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**STATEMENT
BY
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OF THE INDONESIAN DELEGATION
BEFORE THE SECOND COMMITTEE**

ON ITEM 95 :

- (b) Human Settlements**
- (c) United Nations Conference on
Human Settlements (HABITAT II)**

NEW YORK, 15 NOVEMBER 1995

Mr. Chairman,

Let me begin by expressing my delegations appreciation to Dr. Wally N'Dow in his capacity as the Conference Secretary-General, for his comprehensive introductory remarks on the Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference. I would also like to take this opportunity to extend our thanks to Dr. N'Dow, not only for his dedication and hard work in the preparations for the forthcoming conference which is to be held from 3 to 14 June 1996 in Istanbul, but also for the success of the two Preparatory Committees already held. I would also like to associate myself with the cogent remarks of the distinguished Representative of the Philippines on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. And as a country well known as a strong supporter and beneficiary of HABITAT ever since its establishment in 1978, Indonesia attaches great importance to the forthcoming Conference. In this respect, my delegation is pleased to note that the preparatory process, which is already entering its final stage, has so far been very encouraging.

Mr. Chairman,

Habitat II, taking place two decades after Habitat I in Vancouver, is distinctive in being the final conference in a continuum of major United Nations Summits on development related fields in this century. Like each of these conferences that began with UNCED in 1992, Habitat II seeks to forge a consensus on a major facet of international cooperation for sustainable development. The journey to Istanbul for HABITAT II, in June 1996, has already been very much covered, with the lion's share of the preparations being done by the Preparatory Committees I and II. Indeed, as

one of the building blocks in that process the HABITAT Agenda is nearing finalization. We therefore, hope that the ongoing elaboration of the Global Plan of Action will make significant progress during the Third Preparatory Committee which to take place in New York in February 1996. As it now stands, the draft HABITAT Agenda is very much a thought provoking document that contains urgent cross-cutting issues which deserve the full consideration of the international community. Suffice it to say, that the issues before the conference are at the very heart of the international community's concern. And, it follows that the commitments reached at the conference will have a major impact on the efforts of the international community to achieve sustainable human settlements and sustainable development. As such, HABITAT II deserves our full support.

The theme of urbanization which features prominently in the draft agenda constitutes a major phenomena in this today's world of rapid globalization and deepening interdependence. The deterioration of human settlement is a formidable challenge facing the world community. So too, rapid urbanization and the stampede towards megacities, characterized by their urban decay and inner city violence and destitution, must be squarely met and replaced by sustainable human settlements through sustainable development. That is why the key to lasting solutions largely resides in people-centered development. Only through such broad-based participation and the empowerment of the grass roots sector can success be achieved. It can thus be truly said that the current and future challenge of sustainable development is a challenge of urban settlements. It is therefore important that, as we continue to elaborate the Global Plan of Action, we should ensure that it provides the opportunity for all key groups of actors, rich and poor alike, to fully participate and contribute towards the development of

sustainable human settlements.

As the fourth most densely populated country in the world, Indonesia is acutely aware of the phenomenon of uncontrolled urbanization, the resultant global shelter crisis and the challenges that still lie ahead. It is precisely for this reason that we have attached strong importance to this critical dimension in the Preparatory Committees and hope that the Conference will shed new insights and provide viable answers to this pressing question. It is therefore my hope that the elaboration of the Global Plan of Action will make significant progress during the final and Third Preparatory Committee to take place in New York in February 1996.

For our part in Indonesia, we are committed to fully and constructively participate in the entire preparatory process. Indeed, at the national level and in response to the agreements adopted at the Second Preparatory Committee, Indonesia has established a broad National Committee in preparation for the Conference and has also initiated the process of formulating a National Report. Likewise, as an indication of our growing commitment to the success of the Conference, Indonesia sent a High-Level delegation to the Second Preparatory Committee Meeting in Nairobi. While substantially participating in the discussion and deliberations during the Preparatory Committee, at the national level the Government of Indonesia has emphasized and fully encouraged the involvement of all sectors of society in the preparations for the Conference. In this regard, a broad spectrum of participants are taking part, ranging from government officials to the private sector and from NGOs to academics and professional in the field as well as local administrators. To underscore this trend, the private sector in Indonesia, in cooperation with HABITAT has hosted regional

conferences in Land, Security and Tenure, in August 1995. In this spirit, it is the commitment of our government to continue to strengthen the awareness and support of the people and the various sectors of the community for HABITAT II within Indonesia.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I hope and trust that both the final Preparatory Committee meeting next February and the Conference itself in June 1996, will be fully representative of all member states. At the same time I am aware that such participation may be beyond the available means of some countries especially the LDCs. For this reason I would like to appeal to the developed countries to assist these countries in their efforts to attend and participate in the preparatory process and the Conference. Only then can we be assured that the outcomes and the Plan of Action will be global in nature and that the Conference deliberations will be truly democratic and universal. In this regard, my delegation calls for the endorsement by this Assembly of the decisions, II/1, II/2, II/3 and II/4, taken by the Preparatory Committee II. Indonesia is very much looking forward to attending HABITAT II in the beautiful and historical city of Istanbul. With this in mind allow me to extend our sincere appreciations to the Government of Turkey for the dedication and hard work they have invested in the preparations for this critical conference on the threshold of the 21st century and appropriately dubbed by the United Nations Secretary-General the "Summit of the Summits".

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.