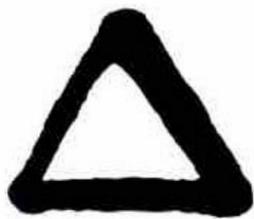


Making the world's ...



...human settlements safe,  
equitable and sustainable...



...for people...



...with Habitat II  
City Summit.



---

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE  
ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS  
**HABITAT II**  
**CITY SUMMIT**  
*ISTANBUL 3-14 JUNE 1996*

---

# SOLUTIONS TO THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS...

Humanity in its seemingly infinite capacity to think has created knowledge, and based on this knowledge, we have created civilizations and technology, which bear witness to our desire to improve the lives of people, in all corners of the world.

But our efforts have also produced problems. We have polluted the seas, the earth and the air. Our burgeoning population suffers from social, political and economic inequalities, from poverty, hunger, exploitation, conflicts and war.

The United Nations Conferences, in which all nations of the Earth participate, constitute the medium through which we as individuals and as representatives of our respective countries, may

seek to confront our problems in all their manifestations, and work together to find common, meaningful and sustainable solutions to the problems of our planet.

The Habitat II Conference to be held in Istanbul, Turkey in 1996 will be the last of the United Nations

Conferences of this century, the culmination of our desire to face our common

problems, with a view to formulating and affecting longlasting solutions.





# IN THE CITIES WE WILL SURVIVE...

In our history, we built villages and we built towns. And we built cities. We founded cities of which we were justly proud, where social, political and cultural life blossomed, based on the dynamism of productive and artistic creativity. But something went wrong.

Today, many of our great cities are mired in poverty, in homelessness, unemployment, ethnic tension, and terror. Our cities are plagued with air and water pollution, with discrimination and disease, with insufficient urban infrastructure, lack of access to education, traffic congestion and noise. Those cities which we have loved now threaten to imprison us in an endless cycle of hopelessness and despair.

In the near future, population growth and

migration will mean that an even larger percentage of the world's population will be living in cities.

Our future is in the cities, but our hope is also in the cities. Our hope for dignity, comfort, progress and a meaningful life for all of humanity is in the cities.

The United Nations Habitat II City Summit in Istanbul will erect a platform for achieving these goals.

And the solutions we find will benefit not only our cities, but also our towns and our villages-the totality of all the places we inhabit, our environment, our collective civilization and our world.





# OUR CITIES MUST BE HEALTHY, SECURE, JUST AND LIVEABLE...

We all live in neighborhoods and on streets and in homes, we live in cities that are all basically alike. In the North or in the South, rich or poor, New York or Nairobi, Beijing or Rio, Paris or Istanbul... we confront the same problems in all our world cities. And we share a capacity to find solutions.

We share a capacity to find new solutions, to problems which we never expected and never wanted. We share a capacity to make these new solutions work for us, to make our cities healthy secure, just and liveable. We share a belief that human settlements must be sustainable. Our build space is the basis of our civilization, the basis of our diverse and multifaceted cultures. Human settlements must provide an environment in which we can live and work, in which we can take spiritual and creative sustenance and

pleasure, in which we can place our hopes for our

future and the future of those who come after us.

The 1996 Habitat II City Summit in Istanbul, will address the ills and the potential of our urban environment as the twenty-first century dawns upon us.

Together we will propose real solutions to real problems, concrete policies to deal with intractable issues. In 1996, the United Nations will attempt to re-establish the foundations of urban life as the source of stability and creativity. Those participating in the Conference will lay the groundwork for the emergence of an urban identity worthy of all the progress humanity has achieved in its turbulent history.





## SOLUTIONS IN PARTNERSHIP...

Until very recently, there existed a widespread belief that urban problems could only be solved through policies and programs of nation states. With the undeniable emergence of the global economy, and in its wake, the global city, we have all become aware that just as the problems are not local, neither can the solutions be sought at the local level alone. Problems of such dimension as those confronting our cities must be faced in cooperation, through policies and action based on common concern and partnership.

To be successful such action requires the participation of all urban actors and their representative bodies throughout the world, Governments, professional organizations, the private sector, academics and non-governmental organizations need to participate actively.

The United Nations Habitat II City Summit represents the first manifestation of this concept.

At this summit, with its emphasis on broad-based participation, local administration will for the first time have a voice. For the first time The Plenary of the Conference will hear the views of these organizations which form the basis of civil society—the private sector, universities, unions,

non-governmental and community based organizations and associations. For the first time, these views will contribute to the search for solutions and the participation of societal actors will count in the search for global solutions with local effect.





# THE WORLD WILL MEET IN ISTANBUL...

Between June 3 and June 14, 1996, thousands of people will come together in Istanbul, under the auspices of the United Nations.

These people, as individuals and representatives of organizations large and small, as heads of state and parliamentarians, as environmentalists and members of multinational corporations, as business people and urban planners, will converge on Istanbul with a common purpose-to make our cities liveable.

And Istanbul will receive them and welcome them in the tradition of one of the world's great cities. Istanbul will greet them with its wealth of experience reflecting all that cities have experienced throughout recorded history, and all that cities have experienced in an age of change unlike the world has ever seen.

Istanbul will serve as a display case of the urban splendor of a city which has been the center of trade and industry and culture for centuries. Like most global cities, however, it has become a victim of its own success. Istanbul is an important model for studying the results of uncontrolled growth, problems which all cities around the world share.

Istanbul will offer to the participants of the United Nations Habitat II Conference its own story of success, alongside evidence of the price at which such success was achieved.





# UNITED NATIONS HABITAT II CITY SUMMIT...

The Habitat II City Summit will constitute the jewel in the crown of a series of United Nations Conferences, which over the past decade have focussed the attention of the world on the shared concern and capacity of humanity for solving our common problems.

Many of the problems facing today's world have their origin in the cities, the repositories of the best and the worst of humanity's achievements.

The United Nations Habitat II City Summit in Istanbul in 1996 will go a long way in redressing

the balance in favor of humanity's best.

In making our cities liveable, we will ensure the survival of our civilization.

This summit will occupy the top of the world's agenda in June 1996, and the wide attendance, the crucial nature of the issues to be discussed in Istanbul, along with the solutions that participants will put forth, will no doubt assure that Habitat II remain at the top of the world's agenda for years to come.

**THERE ARE TWO CHOICES**



**HABITAT II**



**OR ...?**



REPUBLIC OF TURKEY  
PRIME MINISTRY  
**HOUSING  
DEVELOPMENT**  
ADMINISTRATION