri N. Sokolov~~, Chairman of the Commission at its ^{sixth} ~~fifth~~ session.

B. Attendance

7. The following States members of the Commission were represented:

Algeria	Greece	Pakistan
Argentina	Hungary	Papua New Guinea
Bangladesh	India	Peru
Bolivia	Indonesia	Philippines
Bulgaria	Italy	Romania
Burundi	Jamaica	Sierra Leone
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	Japan	Sri Lanka
Canada	Jordan	Sudan
Chile	Kenya	Swaziland
Colombia	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Sweden
Cuba	Malaysia	Uganda
Denmark	Mexico	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Finland	Morocco	United Republic of Tanzania
France	Netherlands	United States of America
German Democratic Republic	New Zealand	Zambia
Germany, Federal Republic of	Nigeria	Zimbabwe
	Norway	

* Replace with full list of current members of the Commission (58) in alphabetical order

8. The following States not members of the Commission participated as observers:

Australia	Haiti	Switzerland
Austria	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Tunisia
Belgium	Iraq	Turkey
Botswana	Israel	United Arab Emirates
Brazil	Ivory Coast	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Congo	Kuwait	Ireland
Costa Rica	Lebanon	United Republic of Cameroon
Democratic Yemen	Lesotho	Venezuela
Ecuador	Malawi	Yemen
Egypt	Poland	Yugoslavia
Ethiopia	Rwanda	
Gabon	Saudi Arabia	

9. The United Nations Secretariat was represented by the following units:

Department of International Economic and Social Affairs
Economic Commission for Europe
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Economic Commission for Latin America
Economic Commission for Africa
Economic Commission for Western Asia
United Nations Centre for Regional Development

10. The following United Nations bodies were represented:

United Nations Industrial Development Organization
United Nations Environment Programme
United Nations Development Programme
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
International Fund for Agricultural Development
United Nations Capital Development Fund

11. The following specialized agencies were represented:

International Labour Organisation
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
World Health Organization
World Bank
World Meteorological Organization

12. The following intergovernmental organization was represented:

League of Arab States

13. The African National Congress, the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania and the Southwest Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) were also represented.

14. In addition, ¹⁵ non-governmental organizations were present as observers.

C. Election of officers

15. At the 1st plenary meeting, on ³⁰25 April, Mr. Arno Hannus, ~~Secretary-General, Ministry of the Interior, Finland~~, was elected chairman. The following other officers of the Bureau were elected at the same meeting.

Vice-Chairmen: Mrs. Marvis Muyunda (~~Zambia~~)
Mr. Stefan Staynov (~~Bulgaria~~)

Rapporteur: Mr. Amir Ali Mondal (~~Bangladesh~~)

At the 2nd plenary meeting, on 26 April, Mr. Juan Carlos Arlia (Argentina) was also elected Vice-Chairman.

D. Credentials

16. Under rule 11, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Commission, the Bureau examines the credentials submitted by delegations and reports thereon to the Commission.

17. Pursuant to the above-mentioned rule, the Bureau reported to the Commission at its 12th plenary meeting, on 5 May, that it had examined the credentials submitted by delegations attending the sixth session of the Commission and had found them to be in order. The Commission approved the report of the Bureau on credentials at the same meeting.

E. Adoption of the agenda

18. At its 1st plenary meeting, on ³⁰25 April, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda for the sixth session, as contained in document HS/C/6/1, as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Credentials.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): progress report of the Executive Director.

5. Land for human settlements.
6. International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.
7. Work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 1984-1985.
8. Proposed budget of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the biennium 1984-1985.
9. Other matters.
10. Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the seventh session of the Commission.
11. Adoption of the report.

F. Organization of work

19. At its 1st plenary meeting, on ³⁰25 April, the Commission established two sessional committees of the whole, and allocated agenda items to them as follows:

Committee I: agenda items ^{5(a) and 5(b)}5, ~~9~~ (cross-organizational programme analysis) and ~~10~~.

Committee II: agenda items ^{6 and 7}7, ~~8 and 9~~ (International Development Strategy).

20. Committee I held ~~seven~~ ^{nine} meetings from ²⁶25 April to 4 May, and Committee II held ~~seven~~ ^{nine} meetings from ²⁶25 April to 4 May. The recommendations of both Committees have been incorporated into the present report.

G. Adoption of the report of the Commission

21. The present report was adopted by the Commission at its ^{13th} ~~12th~~ plenary meeting, on ⁶5 May.

EIGHTH

III. PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SEVENTH SESSION
OF THE COMMISSION

22. At its 13th plenary meeting, on 6 May, the Commission decided that its ^{eighth} ~~seventh~~ session would be held from 30 April to 11 May 1984.
29 10 1985

23. At the same meeting, the representative of Gabon extended, on behalf of his Government, an invitation to the Commission to hold its ~~seventh~~ session in Libreville. The Commission expressed its appreciation to the Government of Gabon for its generous invitation and decided to accept, in principle, the invitation to hold its ~~seventh~~ session in Libreville, Gabon, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 31/140 of 17 December 1976.

24. At the same meeting, the Commission adopted the following provisional agenda for its ~~seventh~~ session:

1. Election of officers.
2. Credentials.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): progress report of the Executive Director.
5. (a) A systematic and comprehensive approach to training for human settlements;
(b) A systematic and comprehensive approach to information for human settlements.
6. International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.
7. Report on financial and other assistance provided to and among developing countries on human settlements and on the human settlements activities of the United Nations system, and progress report on the implementation of the recommendations for national action adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements.
8. Matters arising out of the decisions of the major legislative organs and other intergovernmental bodies and brought to the attention of the Commission.
9. Other matters.
10. Provisional agenda and other arrangements for the eighth session of the Commission.
11. Adoption of the report.

IV. CLOSURE OF THE SESSION

25. In their closing statements, representatives of the regional groups expressed their appreciation to the Government and people of Finland for the hospitality extended to all participants during the ^{sixth} session of the Commission on Human Settlements. In his closing remarks, the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), expressed his appreciation for the co-operation and support which the Centre had received from many Governments and called attention to the urgent need for increased voluntary contributions in support of the work of the Centre.

26. The representatives of the regional groups also expressed their appreciation to the Government of ^{Cote d'Ivoire} ~~Gabon~~ for its kind invitation to the Commission to hold its ~~seventh~~ session in Libreville.

27. In his concluding remarks, the Chairman thanked the other members of the Bureau and all participants for their contributions to the successful completion of the work of the ^{sixth} session of the Commission.

