



UNITED
NATIONS

HSP

HSP/GC/18/5



Governing Council
of the United Nations Human
Settlements Programme

Distr. General
16 February 2001
Original: English

Eighteenth session

Nairobi, 12, Feb-16th Feb.

Resolution No.18/5: International cooperation and the review of mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

The Commission on Human Settlements,

Recalling its [resolution 17/17 of 14 May 1999](#) on international cooperation for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,

Also recalling [paragraph 195 of the Habitat Agenda](#),³ which emphasizes that the implementation of the Habitat Agenda is the primary responsibility of each country at the national and local levels within the legal framework of each country, but recognizes that the overall decline in official development assistance is a serious cause for concern,

Further recalling [paragraph 211 of the Habitat Agenda](#), which contains an appeal to all multilateral and bilateral development agencies and the Bretton Woods institutions, regional and subregional development banks and funds to establish and/or strengthen cooperative mechanisms to integrate commitments and actions concerning adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development into their policies, programmes and operations, Reaffirming that sustainable human settlements development is a domestic responsibility and that new and additional resources from the international community are crucial,

Further recalling that the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) is a member of the United Nations Development Group, whose principal objective is to strengthen the policy and programme coherence of United Nations development activities, welcoming Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 2000/1, concerning the review by the Executive Committee of the United Nations Development Group of the commitments made by relevant United Nations bodies and agencies on implementing the goals of the Habitat Agenda, the review by the Secretary-General of the participation by the Centre in all aspects of the work of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its subsidiary machinery in the light of its role as a focal point in the United Nations system in implementing the Habitat Agenda, and the consideration by the Secretary General of the adoption of a Habitat Agenda task manager system to facilitate coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda by the United Nations system,

1. Takes note of the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) on international cooperation and the review of mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;⁸
2. Reiterates its appeal to Governments in a position to do so to make voluntary financial contributions to the secretariat to assist developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, including, inter alia, representatives of parliaments, local authorities, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations networks from such countries, to participate in the upcoming special session of the United Nations General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;
3. Calls upon United Nations organizations and agencies to use, where possible, the existing coordinating mechanisms of the United Nations Development Group and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework to demonstrate their capacity and complementary action and to make such efforts visible at all levels concerning the coordinated implementation of the goals of the Habitat Agenda, including the mobilization of additional international financial and technical support;
4. Invites the United Nations and other international organizations to strengthen the quality and consistency of their support for sustainable human settlements development in least developed countries within their respective mandates, and urges development partners that have accepted it to fulfil the internationally agreed target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance;
5. Requests the Executive Director to take appropriate steps in order that [Economic and Social Council decision 2000/1](#) is implemented;
6. Welcomes [General Assembly resolution 55/195 of 20 December 2000](#) and urges the Executive Director, as requested in the resolution, to take a leadership and coordinating role in the Cities Alliance initiative launched by the Centre and the World Bank to promote operational partnerships for the reduction of urban poverty;
7. Calls on Governments in a position to do so, in particular those of developed countries, and international financial institutions to increase their support to further the implementation of the Cities Alliance initiative in human settlements of developing countries and countries in transition;
8. Emphasizes the need for adequate representation from developing countries in the Cities Alliance initiative, in accordance with [General Assembly resolution 55/195](#);
9. Expresses its appreciation of the efforts already undertaken by developed countries and multilateral agencies under the Highly Indebted Poor Countries initiative, recognizes that debt burden is a major hindrance inhibiting the development of sustainable human settlements in developing countries, and urges the international community to favourably address this matter;
10. Also requests the Executive Director to promote a merger of the Urban Environment Forum and the International Forum on Urban Poverty into a new urban forum, with a view to strengthening the coordination of international support to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;
11. Further requests the Executive Director to report to it at its nineteenth session on the implementation of this resolution.

8th meeting
16 February 2001