

jericho

THE HABITAT NEWSPAPER NO. 7

8 JUNE 1976



It may look to you like a giant knitted sausage (left), but to the demonstrators putting across the anti-nuclear message yesterday it was an H-bomb. It has a message for the recycle-of-waste lobby. Also it's made entirely of salvaged video tape dumped by a local television studio. Above: Getting the message across via loud-hailer.

SELF-HELPERS LAY PLANS

MEMBERS of the Self-Help Housing symposium meeting at the Forum last night began discussing a plan to continue sharing their experiences after June 11.

A working group submitted a proposal for an information network which would provide data and mutual support to self-help housing workers who were described by a spokesman as often "isolated and overwhelmed by opposition."

The network would involve regional coordinating centres to collect and disseminate information, including case studies, and names and addresses of self-help workers, so personal contact could be maintained. If possible, the network should work through existing institutions to minimise costs.

The first task of the network would be to collate and publish the proceedings of the symposium, at which more than 100 persons from 40 countries have shared experiences and concerns.

Three principles governing self-help housing have emerged from the discussions in Hangar 8. The first is that housing is a local matter and decisions regarding shelter should be left to the people involved. Self-help housing should be synonymous with responsible use of resources and improvements in housing should be accompanied by redistribution of income.

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Third World

rapped over

A-power

MEMBERS of the Group of 24 (the Vancouver Symposium) yesterday attacked the Group of 77 (the club of 113 developing nations) over the nuclear issue and one said the 77 Group "are being taken for a bunch of fools."

At a press conference, the 24 distinguished world citizens were themselves attacked for failing to get their message across to the developing world that nuclear power was a dangerous path to follow.

The Group of 77 alternative document prepared for presentation to the Plenary does not contain any reference to the dangers of them embracing nuclear technology.

The words of Papua New Guinea backing a nuclear moratorium have gone unheeded. Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau of Canada has been proved right when he said most developing countries want nuclear technology and are proud that India exploded a nuclear device.

Margaret Mead said she was disappointed that the developing countries had

not heeded the good advice of their newest member, Papua New Guinea.

Asked what the Group of 24 could do to make them change their minds, Margaret Mead said all must attempt to instil "some sense of pride in them which might make them change their mind about the dumping of technology which we have found too dangerous and too uneconomic for ourselves".

Lester Brown said: "They are being taken for a bunch of fools. They are being sold stuff that would not be used in developed countries."

Barbara Ward felt that the export programme had to be stopped by action in the producer countries. "Where it's got to stop is here," she said.

Lester Brown explained that the export

drive to the developing world was increasing markedly due to fears within developed countries of the dangers and political unpopularity of entering the field of nuclear energy production.

He showed that annual reactor orders in the United States peaked at 36 in 1973, dropped to 27 in 1974 and last year plummeted to four. For each reactor order which went through, more than 25 potential buyers cancelled or deferred.

But the Third World has shown that it is a willing and little tapped market for nuclear power generation through its document at the conference.

The 26th guideline for action does suggest mildly that "transfer of technology should be adapted to the needs of the developing countries", but goes on to say that efforts should be made to "ensure that sellers' rights are not abused".

Observers see that final line as the green light for nuclear salesmen to hustle their lethal wares around the developing world whose leaders see the nuclear club like the white men's clubs of colonial days — a place of status that will reflect to their greater glory.

Yesterday the Group of 24 presented a new Declaration. We publish in full on the Centre Pages.

CITY TALKS 'LEAK'

BARBARA WARD "leaked" at a press conference yesterday that the Canadian Government had been having preliminary talks with her as President of the International Institute for Environment and Development, and with Dr Jorge Hardoy, of the Centre of Urban and Regional Studies in Buenos Aires, with a view to backing

nationally-based studies on cities.

Though the form of the new cooperation has not been decided and no details of Canada's possible extent of funding were mentioned, the project which appears to have sparked the most interest is a study on why the core of cities in many places seems to go rotten.

The incompetent breed

ANY livestock breeder knows better than to perpetuate a bad blood line. Only in politics do we continue to breed incompetents. Illogical, paranoid, myopic and intellectually idle, our leaders are all bound by the mistakes and clichés of yesterday, because they are too busy assuring their re-election to spend time getting educated. The only time politicians get involved in any healthy research or any real learning is when they are opposed to something. Then they get their facts, get them straight, and can concentrate upon bending them into the tortured, evasive structures of political double talk. We, the non-politicians, are foolish enough to believe not only in the rainbow, but also in the pot of gold, and time after time we re-elect the same old gang and listen while they say the same old

words, make the same mistakes, and finally send us off to do battle for their outdated idealisms.

The battle used to be war between nations. Today it is a war between the people and the politicians. The people want a new approach, the politicians are desperate to preserve yesterday's mistakes.

Nobody at Habitat has stood up in anger, with the same passion as a national leader would use in times of declaring war, and simply, basically, and accurately identified the bureaucrats, the empowered and moneyed rich of being the enemy, of obstructing the course of social justice, and of lying. Buckminster Fuller speaks of a new concept of money in much the same way as Newton spoke of the Principle of Gravity. If the

politicians had their way the world would still be functioning on the assumption that it was flat, because to admit it being round would seriously affect the business interests of overstocked map-makers.

