

**ON THE ROAD  
TO ISTANBUL**



**HOW WE PROPOSE  
TO OPERATE THE  
ISTANBUL CONFERENCE**

# ISTANBUL HABITAT II DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS (30/5 TO 15/6)

The present description of events, activities and procedures is based on the tentative schedule, as of April 1995, in which daily activities are laid down.

It describes the Conference Activities (CA), the Parallel Activities (PA), the Public Events (PE) and the interface procedures between these categories.

## REGISTRATION

All registration for delegates as well as for all partners' fora, exhibitions, thematic roundtables, will start on Monday, 27 May and end on Tuesday, 4 June, at the Ataturk Cultural Centre, in a centralized process.

## CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

They shall start on Thursday, 30 May, with the *Bureau's* last meetings. The pre-conference consultations will start and continue on Friday, 31 May and, if necessary, on Saturday, 1 June.

The *opening* session of the Conference will be on Monday, 3 June, and the *plenary* will convene daily to the end (Friday, 14 June) with the exception of Saturday, 8 and Sunday, 9 June. The closing session will be on Friday afternoon, 14 June.

In case of a *summit* meeting, the Heads of State will occupy the podium for the plenary sessions from Wednesday, 12 to Friday, 14 June. Heads of State might decide to stay on to Saturday, 15 June - to attend the closing commitment-session of the cities' assembly.

*Committee 1*, dealing with the Global Plan of Action (GPA) and its negotiations, will start on Monday afternoon, 3 June; *Committee 2*, dealing with the contributions of U.N. associates and of all partners, as well as with the contributions of the thematic round-tables, will also start then.

Two *Drafting Committees*, one for each of the above committees, will start their meetings on Tuesday, 4 June and end work on Thursday, 13 June. They will set up a common drafting group for consistency. The plenary will eventually be served by members of these drafting committees.

## PARALLEL ACTIVITIES

Prior to the Conference opening, the following parallel activities will be organized and operated by the Conference *partners*:

1. A "*Cities' Assembly*", assembling local authorities and their associations, will be convened by the "Group 4+", a secretariat established for this purpose by the main worldwide associations of cities, mayors and local authorities. It will meet at a special venue from Thursday, 30 May to Saturday, 1 June, approving a statement. There will probably be a final session on Friday, 14 or Saturday, 15 June to endorse and confirm at the local authorities' level, the commitments taken by the Conference.
2. A forum of *professionals, researchers, professors* and academics and their associations will convene on Friday, 31 May and Saturday, 1 June, to approve their statement and commitments.
3. Representatives of the *private sector* will attend a forum on Friday, 31 May and Saturday, 1 June, to approve their statement and commitments.
4. Public and private non-profit *foundations* linked to urban issues will convene at their forum on Friday, 31 May and Saturday, 1 June, to approve their statement and commitments.
5. Leaders of *NGOs*, CBOs and social movements will start their forum on Saturday, 1 June and end it on Wednesday, 12 June with an interruption during Saturday, 8 and Sunday 9, June. They will approve a statement as well as develop a scheduled programme of presentations by organizations.

6. Organizations of *Parliamentarians* will convene their forum on Friday, 31 May and Saturday, 1 June, to approving their statement and commitments.
7. *Labour unions* will hold their meeting on Friday, 31 May and Saturday, 1 June, to approve their statement and commitments.

All the above statements will be presented to Committee 2.

8. *Spiritual leaders* will be invited to meet on Saturday, 1 June, publicly expressing their opinions and recommendations to the delegates and taking their statement to the plenary.
9. On Sunday, 2 June, all the partners plus the delegates, on a voluntary basis, will join in a discussion-*brunch*, from 11.00 to 15.00, cross-cutting the debate and exchanging points-of-view. There will be no statements or speeches, but a get-together on common ground.

As venues for the above meetings we will use the following facilities: the Kirdar Conference Centre, the Ataturk Cultural Centre, the Concert Hall next to the Conference building, the Harbiye Cultural Centre opposite to the Conference building, the Hilton Convention Centre, the M.E. theatre and the Technical University. For the Sunday brunch meeting there are two alternatives: the Hilton Convention Centre's large rooms or boats on the Bosphorous.