28. The Chairman then declared closed the ^{seventh} ~~sixth~~ session of the Commission on Human Settlements.

ANNEX I

Resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission at its sixth session

A. Resolutions

		<u>Date of adoption</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. <u>Resolutions requiring action by the General Assembly</u>			
6/1.	International Year of Shelter for the Homeless	5 May 1983	10
6/2.	Human settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories	4 May 1983	15
2. <u>Other resolutions</u>			
6/3.	International co-operation to provide assistance to areas in developing countries affected by natural disasters	4 May 1983	16
6/4.	Financial and advisory institution for human settlements in Asia and the Pacific	4 May 1983	16
6/5.	Use of local human resources in the identification and implementation of demonstration projects for International Year of Shelter for the Homeless	5 May 1983	17
6/6.	Housing reconstruction programmes in war-torn Chad	5 May 1983	19
6/7.	Co-operation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and Shelter-Afrique	5 May 1983	19
6/8.	Use of local materials and the promotion of local construction techniques in the developing countries	5 May 1983	20
6/9.	Collation and distribution of technical information on building and construction	5 May 1983	21
6/10.	Assistance to Lesotho	5 May 1983	22
6/11.	Assistance to victims of <u>apartheid</u> and colonialism in Africa	5 May 1983	23
6/12.	Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries	5 May 1983	24
6/13.	Refugees and the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless	5 May 1983	25
6/14.	Local planning for human settlements	6 May 1983	26

	<u>Date of adoption</u>	<u>Page</u>
B. <u>Decisions</u>		
6/15. Land for housing the poor	6 May 1983	27
6/16. Work programme and programme budget for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 1984-1985	6 May 1983	29
6/17. Budgetary matters of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the biennium 1984-1985	6 May 1983	30
6/18. Cross-organization programme analysis	6 May 1983	31
6/19. Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade	6 May 1983	31
6/20. Themes for future sessions	6 May 1983	32

"5. Appeals to all Governments, especially those of developed countries and others in a position to do so, and to international financial institutions, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to provide effective financial and other support for the programme for the International Year.*

"Annex

"National action needed before April 1984 for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

"1. Most of the action and resources for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless will be required at the national and local levels. The programme for the Year must be launched quickly and effectively, so that most of the demonstration projects can be completed or be at a stage where results can be evaluated by late 1986.

"2. The following national action should be undertaken by countries before the sixth session of the Commission on Human Settlements, to be held in April 1984:

(a) Establish national focal points for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

(b) Assess the existing situation and future needs;

(c) Begin implementation of demonstration projects for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

"A. Establish national focal points for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

"3. All interested countries should designate, as soon as possible, a national focal point for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. Although there should be a specific person as a contact point, the national focal point could be an existing agency or a new unit or national committee, including representatives of relevant agencies and non-governmental organizations, specifically established to stimulate and co-ordinate national and local action.

"4. Although the functions of national focal points for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless will vary from country to country, they could include:

(a) Receiving, producing and exchanging information on the programme and plans for the Year, on relevant activities in other countries and other programme support information;

(b) Developing a national strategy and programme for the Year, including the identification and selection of appropriate demonstration projects;

(c) Encouraging close working relationships with and among non-governmental and community organizations on their projects, plans and possibilities relevant to the Year;

(d) Stimulating and co-ordinating local and national activities and projects for the Year;

(e) Organizing relevant meetings, seminars and training courses;

(f) Reporting periodically on the progress and achievements of activities and projects for the Year in the particular country.

"B. Assess the existing situation and future needs

"5. In launching a national programme for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and before the actual selection of specific demonstration projects, countries should undertake at least a preliminary assessment of the existing situation, taking into account the following questions:

(a) What are the size, distribution and characteristics of the target group in quantitative (for example, those below the poverty line in urban and rural areas) and qualitative terms (for example, access to drinking water, sanitation services, transportation, food, education, energy)?

(b) What previous and existing programmes, or parts of programmes, have successfully provided affordable improvements in the shelters and neighbourhoods of the poor, and how can they best be extended? Why have other programmes failed to do so?

(c) What national and local resources (money, land, labour, materials) are available and needed to improve the shelters and neighbourhoods of the target group? Are there obstacles to the full use of local resources?

(d) What changes are needed in existing programmes, policies and legal, institutional and financing arrangements in order to accelerate the provision of affordable shelter for the poor?

(e) What, based on the answers to the above questions, are the priorities within the national programme for demonstration projects during the Year?

"C. Begin implementation of demonstration projects for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

"6. Demonstration projects for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless should test and demonstrate new approaches to basic problems in urban and rural areas, such as providing or improving shelter; providing improved drinking water supply, sanitation and waste disposal; generating jobs in the formal or informal construction sector; improving environmental and health conditions and services; upgrading infrastructure and services for the poor, including roads, public transportation, energy and medical, social educational and recreational facilities; and providing low-cost building techniques and materials, especially through more widespread use of indigenous methods, skills and construction materials.

"7. In addition to projects of a physical character, the national programme and project for the Year should include the review and strengthening of policy, legislative, organizational and financial measures to assist the poor in improving their shelter and neighbourhoods. Areas of special concern might be legislation on land and tenure; building codes and regulations; financing, including credit and loans for shelter for the poor; and institutional arrangements within and between national and local authorities.

"8. In order to meet the objectives for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, countries should take the following guidelines into account in the design, selection, implementation and monitoring of demonstration projects for the Year:

(a) Projects must explore, test and demonstrate existing or new ways and means of improving the shelter and neighbourhoods of the poor and disadvantaged, particularly those below the poverty line in urban and rural settlements;

(b) Projects must contribute to or result in a clear and visible improvement in the shelter or neighbourhoods of at least some of the poor and disadvantaged before 1987;

(c) Projects must be replicable, in order for them to reach many more of the poor and disadvantaged, leading to affordable improvements for many rather than major improvements for a few;

(d) Projects must seek a practical balance between what is desirable (in terms, for example, of basic health requirements and structural safety), attainable (technically and administratively, and using local skills, methods and materials), and affordable by the poor themselves and the nation as a whole.

"D. Progress report

"9. In order that all countries are informed on the existing situation, priority concerns and activities and plans for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in other countries, prior to the seventh session of the Commission on Human Settlements, in April 1984, the national focal points for the Year should submit to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat):

(a) A brief overview (maximum two pages in length) of their national plans, priorities and activities for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, including information responding to the questions in paragraph 5 above;

(b) A one-page summary for each of the national demonstration projects for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless launched to date, according to a common format to be prepared by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat).

