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**MINUTES OF BUREAU MEETING  
HABITAT II PREPARATORY COMMITTEE  
10 NOVEMBER 1995, NEW YORK**

**Participants:** It was an enlarged Bureau meeting. In addition to Bureau members several participants from the offices of the United Nations Secretariat in New York, from UNCHS (Habitat) and from the Host Country attended this meeting (please see the list of invitees for the enlarged Task Force meeting).

**Agenda :** The provisional agenda prepared by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee is attached as Annex 1.

Proceedings of the meeting

Mr. Lujanen, the chairman, opened the meeting and presented the provisional agenda which was adopted. In view of the pending issues from the Task Force meeting held earlier, it was decided to discuss related issues first (agenda Item II).

Ms. Kelley formulated those issues as : what would happen to accreditation process in between February 1996 and the Conference; brackets in the text of Rules of Procedure related to EU and participation of associate members of the Regional Commissions in the Conference; and local authorities participation in the Conference. She said that her colleagues in the Secretariat would further clarify the questions remaining regarding these issues. She concluded that additional servicing requirements for Prepcom III needed decision of the Second Committee, this being a procedural issue, and therefore these requests should be included in the draft resolution.

Mr. W. Bunch explained that the draft Rules of Procedure to be presented to the General Assembly had brackets and this issue needed clarification before being discussed at the General Assembly. A clear text of the Rules of Procedure was essential (without brackets). He said that a resolution was needed from the General Assembly to provide services and interpretation for three parallel Prepcom meetings (plenary and the two working groups) during Prepcom III. Otherwise it would only be possible to service two parallel meetings. He added that if the Prepcom believed that 3 + 3 meetings were essential, they would initiate necessary measures even before the draft resolution was processed.

He concluded that the participation of the associate members of Regional Commissions in the Conference could be discussed a little later after Ms. Kelley would make available the list of those countries.

Ms. Ulloa, the Rapporteur of Prepcom commented that developed countries would not be very eager to accept additional financial commitments therefore the draft resolution should be prepared in a flexible and persuasive way.

Mr. Lujanen agreed with the above.

Mr. Kirdar commented that expertise from the Legal Counsel was needed before discussing matters of the Rules of Procedure including the issue of the participation of the associate members of the Regional Commissions in the Conference. He added that Building Management staff's views would also be essential while discussing the issues of additional servicing options during the Prepcom III.

Mr. Lujanen said that these issues would be discussed when legal counsel joined the meeting. He informed the meeting that the <sup>European Commission</sup> (EU) had now taken back its original request for participation in the Conference and there was no problem related to this topic therefore these brackets could be removed. But he queried how we should now handle the other bracketed parts in the draft Rules of Procedure. He asked whether it should be considered that other bracketed parts would also be deleted. He suggested that the accreditation of NGOs applying between Prepcom III and the Conference could be completed during the pre-consultations stage of the Conference, but that a decision of Prepcom III would be required regarding this issue. He added that a wording such as "plenary and 2 meetings" could be used in the draft resolution to be prepared for increasing servicing requirements.

Ms. Mboya commented that she was still not very clear on the topic of servicing and asked whether above wording would facilitate night meetings during Prepcom III.

Mr. Lujanen said that a 2 step strategy could be followed which first aimed at servicing 3 parallel meetings with interpretation and once this was accepted the timing of these meetings (the issue of night meetings) would be managed. He requested that the secretariat help prepare draft text on this matter.

Mr. Johnson said that the terminology and definitions related to local authorities and the process foreseen for their participation in the Conference should be extensively explained during the discussions in the Second Committee as well as during the briefing session to be organised next week.

Mr. Lujanen said that a text should be prepared to this effect to be included in the statement of the Secretary General of the Conference for the Second Committee. He added that Legal Counsel's advice and assistance on this matter would be appreciated.

Mr. Naiker commented that 4 of the 19 NGOs (in the group of local authorities) were already accredited to ECOSOC.

Mr. Lujanen said that we should continue discussions on item 2 in the afternoon and suggested proceeding with the other items.

2 | **Mr. Kirdar** commented that the way the Conference committees would work needed clarification when we have the secretary of the Conference and the Legal Counsel with us (article 15 of the organisation of work and structure of the Conference document adopted by the Prepcom).

**Mr. Jolunson** commented that Prepcom should authorize the Secretary General of the Conference to arrange invitation/participation in Committee II operations. The Secretary General however could also propose to the Committee II whom they should listen to. He added that the text prepared on this seemed sufficiently flexible and should not be changed for the General Assembly. It would however be very useful to elaborate on the working of the Committee II during the work of Prepcom III.

**Mr. Lujanen** raised the issue of how the work of the first and second working groups during Prepcom III should be divided. He added that we should send a note to governments on this indicating also a proposed time-table.

**Mr. Hildebrand** said that the secretariat would inform governments on this issue according to the decisions of this Bureau meeting.

