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Governing Council
of the United Nations Human
Settlements Programme

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Resolution No. 18/7: Countries with economies in transition

The Commission on Human Settlements,
Recalling [General Assembly resolution 53/179 of 15 December 1998](#) on integration of the economies in transition in the world economy,

Recalling also [General Assembly resolutions 54/208 and 54/209 of 22 December 1999 and 55/194 and 55/195 of 20 December 2000](#) on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),

Recalling also [resolution 17/3 of 14 May 1999](#) of the Commission on Human Settlements on countries with economies in transition,

Noting the recommendation made by the Economic and Social Council in its report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session, concerning the adoption of a task manager system for pilot projects,¹⁵

Noting that countries with economies in transition are seeking to promote regional and interregional cooperation,

Convinced of the need to assist in improving housing legislation and implementing housing and communal reform in the housing sector in the countries with economies in transition,

Noting that work in this field of activities is also ongoing in other organizations, in particular in the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Invites the Executive Director to promote efforts to implement Commission [resolution 17/3](#), with due regard to the needs of the countries with economies in transition for their cooperation programmes within the framework of the [Habitat Agenda](#),³ in particular, paragraph 202, subparagraphs (c) and (i) of the Agenda, and relevant recommendations of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

2. Requests the Executive Director, in line with the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, to use a system of pilot projects for the initiation of comprehensive cooperation programmes with countries with economies in transition under the auspices of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and with the involvement of the United Nations organizations active in promoting sustainable development, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the World Bank, in order to promote implementation of the key aspects of the Habitat Agenda, focusing on the following priorities aimed at reforming the housing sector in those countries and taking relevant worldwide experience into account:

15 Agreed conclusions 2000/1 (A/55/3, chap. V, para. 6), para. 12.

- (a) Establishment of housing legislation to ensure freedom of residence and disposal of housing property;
- (b) Mechanisms to promote the implementation of a housing policy in the course of the transition to a market economy;
- (c) Reform of management of the housing stock;
- (d) Improvement in the management of infrastructure in the housing and communal sectors;
- (e) Development of sustainable transportation infrastructure in the course of the planning of human settlements;
- (f) Provision of a legal framework for tenants' rights and for public participation in local decision-making;

3. Invites the Executive Director to initiate a series of meetings and workshops under the auspices of the Centre for the countries with economies in transition in order to allow them to exchange their experience in reform of the housing sector, with emphasis on the legal aspects and the involvement of other interested countries and international organizations in those activities;

4. Requests the Executive Director not to encumber general-purpose Foundation resources to undertake these tasks;

5. Requests the Executive Director to report to it at its nineteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

8th meeting
16 February 2001