12 plenary meeting
5 May 1983"

6/2. Human settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories*

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Taking note of the reports of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on land for human settlements, d/

Confirming its acceptance of man's right to establish his shelter freely on his own land,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 34/133 of 14 December 1979 and 37/222 of 20 December 1982 regarding the Palestinian people,

Recalling its resolutions 3/1 of 15 May 1980 and 4/3 of 26 April 1981,

1. Notes with satisfaction the efforts made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to implement the above-mentioned resolutions and condemns and Israeli occupation authorities for their continuing obstruction of the implementation of those resolutions;

2. Rejects the displacement of citizens by force from their land and their homes;

3. Condemns all inhuman and racial practices obstructing man's right to establish his shelter freely on his own land and condemns also the practices of the Israeli occupation authorities in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories of destroying homes and displacing their owners in order to establish illegal colonies in their place for military purposes that threaten and subdue the indigenous people;

4. Condemns also the establishment of such colonies, because of their aggressive purposes and the inhuman consequences to people in the occupied lands;

5. Calls upon the Israeli occupation authorities to cease forthwith the establishment of such colonies in the occupied Arab territories and to enable the Palestinian people, the rightful owners of the land, to exercise the right of return to their homeland, and to abolish all restrictions on physical expansion in rural and urban areas so as to allow the indigenous Arab people to construct their homes;

6. (Recommends to the General Assembly that it request the Secretary-General to establish a working team of specialized United Nations experts on human settlements to undertake, in co-operation with the Palestine Liberation Organization and other concerned parties, a field study on the nature of the colonies set up in the occupied territories, identifying the reasons behind their establishment and their economic, social, human, physical, psychological and security effects on the indigenous owners of the land, and to submit the report of the team of experts to the Commission at its seventh session;

* Adopted by 28 votes to 4, with 12 abstentions.

d/ HS/C/6/3 and Corr.1; HS/C/6/3/Add.1.

7. Recommends also to the General Assembly that it urge the occupying authorities to respect and implement relevant United Nations resolutions and, in the event of continuing refusal or non-compliance, that it take appropriate action.

11th plenary meeting
4 May 1983

2. Other resolutions

6/3. International co-operation to provide assistance to areas in areas in developing countries affected by natural disasters

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Aware that the problem of human settlements must be dealt with in a global way,

Recalling that the Commission has given due consideration to the problems of disaster prevention, forecasting and mitigation, as well as to planning in disaster-prone areas,

Recalling also its continuing concern for the problem of housing for the least advantaged,

Considering that priority attention should be given to the problem of natural disasters which critically accentuate the economic and technical needs of affected countries,

Taking into account the fact that many developing countries suffer regularly and frequently from earthquakes, typhoons, torrential rain and large-scale flooding,

Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to promote the study of a global plan which would make possible the organization and provision of technical and financial assistance to affected areas with the necessary urgency.

11th plenary meeting
4 May 1983

6/4. Financial and advisory institution for human settlements in Asia and the Pacific

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling the principles and aims contained in the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976, as adopted, e/ and in its resolution 4/1 of 6 May 1981, entitled "Manila Communiqué on a Human Settlements Movement",

e/ See Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31-May-11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7), chap. I.

Recalling also its resolution 5/12 of 7 May 1982, in which it requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to continue and accelerate the conduct of the feasibility study on the creation of an Asian human settlements bank,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session of the feasibility study, f/

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on a Feasibility Study for a Financial and Advisory Institution for Human Settlements in Asia and the Pacific, g/

1. Decides that further steps should be taken on the question of a financial and advisory institution for human settlements in Asia and the Pacific, and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to constitute and call a meeting as soon as possible of the small working group of governmental experts and others envisaged in paragraph 25 (a) and (b) of the report of the Ad Hoc Expert Group Meeting on a Feasibility Study for a Financial and Advisory Institution for Human Settlements in Asia and the Pacific g/ and to extend to it every possible co-operation and assistance, as appropriate, to enable it to accomplish its task;

2. Accepts the offer of the Government of the Philippines to act as host to the meeting of the small working group.

11th plenary meeting
4 May 1983

6/5. Use of local human resources in the identification and implementation of demonstration projects for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Noting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) submitted to the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session, h/

Noting also that there is need for the developing countries to be self-sufficient in the production of local experts,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982, proclaiming 1987 as International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and designating the Commission on Human Settlements as the intergovernmental body responsible for organizing the Year,

f/ HS/C/6/2/Add.3.

g/ HS/C/6/2/Add.3, annex.

h/ HS/C/6/4.

Recalling further Commission resolution 4/10 of 6 May 1981, in which it requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to intensify his efforts to promote the use of consultants and experts from developing countries in all aspects of work in the field of human settlements and also to give preference to qualified indigenous personnel in the recruitment of project personnel,

Considering the immense contribution qualified indigenous personnel can make to national efforts towards the effective interpretation and realization of the objective of General Assembly resolution 37/221 - namely, "to improve the shelter and neighbourhoods of some of the poor and disadvantaged by 1987, particularly in the developing countries, according to national priorities, and to demonstrate by the year 2000 ways and means of improving the shelter and neighbourhoods of the poor and disadvantaged",

Noting the critical need to evolve cost-effective and locally amenable strategies, policies and programmes for providing shelter to the homeless in developing countries,

Noting further the cultural uniqueness of each of the developing countries and the need for their cultural values to be reflected in the design of locally appropriate shelter for the homeless, disabled and disadvantaged, and for effective participation of the homeless themselves in the provision of shelter to be ensured,

Recognizing that one of the strong points made in the theme paper prepared for the Commission at its sixth session i/ was that national Governments should involve themselves more and more in the provision of affordable land for human settlements and leave the actual construction of shelter to the people themselves,

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to give top priority to the recruitment of consultants and experts from the developing countries as project personnel at the international and national levels of operations for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

2. Further requests the Executive Director to prepare a comprehensive list of existing consultants and experts from the developing countries, with their complete qualifications and practical experiences indicated, for transmission to States Members of the United Nations, for use in recruiting project personnel for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

3. Requests the Executive Director to submit a progress report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

12th plenary meeting
5 May 1983

i/ "Land for human settlements" (HS/C/6/3 and Corr.1, and HS/C/6/3/Add.1).

6/6. Housing reconstruction programmes in war-torn Chad

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/80 of 9 December 1981 on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity,

Taking note of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, proclaimed in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980,

Noting the status of the project for the development of housing reconstruction programmes for N'Djamena which is being executed in Chad by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), j/

Noting also that approximately 75 per cent of the housing in N'Djamena has been badly damaged during fighting over the past three years,

Observing that, since 90 per cent of the buildings in N'Djamena were constructed of non-durable materials, 60 per cent of them were totally destroyed,

Considering that those buildings sheltered 200,000 people, 92 per cent of whom were low-income earners.

1. Urges the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to increase the technical contribution of the Centre to the project for the development of housing reconstruction programmes for N'Djamena in view of its importance to low-income-group residents;

2. Requests the Executive Director to fix a new start-up date with the United Nations Development Programme and the Government of Chad as soon as possible and to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventh session on progress made in that regard.