## PUBLIC EVENTS

These are all part of the Istanbul Conference but open to the public:

1. The exhibition "*Good Ideas for Better Cities*" will have at its centre, a *trade fair* with rented space; it will open at the World Trade Centre on Monday, 3 June at 17:00 and close on Monday, 10 June, in the evening.
2. Other exhibitions at other venues Included in "*Good Ideas for Better Cities*", considered to this date, are:
  - 2.1. a UNEP exhibition on selected good practices related to the urban environment
  - 2.2. a WHO exhibition on sewerage alternatives
  - 2.3. a UNICEF exhibition on children's competition(s)
  - 2.4. The exhibition on best practices born at Dubai's conference
  - 2.5. Other exhibitions on innovations and good practices
  - 2.6. An "Open space" for poster exhibitions

These events will be held at the Technical University and at the Ataturk Centre. In the lounge of the main Conference building there will be only one UN inter-agency exhibition.

3. *Special exhibitions* being prepared are:
  - 3.1. "Settlements and Housing in Anatolia".
  - 3.2. "Istanbul: From the Past to the Future" - both at a renovated historical building.
  - 3.3. "Convivial Spaces", a competition for architects and planners.
  - 3.4. "Convivial Spaces", a competition among schools - both at the Ataturk Cultural Centre.
4. An opening concert will be held on the evening of Sunday, 2 June at Aghia Sofia; and a closing open-air concert and event will be held on the evening of Friday, 14 June (perhaps at Hagia Irini and in the Topkapi gardens); a reception for delegates and guests might occur at the Dolmabahce Palace on the evening of Friday, 14 June.
5. A film festival might start the week before the Conference at several movie theatres; small "*cities' video theatres*" will be set up in the above mentioned buildings, featuring, on a scheduled basis, videos from countries, institutions, cities and NGOs; the one-minute video festival on urban life will also be shown at these cities' video theatres;

6. A **video conference-channel** for hotels might be set up by a local TV channel to function from Sunday, 2 to Saturday, 15 June; it could feature both the Conference main events and some of the videos and the one-minute videos on urban life; they could also make announcements.
7. A daily public **electronic consultation** on crucial themes being discussed, implying a yes/no voting by all accredited persons, could be set up to function from Tuesday, 4 to Thursday, 13 June (eight consultations).
8. **Awards** ceremonies will be scheduled on weekends. On Sunday, 9 June we shall celebrate the "**World Environment Day**" of 1996, dedicated to urban environment; ceremonies and other activities are being prepared by UNEP.
9. Sunday, 19 June will be dedicated to **youth**; a system of "listening to junior citizens" as well as "listening to senior citizens" will be implemented both in Istanbul and via worldwide TV networking. This interactive TV programme will perhaps be entitled "enjoy your city", promoting and stimulating cities to adhere and show how their public spaces can be utilized and enjoyed.
10. Finally, 9 **thematic round-tables** will convene daily, from Monday, 3 to Friday, 7 June, to debate through a "panel with audience" format, the **recommended strategies** for the implementation of specific issues raised under the following topics:
  - 10.1 People on the move (migrations, exclusions, affluence)
  - 10.2 Making a living (economic opportunities, employment)
  - 10.3 Civic engagement (citizenry and social organization)
  - 10.4 Urban physiology (water, energy, sewage, waste, health and the environment)
  - 10.5 Changing urban forum (megacities, urban networks)
  - 10.6 Moving about the city (transport, communication)
  - 10.7 A place to live (house, home, our public spaces)
  - 10.8 Doing by learning (new formats of education, role of media)
  - 10.9 Governance and democracy (partnerships for action)

The findings and recommendations of the thematic round-tables will be presented to Committee 2.

## INTERFACE PROCEDURES

Among the innovations presented by the Habitat II Conference, we underline the following: (a) non-governmental organizations will convene in their own **specific field** of interests and actions; (b) a special role should be played by **local authorities**, as the governmental level that directly and daily deals with the substance of the Conference; (c) **partnership** is the format we chose for building and operating the Conference, reflecting the new mode of implementing changes and developing society (towards a new "social contract").