All the politicians know about the new concept of money. They all use credit cards, they all have been processed by a computer at an airline counter, they know that to buy something you don't any more have to carry a sack of gold coins around. There are cheques, there are agreements, there are — on the stock market fortunes made in futures, all of which take place without actual money changing hands. But when it comes to dealing with the needs of people, with the need of the planet to think of itself as an entity instead of a set of minor



JAMES
BARBER

kingdoms, the money system of yesterday takes over. Three thousand million dollars for clean water is discussed like you would an increase in a child's weekly allowance i.e. reluctantly. But to shore up the British pound, \$5,000m suddenly becomes available. The emergency only became general knowledge some couple of months ago, but it is a real emergency because it deals with money. Nobody is actually going to carry sacks of dollars to the U.K. The politicians are going to have to think in a different manner.

Why can't they start now, at Habitat, and decide once and for all that the world isn't flat?

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

COMMITTEE 1 split into two working groups yesterday to hammer out a compromise settlement suitable for presentation to the Plenary and closed the doors to prevent, presumably, scrutiny by the press. Committees 2 and 3 carried on in open session; presumably they had nothing to hide.

Committee Chairman George Muoho emerged tight lipped from the afternoon session and refused to give details of the discussions. "We are going to come up with an acceptable Declaration of Principles," was all he would tell Jericho. "The core groups have to bring together the views of the different delegations and draft them into a sensible document."

It appears the doors were closed to prevent the press from seeing delegates in strong bargaining mood. The fact that the first week's work by the Committee has been ridden over by the Group of 77, the 113 members of the so-called developing world, could not have pleased tired western and

COMMITTEE 1

eastern bloc delegates who may have felt they had wasted their time.

George Muoho said any premature publicity on the issues would only make the task of drafting the documents more difficult.

The restricted Group 77 document, which Jericho revealed some highlights of yesterday, contained thinly veiled attacks on Zionism and multinational corporations which were not in the original. These appear the focus points for tough dealing.

The second working group was discussing a draft resolution on institutional arrangements, concentrating on organisational methods, terms of reference and land priorities, according to Jericho sources.

Delegates were not prepared to make any recommendations on either the type of institution or its location — whether it

should be the Department of Economic and Social Affairs or the UN Environment Programme, and whether it was going to be in New York, Nairobi or somewhere else.

The draft recommends the setting up of five regional committees based on regional economic commissions, which will disappoint the NGOs. They are pressing for a greater number of regional offices in order to reflect more accurately economic and ecological differences.

The NGOs were in favour of the Dutch proposal on cooperation with organisations outside the UN system. This recommends that "at global as well as the regional level cooperation should be sought with universities, research institutes, non-government organisations, voluntary groups etc. in order to make full use of their knowledge and experience in the field of human settlements."

At the inter-government level this would be institutionalised and at secretariat level it would be realised by "appropriate working relations."

Morning-only meeting

COMMITTEE 2

On the availability of resources (B 3) an amendment at the beginning of the section says: "Too often in the past human settlement planning has lacked realism." Obviously, with the idea of international assistance programmes in mind, another addition states that planning, while based on realism, should not be determined solely by currently available resources.

Section B.4 on the scope of national settlement planning, stresses the need for coordination, particularly in the provision of services, including clean and safe water, clean air and food. It urges the introduction of the regions as an intermediate level of planning.

Rural areas are given special mention in the section on regional planning (recommendation B.5). Rural development and the creation of new employment opportunities in rural areas are given priority, including — as a vital element in the strategy — the creation of new population centres to serve their rural hinterland.

The opposite end of the scale, regional planning for metropolitan areas, is dealt with in recommendation B.6. Here again, coordination of vital services on a regional

level is stressed. An amendment takes note of the fact that "megalopolises and other large urban areas are an increasing phenomena."

This clearly applies mainly to the heavily industrialised countries unlike the question of expanding rural centres which is of concern primarily to developing countries with their overgrown central cities and impoverished rural areas, with no intermediate centres to serve them.

The improvement of existing settlements is given importance in recommendation B. 8 reflecting the experience of many countries — particularly those in the west — that "ill conceived" urban renewal can be "destructive of the economic and social fabric of entire neighbourhoods." An amendment underlines the fact that "settlements must be continuously improved."

Rural settlements are given further attention in recommendation B.11 which calls for respect for local customs and traditions, and use of local resources and traditional techniques and styles of construction. Temporary settlements should be planned to provide for community need according to recommendation B. 13 and integrated, where appropriate, into the permanent network of settlements.

BARBARA ROGERS

SITTING IN TRIVIA . . .

COMMITTEE 3

people with useable water within the next 15 years. The US moved that the specific date was unrealistic and that a phrase like "at the earliest possible date" should be substituted. Surprisingly, or perhaps not quite so unexpectedly the amendment seemed to be getting into the record without let or hindrance, when the Canadians intervened.