12th plenary meeting
5 May 1983

6/7. Co-operation between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and Shelter-Afrique

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolution 4/1 of 6 May 1981, entitled "Manila Communiqué on a Human Settlements Movement",

Further recalling its resolution 5/6 of 6 May 1982, in which it called upon the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

j/ See Project Information Report, 1982 (CHS/INF/82-3).

to take the steps necessary to encourage close co-operation between the Centre and the African Development Bank, in view of the establishment of Shelter-Afrique,

Noting that the Board of Directors of Shelter-Afrique has been appointed,

Also noting that as soon as the permanent secretariat of Shelter-Afrique is established, the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) proposes to draw up a memorandum of understanding to identify specific areas of co-operation between the two organizations and the modalities of such co-operation,

Noting with appreciation that the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) was closely involved in the creation of Shelter-Afrique and took part in consultations and preliminary meetings held in co-operation with the African Development Bank,

Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to provide the assistance needed by Shelter-Afrique, including technical and financial assistance, and to report on progress made in that regard to the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventh session.

12th plenary meeting

5 May 1983

6/8. Use of local materials and the promotion of local construction techniques in the developing countries

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Considering the housing crisis that is affecting the developing countries as a result of the high rate of population growth and the subsequent exodus from rural to urban areas,

Considering also the constantly growing housing shortage in the developing countries,

Aware of the limited financial means available to the developing countries to deal with the critical situation,

Considering further the importance of the catalytic role played by the building sector in economic and social development,

Noting the impact of the use and promotion of local construction techniques on the cost and quality of construction,

Considering that construction materials constitute a major element in the cost structure of housing,

Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to draw up a programme of action aimed at providing assistance to the developing countries in the use and promotion of local materials and in the assimilation of local techniques for the use of those materials, and to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventh session on progress made in that regard.

12th plenary meeting

5 May 1983

6/9. Collation and distribution of technical information on building and construction

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Noting its resolution 5/5 of 6 May 1982, concerning the establishment of a unified information service within the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat),

Recalling the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex of General Assembly resolution 35/56 of 5 December 1980, and in particular paragraphs 159 and 160 on the development and improvement of human settlements,

Also recalling its resolution 5/8 of 6 May 1982, regarding the production and circulation of technical information on human settlements,

Recognizing that human settlements constitute a basic element of social economic development,

Noting also the range of experience in the building industry and related industries throughout the world, particularly in the developed countries,

Considering the possible contribution of that experience to the promotion of housing in developing countries,

Considering further that that experience could serve as an important contribution to the socio-economic and technical development of the developing countries in the building construction and other areas of human settlements,

Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to undertake the selection, collection and collation of technical information relating to experience already acquired in the building industry and its distribution to interested countries of the third world and other interested countries which may request it.

12th plenary meeting

5 May 1983

6/10. Assistance to Lesotho

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolutions 4/12 of 6 May 1981 and 5/19 of 7 May 1982,

Noting with satisfaction the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on assistance to victims of apartheid and colonialism, k/

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 37/101 of 14 December 1982, in which the Assembly condemned South Africa's unprovoked invasion of Lesotho on 9 December 1982, which resulted in loss of innocent lives and destruction of property,

Aware of the human settlement problems caused by the influx of refugees into Lesotho,

Mindful of the programme of assistance mounted by the Secretary-General to mitigate the effects of the attack and provide for better security arrangements and appropriate shelter for South African refugees living in Lesotho,

Realizing that the problem of assistance has been occasioned by South Africa's repeated incursions into Lesotho,

1. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General the deep concern of the Commission on Human Settlements at the state of affairs in Lesotho and its adverse effects on the development of human settlements there;
2. Also requests the Executive Director to intensify the programme of assistance to Lesotho, specifically in the area of human settlements, so as to help the Government of Lesotho contain its refugees and recover from the effects of South African aggression;
3. Further requests the Executive Director to contact other relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with a view to mounting international action on a large scale to provide assistance to Lesotho;
4. Appeals to organizations, developed donor countries and others in a position to do so, to give assistance to Lesotho on a bilateral basis.

12th plenary meeting
5 May 1983

k/ AS/C/6/2/Add.1.

6/11. Assistance to victims of apartheid and colonialism in Africa

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 36/80 of 9 December 1981 on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity,

Also recalling the provisions of its resolution 5/19 of 7 May 1982,

Aware of the deplorable conditions to which the majority population is being subjected by the racist apartheid régime in South Africa and in the United Nations territory of Namibia, which the racist régime in question continues to occupy by force, in flagrant violation of several United Nations resolutions,

Concerned about the increased repression by the Pretoria apartheid régime of the Africa people of South Africa and the people of the occupied United Nations territory of Namibia, and about the intensified aggression of the apartheid régime against the front-line States,

1. Strongly condemns the Pretoria apartheid régime for its inhuman repression in South Africa and its illegal occupation of Namibia, as well as for its acts of aggression and destabilization against the front-line and other neighbouring States;
2. Commends the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the efforts made so far in implementing Commission on Human Settlements resolution 5/19, as described in his report to the Commission at its sixth session; 1/
3. Further commends member States of the Organization of African Unity and all other supporting members of the international community for their unwavering efforts in support of the struggle against apartheid and colonialism in southern Africa;
4. Requests the Executive Director to continue and intensify his efforts for the provision of increased technical and other forms of assistance to victims of apartheid and colonialism, pursuant to Commission resolution 5/19;
5. Reaffirms its request to the Executive Director to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General the request of the Commission at its fifth session that all necessary steps be taken to enable national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity to be represented by more than one representative at sessions of the Commission, in order to enable them to participate more effectively;
6. Further requests the Executive Director to provide additional assistance to those countries in which human settlements have been disrupted or overburdened by the Pretoria racist régime;

7. Calls upon the Executive Director to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventh session on progress made in implementing the present resolution.

12th plenary meeting
5 May 1983

6/12. Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action
for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI) of 1 May 1974, containing the Declaration and the Programme of Action for 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 General Assembly resolution 36/194 of 17 December 1981, in which the Assembly endorsed the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, m/

Further recalling General Assembly resolution 37/224 of 20 December 1982 on the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries,

Bearing in mind that the main objectives of the Substantial New Programme of Action are to transform the economies of the least developed countries towards self-sustaining development, to promote the structural changes necessary to overcome the extreme economic difficulties of the least developed countries, to provide fully adequate and internationally accepted minimum standards of nutrition, health, transport and communications, housing and education as well as job opportunities to all their citizens, to identify and support major investment opportunities and priorities, and to mitigate the adverse effects of natural disasters,

Recalling the active participation of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in the deliberations of the United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,

Having considered the note by the secretariat of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) setting forth the activities of the Centre undertaken for the benefit of the least developed countries in the context of the Substantial New Programme of Action, n/

m/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, Paris, 1-14 September 1981 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.8), part one, sect. A.

n/ HS/C/6/CRP.5.

