



UNITED
NATIONS

HSP

HSP/GC/18/1



Governing Council
of the United Nations Human
Settlements Programme

Distr. General
16 February 2001
Original: English

Eighteenth session

Nairobi, 12, Feb. – 16th Feb. 2001

Resolution No. 18/1: Establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as an inter-sessional subsidiary body of the Commission on Human Settlements

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its [resolutions 12/8 of 3 May 1989](#), [13/3 of 8 May 1991](#), [15/9 of 1 May 1995](#) and [16/8 of 7 May 1997](#), and in particular [its resolution 17/5 of 14 May 1999](#),

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

Taking note of the report of the Executive Director on the role of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), 1

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

Emphasizing the importance of efficient, transparent and representative governing structures of the Centre to enable it to fulfil its role and mandate as contained in [General Assembly resolutions 32/162 of 19 December 1977](#) and [51/177 of 16 December 1996](#), and in particular in the implementation of the [Istanbul Declaration](#) and the [Habitat Agenda](#),

Noting that the Division of Conference Services of the United Nations Office at Nairobi will provide at no cost to the Centre interpretation services for the proceedings of the committee of Permanent Representatives, once it is officially established,

1. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council the establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as an inter-sessional subsidiary body of the Commission on Human Settlements;
2. Decides that, upon approval by the Economic and Social Council, the Committee of Permanent Representatives shall constitute an inter-sessional governing body of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) with the Centre functioning as the secretariat of the Committee, and shall have the following terms of reference:

(a) To review and monitor, within the policy and budgetary framework provided by the Commission, the implementation of the work programme of the Centre, as well as the implementation of decisions of the Commission;

(b) To review the draft work programme and budget of the Centre during their preparation by the Centre;

(c) To prepare draft decisions and resolutions for consideration by the Commission;

(d) To meet at least four times in a year with the participation of the Executive Director of the Centre;

3. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council that the subsidiary body shall consist of the representatives of all States Members of the United Nations and members of its specialized agencies which are accredited to the Centre;

4. Further recommends to the Economic and Social Council that the subsidiary body shall elect a bureau composed of a chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur for a period of two years taking into account the principles of rotation and equitable geographical representation;

5. Authorizes the Bureau of the Commission, upon approval by the Economic and Social Council, to establish the inter-sessional subsidiary body;

6. Invites the Economic and Social Council to decide on the operative languages of the Committee of Permanent Representatives according to the following:

(a) The Committee of Permanent Representatives uses the conference services at the United Nations Office at Nairobi for interpretation between the three working languages of the Economic and Social Council and up to the six official languages of the United Nations, considering that interpretation services will be provided by the United Nations Office at Nairobi at no cost to the Committee of Permanent Representatives;

(b) The Committee of Permanent Representatives, following the practice elsewhere in the United Nations system, conducts its business on the basis of conference room papers that are circulated in the language of submission;

(c) All submission of documents from the Committee of Permanent Representatives to the Commission on Human Settlements is regarded as official documentation for the Commission;

7. Resolves to review at its nineteenth session the question of the use of languages in the Committee of Permanent Representatives, on the basis of the outcome of the deliberations in the Economic and Social Council;

8. Requests the Chair of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to report to the Commission on the work of the Committee;

9. Recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following decision: "The Economic and Social Council, "Recalling its rules of procedure, especially rules 24 and 27;

“Having considered the recommendation of the Commission on Human Settlements concerning the establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as an inter-sessional subsidiary body of the Commission as contained in Commission [resolution 18/1 of 16 February 2001](#);

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

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

“2. Decides that the Committee of Permanent Representatives may set up working groups without prior decision of the Council or the Commission;

“3. Asks the Commission on Human Settlements to amend its rules of procedure in order to take into account the establishment of the Committee of Permanent Representatives as an inter-sessional subsidiary body of the Commission;

“4. Requests the Commission on Human Settlements and the Secretary-General to report to the Council on the implementation of the present decision.”

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

11. Requests the Executive Director to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Committee of Permanent Representatives and to the Commission at its nineteenth session.

8th meeting

16 February 2001