**Mr. Lujanen** said that there would be no time for a general debate during Prepcom III. We have Habitat Agenda to be discussed and negotiated paragraph by paragraph. One of the WGs should undertake only this function. The topics of new/additional resources and the follow-up have been discussed to some extent but not in the Prepcom. He suggested that the other WG might take up these 2 issues and all the other items. J D G

**H. E. Kizildeli** expressed that there might be need to have options open for declaration(s) to be produced at the Conference by the high level segment on specific issues.

**Mr. Lujanen** said that media also needed (as was the case in other Conferences) a short paper/statement that they could focus on giving the highlights of the Conference decisions/deliberations.

**Ms. Mboya** said that we should consider/support/keep options open for a declaration. Preparation of a declaration is an extremely important activity.

An informal discussion of this issue followed.

**Mr. Lujanen** said that the discussion we had on the topic of having a declaration was just for exploring ideas on the matter, we have not taken any decision on this matter and the discussion was completely informal. We shall complete discussion on agenda item 2.

**Ms. Kelley** said that she has already given the text of the draft resolutions as well as the list of the countries of associate members of the Regional Commissions to the rapporteur as was discussed earlier.

Mr. Lujanen said that this text should be incorporated to the text of the draft Rules of Procedure.

Ms. Ulloa read the above said text which arranged 2 working groups and a plenary for the Prepcom III. It was decided that this should be submitted to the Second Committee. Ms. Ulloa and Ms. Kelley will work to find the best working language for the tabling of the resolutions. The final draft of the Rules of Procedure should also have no brackets.

Mr. Lujanen said that he has heard that Group 77 was working on <sup>the</sup> ~~some~~ resolution(s), these would be supported by a number of developed countries as well. Turkey was also supporting them. He suggested we now proceed with agenda item 1.

Dr. Konje said that there was actually very little to report since the outcome of the work undertaken within IDG during its first meeting in Nairobi and the second meeting in Paris were already on the table. Some paragraphs which were not discussed were in brackets. Issues related to follow-up (from paragraph 158 to the end) and financing (from 146-150) were also in brackets since the IDG had not had time to reach consensus on these points.

Mr. Lujanen said that discussion on agenda Item I (a) and (b) were now completed and started the discussion on agenda item 3 (a). In addition to previous statements and views expressed related to this topic, a long discussion took place on the distribution of work to working groups I and II during Prepcom III. It was finally decided that agenda item 4 of Prepcom III would be handled totally by working group II starting its work on Monday (the first day of Prepcom III) Working group I would handle agenda item 3, and the other items would be handled by the Plenary. There would be no general debate or statements to be made in the Plenary.

Discussions on agenda item 3(b) concluded that the agenda of the conference should be presented with annotations and the programme should be flexible.

Regarding agenda item 3 (c) it was decided to hold briefing session on 13 November 1996 (Monday at 10.00 A.M. in the ECOSOC chamber).

During the discussions on agenda item 4 it was agreed that invitations for the Conference to be handled after the Prepcom III (This issue is to be clarified with the relevant offices of United Nations Secretariat).

It was expressed that the President of Turkey would also send invitations to the Head of States during the first half of January 1996. Turkey will liaise with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and other relevant offices on this matter.

There were no issues raised on agenda item 5 (other matters).

Related to agenda item 6, It was decided that the Bureau should meet in New York on 1 February 1996.

**Dr. N'Dow** commented that there would be additional activities to be handled/undertaken during Prepcom III and the Secretariat would keep the Bureau informed on these matters.

**Mr. Hildebrand** said that the Habitat II Secretariat would go through the programme of Prepcom III with the relevant offices of the United Nations Secretariat and will finalize it as agreed by the Bureau and without programming any evening meetings.

**Mr. Lujanen** said that agenda item 2 of the Prepcom III should also be looked into and preparations/actions if needed be completed.

The meeting was adjourned.

HABITAT II Bureau Meeting to be held on  
10 November 1995 starting at 10.00 a.m. in United Nations  
Headquarters Conference, Room 9

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Provisional Agenda

1. Reporting on developments since Nairobi PrepCom:
  - (a) Informal Drafting Group meeting in Nairobi
  - (b) Informal Drafting Group meeting in Paris
  - (c) Status of preparations of Habitat II Conference
2. Issues related to the General Assembly Second Committee:
  - (a) - Draft resolution to be submitted to the General Assembly
    - Financing of Habitat II (Decision II/1)
    - Third session of the Preparatory Committee (Decision II/2)
    - Organization of the work of Habitat II (Decision II/3)
    - Draft Rules of Procedures (Decision II/4)
  - (b) Briefing session to be held on Monday, 13 November 1995.
3. Issues related to the Third Preparatory Committee:
  - (a) the structure, agenda and time table for PrepCom III
    - The Habitat Agenda
  - (b) Provisional agenda of the Conference and its annotations
    - Anticipated documentation for the Conference
    - Accreditation of NGOs and representatives of Local authorities to PrepCom III and the Conference
  - (c) Briefing session
4. Invitations to the Conference (Member States, Local Authorities, NGOs and other observers):
  - Time of Issuance
  - Additional measures to be taken by the United Nations, the Habitat II Secretariat and the Host Country to ensure the highest level of participation.
5. Other matters.
6. Date and venue of the next Bureau Meeting.