1. Takes note with appreciation of the activities being undertaken by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), within its field of competence, for the benefit of the least developed countries, including, in particular, the 49 projects that the Centre is currently executing in 35 of the least developed countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and of the contribution that those activities are making towards the realization of the objectives of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries;

2. Appeals to all States, the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, multilateral development and financial institutions, and all other concerned institutions to take concrete and adequate measures to accelerate the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries in the field of human settlements;

3. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to continue according high priority to the formulation and implementation of human settlement projects for the least developed countries within the context of the Substantial New Programme of Action and to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

12th plenary meeting
5 May 1983

6/13. Refugees and the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its resolution 5/14 of 7 May 1982 on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/46 B of 27 July 1982 and General Assembly resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982, on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, to be observed in 1987,

Deeply concerned by the increasing magnitude of the refugee problems the world over, particularly in certain developing countries,

Convinced that the commemoration of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless would be a fitting occasion to focus on the solution of refugee problems in such countries,

Solemnly declares that, in keeping with the significance of the observance of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and the measures to be taken in connection with it, no human being, irrespective of race, colour, creed or caste, shall be ejected from his lawful home or land by any foreign Government or as a result of foreign intervention.

12th plenary meeting
5 May 1983

6/14. Local planning for human settlements

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 3128 (XXVIII) of 13 December 1973, in which the Assembly expresses the concern of the international community regarding the situation of human settlements, especially in developing nations,

Recalling also the Declaration of Principles as adopted by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, o/ according to which:

(a) The condition of human settlements determines in great measure the quality of life and the satisfaction of basic human needs;

(b) It was recommended that member States should adopt human settlement policies and strategies of physical planning which could be applied in a realistic manner to local needs and which would permit the effective participation of all inhabitants in the planning, construction and management of human settlements;

(c) All persons have the right and duty to participate in the elaboration of policies and programmes for human settlements;

(d) Planning should be realized at different geographical, regional, local and neighbourhood levels;

Mindful of the importance of obtaining the participation of urban and rural communities in formulating and executing human settlement plans as a part of national planning for development,

Bearing in mind decision 9/14, adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, on local and environmental planning of human settlements, p/

1. Invites Governments to consider the advantage of adopting policies of local planning for human settlements and to incorporate them in their national development plans;

2. Requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to collaborate with the United Nations Environment Programme and other interested organs and organizations of the United Nations system to assist interested countries in elaborating policies of local planning for human settlements by the following means:

o/ See Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7), chap. I.

p/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/36/25).

(a) The elaboration of models and methods for the integral planning of local communities which face the basic problems of employment and economy; education and training; health, basic infrastructure and public services; environmental protection; parks, gardens and landscaping; energy; transport and communications; and waste disposal;

(b) Increased study on and the dissemination of information regarding local participation in the development of human settlements;

(c) Response to requests by Governments for the elaboration of planning of local policies for human settlements;

(d) Support, at the request of Governments, for training programmes for local officials on subjects relating to the planning of human settlements, with the collaboration of universities and institutions of public administration;

(e) The organization of regional and national seminars, for the purpose of defining methods and suggesting models of local and municipal planning, and their integration into plans for national development.

13th plenary meeting
6 May 1983

B. Decisions

6/15. Land for housing the poor

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 6 May 1983, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee I, adopted the following decision:

The Commission on Human Settlements, having recalled the principles and aims of the Vancouver Conference on Human Settlements, as adopted in 1976, and the recommendations for national action of that Conference, g/ with special reference to part C, "Shelter infrastructure and services" and to part D, "Land"; having expressed its conviction of the need for urgent and concerted action to improve the living conditions of the masses of people in human settlements, particularly in the developing countries and its further conviction that the principles and aims of the Vancouver Conference, the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade, and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Commission on Human Settlements on improving the quality of life in human settlements required increased national efforts to provide land for housing the poor; having also expressed its awareness of the fact that housing delivery for the poor in many countries was being outpaced by the need for such housing and its cognizance of the fact that the poor had demonstrated their ability to participate effectively through self-help in the housing process, given secure access to land; and having expressed its recognition of the fact that approaches to increased land delivery for housing the poor would be determined

g/ See Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May to 11 June 1976 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7).

and influenced by the particular social, political, economic and cultural policies and traditions of different countries and its acknowledgement that in some cases the housing needs of the poor could be met more efficiently by the provision of formal housing;

(a) Endorsed the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) entitled "Land for human settlements: recommendations for national and international action" r/ and took note of the recommendations made in Land for Housing the Poor, s/ a report prepared by the United Nations Seminar of Experts on Land for Housing the Poor, which met at Tallberg and Stockholm, Sweden, and was organized by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in co-operation with the Governments of Finland and Sweden;

(b) Also endorsed the principle of increased delivery of and access to land by the poor as being a fundamental requirement of meeting more effectively the housing needs of the poor, particularly in developing countries;

(c) Recommended that Governments should focus increased attention on land development and on making sufficient and appropriate land available to the poor for housing with security of tenure at affordable prices;

(d) Urged Governments to seek to ensure effective land delivery both by renewing decaying urban centres, thus utilizing existing infrastructure, amenities and proximity to job opportunities, and by taking an incremental approach to the construction of infrastructure, thus reducing the cost at which the land becomes available to the poor;

(e) Requested that, in preparing and executing demonstration projects for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, countries pay special attention to implementing appropriate land delivery systems in order to meet the objectives of the Year;

(f) Urged Governments to pursue vigorously appropriate and effective programmes of land registration to ensure conditions of security of tenure, especially for the poor;

(g) Also urged all Governments to monitor, analyse and review prevailing experience with speculative practices in respect of land as a source of undue increase in land costs for housing and related community services.

r/ HS/C/6/3/Add.1.

s/ Stockholm, Swedish Council for Building Research, 1983.

6/16. Work programme and programme budget for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 1984-1985*

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 6 May 1983, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee II, adopted the following decision:

The Commission on Human Settlements, having expressed its recognition of the importance of the human settlement sector in equitable economic and social development in all countries; having noted with concern the inadequacy of the resources being devoted to the solution of human settlement problems in relation to their scale and complexity, both at the national and international levels; having borne in mind its lead role under its mandate to develop policy objectives and goals in the field of human settlements and to propose ways and means by which such policy objectives and goals might best be achieved within the United Nations system; having noted with satisfaction that the Committee for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, in endorsing the sector of the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 dealing with human settlements, expressed its appreciation for the work done by the Commission in formulating its subprogrammes and in establishing objectives and priorities; and having expressed its conviction that the major objectives of the human settlements programme in the medium-term plan for the period 1984-1989 must be achieved, and its awareness that the 1984-1985 work programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) represented the minimum effort required in the biennium in order to achieve the targets of the medium-term plan,

(a) Reiterated its endorsement of the objectives of the medium-term plan as an essential element of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

(b) Commended the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for producing a work programme which gives adequate attention to all the high priority objectives of the medium-term plan while, at the same time, observing maximum restraint in requesting resources for the execution of the programme;

(c) Approved the proposed outputs and activities of the 1984-1985 work programme and endorses the programme as a whole, as amended, as one that provides the minimum level of activity necessary for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to achieve the goals fixed by the Commission on Human Settlements;

(d) Expressed concern that the level of programme envisaged was far too low compared to the scale of problems to be addressed;

(e) Appealed to all Governments to do their utmost to ensure that extrabudgetary resources are made available to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) at the level indicated in the programme;

(f) Requested the Executive Director of the Centre to take due account of the comments made by delegations during the debate on the various programme elements in implementing the work programme.