To operate the Conference on such basis, we envisage the following:

1. Delegates will be appointed by their governments; hopefully they will reflect the composition of their national committees, including different urban actors;
2. Accreditation will be given to NGOs following existing rules and previous interpretations;
3. Special accreditation will be given to 30 persons, preferably mayors, indicated by the "Group 4+", as representatives of cities and towns, through their international associations;
4. Representatives of the United Nations agencies, as well as of the **partner's fora** and of the Cities' Assembly will make their statements and commitments to **Committee 2**, in the following pre-liminary order in early June:

- Monday 3 afternoon - Spiritual leaders (to the Plenary)
- Tuesday 4 morning - UN agencies
- Tuesday 4 afternoon - UN agencies
- Wednesday 5 morning - Cities' Assembly
- Wednesday 5 afternoon - Cities' Assembly
- Thursday 6 morning - Professionals, academics and researchers
- Thursday 6 afternoon - Private sector
- Friday 7 morning - Labour unions/Parliamentarians
- Friday 7 afternoon - Foundations
- Monday 10 morning - NGOs and CBOs
- Monday 10 afternoon - NGOs and CBOs

The presentation of statements will be followed by questioning and debate with the delegates, in order to clarify positions. The Committee's recommendations on these statements will be drafted and voted on Wednesday, 12 June and taken to the Plenary.

5. Representatives of the 9 *thematic round-tables* will take their findings to Committee 2, in the format of "recommendations for implementation strategies" in each considered field, in the following order:

- Tuesday 11 morning - round-tables 1, 2, 3
- Tuesday 11 afternoon - round-tables 4, 5, 6
- Wednesday 12 morning - round-tables 7, 8, 9

The delegates will ask for clarifications, but no debate is foreseen for these technical issues; several delegates will certainly have attended some of the round-tables. The Committee's endorsement (total or partial) to these recommendations will be drafted and voted on Wednesday, 12 June in the afternoon and taken to the Plenary.

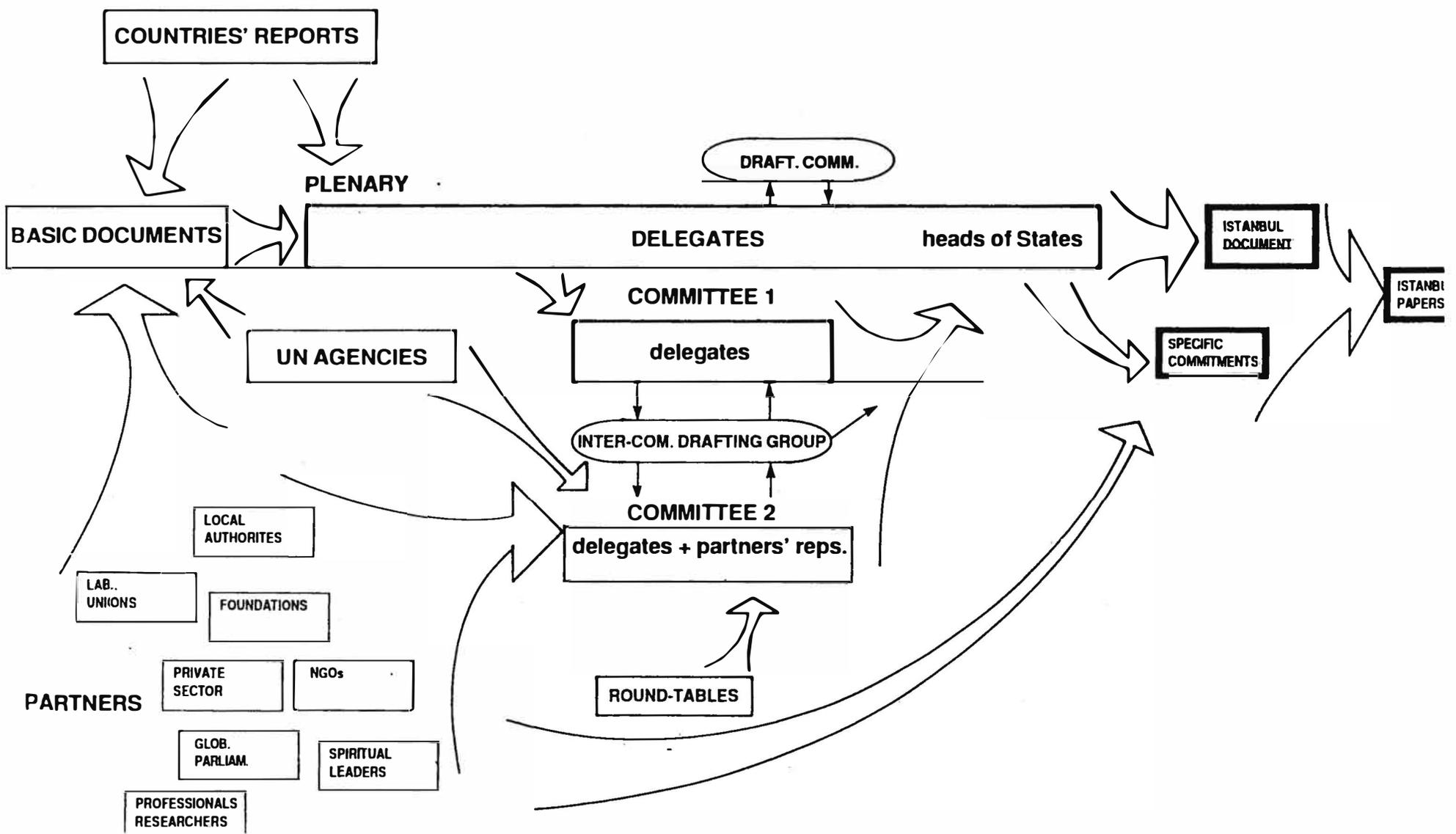
Thus the official **document** to be approved by the Plenary of the Conference; the "ISTANBUL COVENANT ON THE FUTURE OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS", would have the following components:

1. Global Reviews
2. Global Report on the situation of Human Settlements
3. Global Plan of Action (principles, commitments, strategies, programmes)
4. Report based on local authorities' statement
5. Report based on other partners' statements
6. Report based on recommendations for specific strategies of implementation.

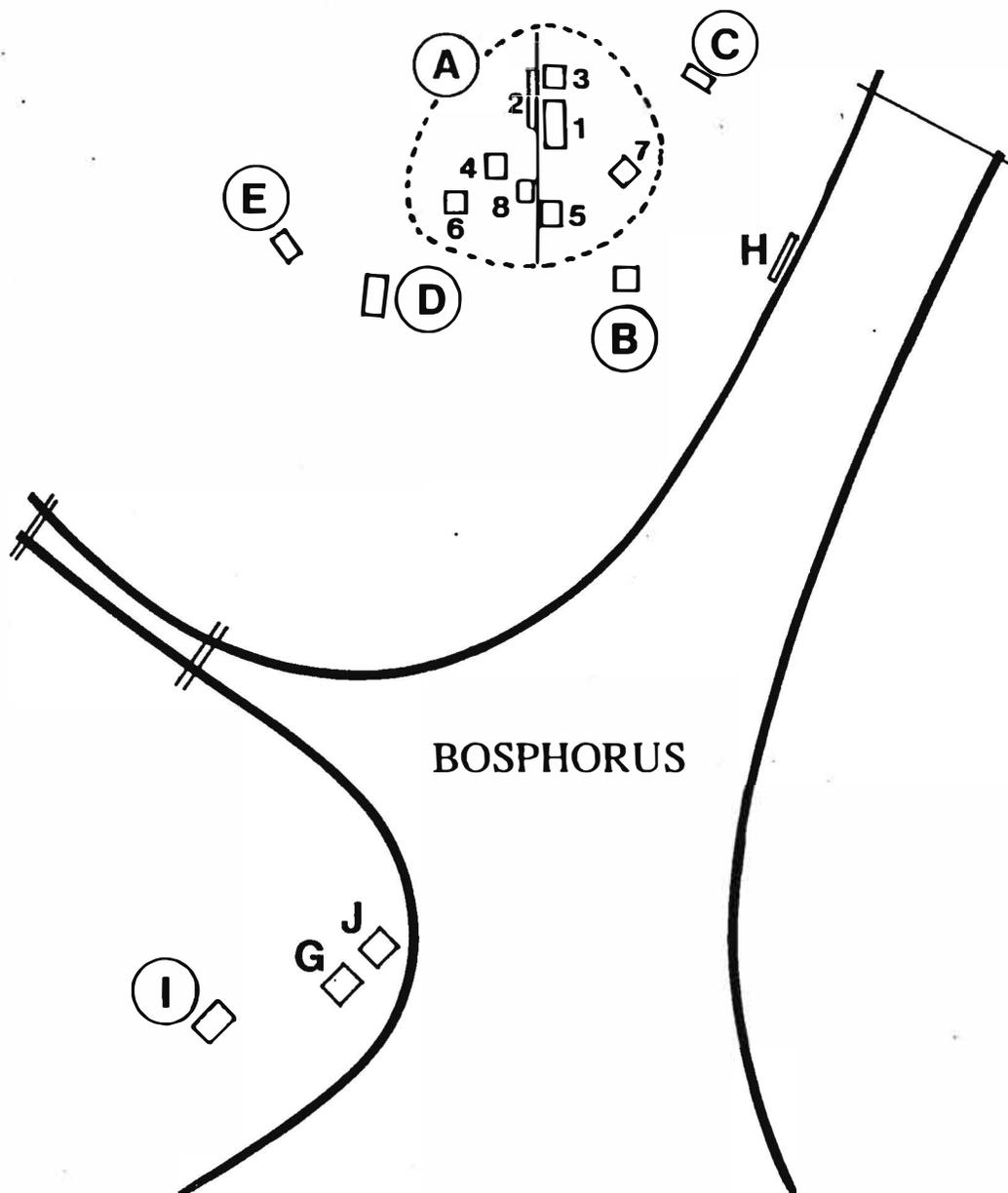
Signed separately by free choice but published for the general public with the above document, as the "Istanbul Papers" there might be:

7. Agreements on specific issues
8. Commitments on specific issues
9. Declarations by Heads of State
10. Statements made by each partner's fora
11. Statement made by the Cities' Assembly
12. The five-year first-stage commitments presented by all national reports.

# ISTANBUL HABITAT II FLOW CHART (as for April 95)



## ISTANBUL HABITAT II ACTIVITIES' SITES (as for April 95)



	PLACE		ACTIVITIES