* Adopted by 32 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions.

6/17. Budgetary matters of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the biennium 1984-1985

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 6 May 1983, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee II, adopted the following decision:

The Commission on Human Settlements, having reviewed the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) t/ and the comments of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions u/ on the revised estimates of resources of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and their utilization in 1982-1983 and the proposed utilization of resources in the biennium 1984-1985, and having taken full account of the detailed explanations provided by the Executive Director on the observations of the Advisory Committee relating to that utilization,

(a) Commended the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for his clear and concise presentation of the budget proposals and for the restraint shown in utilization of the resources of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

(b) Approved the proposed allocations of funds for programme, programme support, projects and reserve purposes for the biennium 1984-1985, in accordance with the mandate of the Foundation and financial rule 303.1;

(c) Also approved the proposed utilization of resources for the implementation of the activities related to the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

(d) Noted with appreciation the contributions of those member States that have consistently provided financial support to the Foundation and also those States that have made pledges in support of activities of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

(e) Noted with concern that the current level of voluntary contributions for the 1982-1983 biennium was far lower than the level for the comparable period in the previous biennium and that a minimum of \$US 7 million-8 million in voluntary contributions would be needed to carry out the work programme for the 1986-1987 biennium;

(f) Urgently called upon all member States, particularly the developed countries and others in a position to do so, to make significant voluntary contributions to the Foundation or to increase their current contributions.

t/ HS/C/6/6/Rev.1.

u/ HS/C/6/6/Add.1.

6/18. Cross-organizational programme analysis

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 6 May 1983, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee I, adopted the following decision:

The Commission on Human Settlements, having expressed its awareness of the fact that the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination, at its twenty-second session, in 1982, decided that a cross-organizational programme analysis should be carried out in the field of human settlements for its consideration in 1984; having recalled that the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters), at its second regular session, in October 1982, agreed that the Commission on Human Settlements, as the intergovernmental body which deals with the subject of human settlements, should review the pattern of activities in that field, and advise the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination as to whether those activities respond to national needs; and having reviewed the documents submitted for its consideration on the matter, v/

(a) Decided that the pattern of activities identified in the documents submitted to it, v/ as amended, address national needs since Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements;

(b) Requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to transmit to the Office of Programme Planning and Co-ordination, Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, for further action the above-mentioned documents, as amended in accordance with the discussions of the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session.

6/19. Review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade

At its 13th plenary session, on 6 May 1983, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee II, adopted the following decision:

The Commission on Human Settlements, having recalled General Assembly resolution 37/202 of 20 December 1982, in which the Assembly, inter alia, established a committee of universal membership to carry out the review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade in 1984 w/ and called upon the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to report to that Committee on the results achieved in their respective sectors

v/ HS/S/C/6/8 and Add.1.

w/ General Assembly resolution 35/56, annex.

in applying the International Development Strategy as the policy framework in the formulation and implementation of their programme of work and medium-term plans, and having taken account of the report prepared on that issue, x/

(a) Requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to submit to the relevant office of the United Nations Secretariat, for transmission to the Committee of review and appraisal established by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/202, as appropriate, full information regarding the results achieved in applying the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade as the policy framework in the formulation and implementation of the programme of work and the medium-term plan of the Centre, taking into account the comments made by delegations during consideration of the item by the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session, as contained in the relevant report of the Commission;

(b) Also requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to report to the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventh session on the implementation of the present decision.

6/20. Themes for future sessions

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 6 May 1983, the Commission on Human Settlements, on the recommendation of Committee I, adopted the following decision:

The Commission on Human Settlements, having considered the different proposals put forward during its sixth session for special themes for future sessions,

(a) Decided that the special theme for discussion at its eighth session, in 1985, should be "Planning and management of human settlements, with emphasis on small and intermediate towns and local growth points";

(b) Also decided that for its ninth session, in 1986, there should be only one special theme, the content of which would be decided upon at its seventh session;

(c) Requested the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to submit to the Commission for its consideration at its seventh session, in 1984, for a draft outline of the theme paper for the eighth session and a work plan for its preparation.

x/ "Application of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade as a framework for the programmes and plans of the organizations of the system: human settlements" (HS/C/6/CRP.4).

ANNEX II

List of special presentations

A. Audio-visual presentations

Bolivia	"En busca de una vida mejor en sucre"
Burundi	"Misage"
Canada	"A new look for Naledi"
Hungary	"Land-use for human settlements in Hungary"
Israel	"Israel: Old land, new ideas"
Japan	"Steps toward the 21st century - Tama New Town"
Jordan	"Land and housing development"
	"The bride and dowry"
Kuwait	"An ambitious plan"
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	"A closer look at Ras Lanuf Town"
Morocco	"Master plan for Kenitra"
Nigeria	"Abuja - Nigeria's new federal capital"
Philippines	"Land for human settlements"
Sri Lanka	"Land for human settlements"
Tunisia	"Les établissements humains et les sols"
Turkey	Part one. "Land for human settlements"
	Part two. "Batikent - a new settlements project"
Yemen	"Land and urban development"
	"Dhamar earthquake"
Zimbabwe	"Land resettlement patterns in Zimbabwe"
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	"Half of humanity"

B. Slide series

- "Building for the disabled" (UNCHS)
- "Schéma directeur de l'aire urbaine d'Agadir et de son arrière-pays"
(Government of Morocco)
- "Housing in Finland" (National Housing Board)
- "Finnish housing areas" (National Housing Board)
- "Finnish housing exhibitions" (Housing Exhibitions Foundation)

C. Photo displays

Denmark

3 panels (English
French and Spanish)

The role of local authorities in land market
for housebuilding

Finland

3 panels

National physical planning
Regional planning
Master planning

Gabon

Libreville: effect of flood 6 photos
Libreville: (Nzeng-Ayong): Quartiers de relogement 8 photos
Libreville: (Owendo): Quartiers d'habitation spontanées 9 photos

Japan

4 panels

Housing land situation in Japan today
Methods of public development in housing land
Japan's integrated land policy measure systems

Jordan

5 panoramic views

New housing schemes

6 photos

Morocco

2 maps

Les schémas directeurs d'aménagement urbain

Nordic countries

2 common panels

Charts on population destiny
Urban land policy

Rwanda

2 maps

Utilisation du sol au Rwanda

Sweden

4 panels (Land
Information Systems)

Aerial photographs for land-use maps
Aerial photographs and EDP perspective drawings
Automatic map production (digital techniques)
Thematic maps, supplementary products of a computerized
cadaster

Yemen

30 colour photos

Earthquake in Yemen, 13 December 1982, in Dhamar

United Nations Centre
for Human Settlements
(Habitat)

rest series of educational aids for the International
Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade

7 posters

ANNEX III

List of documents before the Commission at its sixth session

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
Invitation/Notification	Invitation and notification to Governments	
HS/C/6/1	Provisional agenda	3
HS/C/6/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda	3
HS/C/6/2	Activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): progress report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/6/2/Add.1	Assistance to victims of <u>apartheid</u> and colonialism: report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/6/2/Add.2	Co-operation with the African Development Bank: establishment of Shelter-Afrique: report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/6/2/Add.3	Feasibility study on the proposal to establish an Asian human settlements bank: report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/6/2/Add.4	Staff and budgetary resources for the preparation and servicing of the joint meetings of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the Bureau of the Commission on Human Settlements with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Bureau of its Governing Council: report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/6/2/Add.5	Voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation: note by the Executive Director	4
HS/C/6/3 and Corr.1	Land for human settlements: review and analysis of the present situation: report of the Executive Director	5
HS/C/6/3/Add.1	Land for human settlements: recommendations for national and international action: report of the Executive Director	5
HS/C/6/4	International Year of Shelter for Homeless: report of the Executive Director	6

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
HS/C/6/4/Add.1	Voluntary contributions for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless: note by the secretariat	6
HS/C/6/5	Draft work programme and programme budget of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 1984-1985: report of the Executive Director	7
HS/C/6/6/Rev.1	Proposed budget for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the biennium 1984-1985: report of the Executive Director	8
HS/C/6/6/Add.1	Proposed budget for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation for the biennium 1984-1985: report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions	8
HS/C/6/7 and Corr.1	Financial matters: use of extrabudgetary resources of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): report of the Executive Director	8
HS/C/6/8	Cross-organizational programme analysis of human settlements activities: note by the secretariat	9
HS/C/6/8/Add.1	Cross-organizational programme analysis of human settlements activities: pattern of involvement and distribution of resources: note by the secretariat	9
HS/C/6/9	Preparation of theme papers for the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventh session: note by the secretariat	10
HS/C/6/9/Add.1	Themes for the Commission on Human Settlements at future sessions: note by the secretariat	10
HS/C/6/CRP.1	Main resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council (second regular session of 1982) and the General Assembly (thirty-seventh session) of relevance to the work of the Commission	
HS/C/6/CRP.2	Draft work programmes of the regional commissions in the field of human settlements for the biennium 1984-1985	7
HS/C/6/CRP.3	Addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless (A/37/527/Add.1)	6

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Agenda item</u>
HS/C/6/CRP.4	Application of the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade as a framework for the programmes and plans of the organizations of the system: human settlements: note by the Office for Programme Planning and Co-ordination, Department of International and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat	9
HS/C/6/CRP.5	Implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries: note by the secretariat	4
HS/C/6/INF.1	State of preparedness of documents for the Commission on Human Settlements at its sixth session, as at 28 February 1983	9
HS/C/6/INF.2	List of documents before the Commission	
HS/C/6/INF.3	Report of the Fifth Joint Meeting of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the Bureau of the Commission on Human Settlements with the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Bureau of its Governing Council	4
HS/C/6/INF.4	Status of the voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, as at 1 April 1983	8
HS/C/6/INF.4/Add.1	Status of the voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation	
HS/C/6/INF.5	Production and circulation of publications of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat): report of the Executive Director	4
HS/C/6/INF.6 and Corr.1	List of participants	
HS/C/6/INF.6/INF.7	Draft work programme and programme budget of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the biennium 1984-1985	

ANNEX IV

Message from the Secretary-General to the Commission at its sixth session

1. It gives me great pleasure to convey my greetings to the participants at the sixth session of the Commission on Human Settlements.
2. I feel it most appropriate that this session is being held in Helsinki. Along with the other Nordic countries, Finland continues to play a constructive role in the search for new ways to redress the current international imbalances in the economic and social spheres. This was clearly exemplified during the negotiations leading to the adoption by the General Assembly of the resolutions on the New International Economic Order and the International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. Our special gratitude is due to the Government of Finland for its hospitality and for the substantial support, both political and financial, which it has extended to the work of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat).
3. The international community has repeatedly expressed its serious concern over the continued deterioration in the living conditions of the majority of the people of the world. This situation has become especially acute in the urban slums and squatter areas and impoverished rural settlements which one encounters in the developing regions of Africa, Asia and Latin America. The problems arising from rapid population growth and unprecedented rates of urbanization are beyond the capacity of many countries to solve on their own. They clearly call for the kind of concerted action at multilateral and bilateral levels that the Commission seeks to promote.
4. On the Commission's recommendation, the General Assembly has unanimously decided to proclaim 1987 as International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. Before and during the year, efforts are to be made to improve the shelter and neighbourhoods of the poor and the disadvantaged. At least a part of the objective is to be realized before 1987. This poses a considerable challenge to you. You will be expected to define and systematically guide the way in which action at national, regional, and international levels can be effectively directed in the next five years towards the fulfilment of the worthy goals of the International Year.
5. Your immediate task at this session is, in my view, to ensure that the programme for the International Year is launched quickly and effectively in 1983. The problems are multiplying with every passing day and it is incumbent upon the Commission to evolve, at this session, an agreed list of priority tasks which should be commenced in 1983. There is also need for a programme of action which would ensure the implementation of demonstration projects showing how improvements can be made to existing shelter-delivery systems. These would provide a basis for developing a world shelter strategy up to the year 2000. The international community awaits with keen interest the results of your deliberations on this important subject.
6. The selection for specific reviews at this session of the issue of land for human settlements, with special emphasis on the problems and needs of low-income and disadvantaged groups, is a timely one. As Governments address themselves to the complex problems of how to accommodate the world's rapidly increasing population, the availability of land, particularly for low-income housing, is

becoming the main question facing planners in growing settlements all over the world. The continuing exclusion of low-income and disadvantaged groups from legitimate access to land for settlements is a sensitive but critical issue, which must be understood and brought to the attention of Governments and other concerned agencies.

7. In the confidence that the Commission will again meet the challenge it faces, I wish you every success in your deliberations.

ANNEX V

Summaries of statements

A. Welcome address and inaugural message by His Excellency the Prime Minister of Finland, Mr. Kalevi Sorsa

1. In his welcoming address and inaugural message, His Excellency the Prime Minister of Finland stated that the issues before the Commission were crucial for the future of mankind. Human settlements had been suffering the effects of world-wide recession since the mid-1970s. There was a great need for the efforts to redistribute the fruits of economic growth in a more equitable manner between the different regions of the world to continue.
2. Investment in housing was wrongly regarded as less productive than other investments in a national economy. Securing the right to land tenure would motivate people to improve their immediate environment and thereby noticeably boost the economy. A great waste would result from the failure to mobilize national resources in such a way as to trigger a multiple effect on national economies and even on the world economy.
3. The International Year of Shelter for the Homeless needed to make use of human and local resources. A firm commitment by all Governments was required in order to identify and implement strategies for mobilizing those resources, since time was running out. The primary prerequisite for solving the housing problems of the poor and disadvantaged around the world was peace. Even 5 per cent of the funds currently channelled into armaments would suffice to provide safe drinking water in 10 years' time to those in developing countries lacking that basic service.
4. In conclusion, the Prime Minister wished the Commission every success in its tasks and emphasized that Finland considered the catalytic role of the United Nations Commission for Human Settlements and intergovernmental co-operation in the field of human settlements vital for world development.