A	CONFERENCE COMPOUND	1	PLENARY, (Regional Meetings) Special offices
		2	GENERAL OFFICES
		3	EMINENT PERSONS FORUM COMMITTEE 2
		4	PRESS CENTRE HEAD OF STATES PRIVATE SECTOR AND PARLAMENTARIANS FORA
		5	COMMITTEE 1 CROSS-CUTTING MEETING (BRUNCH)
		6	U.N. PERSONNEL HOTEL ?
		7	CLOSURE EVENT (1)
		8	CITIES' VIDEOS CITIES' PRESENTATIONS BEST PRACTICES SPECIAL CONFERENCES
B	TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY		FORA: NGO/FOUND./LABOUR EXHIBITIONS: BEST PRACTICES/ POSTERS/CITIES' VIDEOS
C	ALTERNAT. TO B		FORUM: NGO/FOUND./LABOUR EXHIBITIONS/ CITIES' VIDEOS
D	ATATURK CENTRE		REGISTRATIONS CITIES' ASSEMBLY CONVIVIAL SPACES EXHIB. CITIES' VIDEOS, PROFESS. FORUM THEMATIC PANELS
E	TÜYAP		BOOKS-FAIR
F	WORLD TRADE CENTRE		TRADE FAIR
G	HAGIA SOFIA		OPENING CONCERT
H	DOLMABAHCE PALACE		CLOSURE RECEPTION ?
I			HISTORICAL EXHIBITIONS
J	TOPKAPI HAGIA IRINI		PUBLIC CLOSURE EVENT & CONCERT ?