B. Opening address by His Excellency the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, Mr. R. Premadasa

1. In his address His Excellency the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka recalled that, at the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly, he had stated that the provision of decent housing was a fundamental aspect of investing in the development of mankind.
2. Sri Lanka fortunately had been able to reverse the trend towards increasing urbanization by a conscious policy of rural development. Sri Lanka had realized that, besides strong and purposeful shelter strategies at the national and local levels, there was urgent need for global action, in order to focus the attention of the world community on the need for better housing for all. The Prime Minister was grateful for the positive response which nations gave to the proposal he made to the General Assembly in 1980.
3. The Prime Minister had been in personal contact with leaders of member States. He was overwhelmed by the assurances of support that were expressed for the objectives of the Year. He was optimistic that the modest target of financial

support for the preparation and holding of the Year would be fully subscribed in the near future. He hoped that his country's example of a contribution to the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless would be followed by economically stronger nations.

4. In conclusion, the Prime Minister emphasized the need for action at the national level and referred to the efforts currently undertaken in Sri Lanka to expand the national housing programme. He considered that his country was privileged to contribute its own experience to the deliberations of the sixth session of the Commission, which he felt would be a landmark session in the effort to liberate mankind from the burden of one of its basic needs - the need for shelter.

C. Address by the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on the state of human settlements

1. In his remarks on the state of human settlements, the Executive Director emphasized that the present period of economic constraints posed serious threats to the state of human settlements everywhere, but particularly to those in the developing countries. However, the provision of adequate shelter and services for the entire citizenry served both as a basic indicator of the quality of life and as a prerequisite for sustainable development. That was illustrated by the fact that investments in human settlements during the years after the Second World War by industrialized countries had better equipped them to deal with the present structural readjustments caused by slow economic growth, unemployment and diminished public resources.

2. Human settlements must be integrated into the economic and social development process, and a reasonable share of national investments must be allocated specifically to the development of human settlements. There was a close relationship between investments in human settlements and economic growth. Data on low-income countries with an average annual growth rate of gross national product (GNP) per capita above 1.5 per cent during 1960-1980 showed that, in most cases, the average general growth rate of the share of GNP on housing and related sectors had been higher than the average annual growth rate of GNP as a whole. That was true in the fastest growing middle-income economies of the third world, in countries with market economies, centrally planned economies and developing economies.

3. Furthermore, in many developing countries, the crucial constraint to increased investment and production was a shortage not of domestic savings, but of foreign exchange. That major burden, brought about by a depression in the prices of primary products and an enormous rise in oil prices, was particularly affecting the developing countries. The level of economic activity could be maintained by stepping up investments in areas which required little foreign exchange, both for initial investment and subsequent maintenance of the newly created assets. The use of indigenous building materials and the informal construction industry for low-income housing were areas into which domestic savings should be directed. The use of indigenous material for housing, infrastructure and services generated a large volume of employment and could contribute to capital formation because of limited opportunities for the majority of the population to invest elsewhere.

4. As regards the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, the General Assembly had decided to give special attention, before and during the Year, to the

goal of developing and demonstrating new approaches to assist directly in the current efforts of the homeless to secure their own shelter. That would also serve as a basis for national policies and strategies for improving the shelter and neighbourhoods of the poor by the year 2000. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) was already engaged in the formulation of projects aimed at producing affordable solutions for housing the poor and disadvantaged. Nevertheless, the problems were of such a scale that substantial organizational effort and massive investment on the part of Governments would be required.

5. Although the deteriorating physical condition of human settlements of the poor should morally justify a global commitment to guarantee to all mankind the basic prerequisites of human dignity, there were other reasons why massive, large-scale efforts were justified. They included the social stability which a decent home could give as a barrier against destitution and social upheaval, especially in times of high unemployment and deepening economic recession, and the economic benefits of improved shelter at the individual and society levels. Lack of elementary necessities, such as safe water, sanitation, community services and transportation, directly impaired the ability of community residents to contribute to the larger economic system.

6. Governments must realize that ignoring such efforts amounted not to a saving in resources but rather to an increase in outlays in the other ledger headings. Minimally, it meant postponing initial investments in the central area of development - human and social betterment, in conditions of justice and equal participation - thereby increasing their subsequent cost.

7. In conclusion, the Executive Director expressed the hope that the call for special efforts envisaged for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless would not go unheeded, and that the Commission at its sixth session would be remembered as the one at which Governments from all over the world came together to launch an effort of new and unprecedented dimensions aimed at achieving a long-awaited breakthrough in the fulfilment of hopes for human dignity and the well-being of all.

D. Statement by the Executive Director of the United Nations
Environment Programme

1. In his statement the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) outlined two broad issues concerning human settlements and the environment: the external environmental problems that human settlements created by misusing resources such as land, fresh water and firewood; and the quality of the internal environment that cities provided for their inhabitants. Since both the external and internal environments were deteriorating alarmingly, affecting particularly the poor and under-privileged, he welcomed the choice of "land for human settlements" as the theme topic for the session.

2. The most obvious failure in land-use planning had been the loss of fertile land to low-density urban sprawl. World-wide, an area estimated in excess of 70,000 square kilometres had been lost to food production through urbanization during the past decade. Environmentally, a human settlement could not be isolated, since the impact of, for example, contaminated air, polluted water, noise, disease, fire and the breakdown of garbage and sewage disposal systems was not confined to the immediate areas. The destruction of natural beauty offended all. In the interest of social justice, humanity and political stability, the case for

"haves" to begin in earnest the work of radically improving the environment of the "have-nots" was overwhelming. The most obvious way to improve the environment of the poor was to provide a secure and stable economic base. But Governments also needed to implement programmes to promote efforts undertaken by the shanty-dwellers themselves to improve their own habitat - better sanitation, installation of standpipes, better garbage removal, voluntary family planning, hygiene, education and so forth. Political commitment of a high order was required to implement national programmes aimed at improving the lot of the poor.

3. As regards the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, the Executive Director welcomed the decision of the General Assembly to designate the Commission on Human Settlements as the intergovernmental body responsible for organizing the Year and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) as the secretariat and lead agency for co-ordinating the relevant programmes and activities of other organizations and agencies concerned. He pledged the maximum possible support of UNEP for the International Year.