"We had hoped," the Canadian spokesman said, "that the target date might be earlier than 1990. We are afraid that when this recommendation goes out into the

world, 'earliest possible date' will have no relevance. We must have a specific date, even if the attempt to achieve the target is to fail."

In the event, the date 1990 was restored to the draft with the words "if possible" tacked on at the end. As the Ghanaian delegate was moved to observe: "If they are not careful we will have 'if possible' at the end of every resolution."

Committee 3 having apparently been aroused to a global consciousness for a few moments then sadly returned to piling trivia upon trivia as it ploughed through its quota of work for the rest of the day.

Move against multinationals

INDUSTRIALISED countries involved in the plundering of South African resources are helping racist governments to maintain their apartheid policies, a Forum audience was told yesterday. A seminar sponsored by the African Human Settlements Group and chaired by Dr. E.O. Adeniyi of the University of Ibadan in Nigeria, asked support for a proposal urging the official Conference to condemn multinational corporations for their economic activity in southern Africa.

The proposal says blacks in the Republic of South Africa, Namibia and Rhodesia are victims of relocation plans, and that more than three million have been moved from their homes. "Their human rights have been denied. A racist government has decided to shape their lives without concern for what is best for them."

The proposal condemns the interests of such companies as General Motors, Ford, IBM, ITT, Exxon, Toyota and Nissan for supporting racist governments and exploiting human and natural resources. The audience unanimously supported the resolution and Adeniyi said it would be taken to the Conference.

US NGOs prepare Forum blast

AMERICAN NGO representatives at Jericho Beach were consulting their headquarters yesterday on the preparation of a statement denouncing the whole Habitat Forum set-up. "We care to contribute experience, knowledge and goodwill to a parallel conference, but we were not prepared to a concept of the Forum as a counter-conference", said Marion Parks, of the Environment Forum, yesterday.

"Both the setting of Habitat Forum and its management are completely counter-productive to the original concept of it. We have been unable to have any effect, either on the Conference or on each other. We agree that the Forum should have an educational function, but as it is now it is even very hard to distinguish the delegates from the public. This is most detrimental for the American NGOs, who are not able to show the delegates from developing countries the difference between their own policies and those of the US Government."

PROFESSIONAL UN conference-attenders might remember him from Stockholm, dressed in the flags of all nations and wearing a blue Martian mask. His name was Herb Remedie, he's from Vancouver and he's planning to carry his version of street theatre with an ecological awareness into this conference.

Remedie is passing out Earthlings Survival Party memberships — no passport, no visa, no papers needed . . . we all live on the Earth. That's something he started last April when the world population passed the four billion mark.

Remedie is also giving away money, for what he calls "alive ideas." He is interested in what you do with your compost heap, how you want to stop the United States Government from building a nuclear submarine base 100 miles south of here, pretty vegetable gardens and how to restore Jericho Beach to a natural environment after Habitat is over. Look for the man dressed in Habitat silver dollars.

In other words, the attempt should be made to provide several hundred million



Correa: More to land than owning

TRANSFER of urban land from private to public ownership is no panacea itself for housing the poor in Third World cities, Charles Correa told a Forum session on land use and ownership yesterday.

The Bombay architect said communal ownership was a prior condition for effective action, but restructuring the city was the heart of the matter.

Correa said the poor did not come to the city to find housing, but to find work. They needed access to areas of employment, either by public transport, or housing within

NGOs to make second statement

NGOS will begin work today on a second statement intended to make the official Conference take note of Forum views on the main issues under consideration by the government delegations. Forum chairman J.G. van Putten announced at yesterday's morning briefing that a drafting session will be held at 1500 today in the Plenary Hall. He said the second statement should address itself specifically to issues under discussion. "We will only be heard if we have something to say on the issues."

He urged Forum members with a particular point of view to press it through the lobbying facilities at the Georgia, as relations between the Forum and the Conference are "not such that all delegates will see the Forum statements or read them."

Van Putten said a day would be set aside later this week — probably Friday — to evaluate the Forum and discuss possible future action.

walking distance of their jobs. "When the government tried to take the poor off the pavements of Bombay, the smart ones came back. They knew where the opportunities were."

Housing for the poor was primarily a question of land-use allocation, Correa said, advocating settlements which included a mixture of classes, skills and incomes. "Otherwise, ghettos develop." The added benefit was that offices and industry would generate a surplus value which could be used to subsidise housing and transport for the poor.

Low income housing was also a trade off between building costs and what Correa called "sky space." Most Third World cities were in climates warm enough to permit outdoor living. One-storey houses with some open air areas could be built cheaply out of local materials such as bamboo or mud.

Multi-storey buildings could house more people, but at a higher cost.

Opting for "sky space" presented planners with another problem - how much land to allocate for each house. If 50 metres was allocated when 45 would do, then the community lost the benefit of whatever social use the extra five would contribute.

Dr. Darin Drabkin of Israel said public land ownership was the basis for planned human settlements, and that all surplus created by public investment should be returned to the community.

George Manuel, president of the World Council of Indigenous People, said his people — the Indians of Canada — believed in communal ownership of land. The biggest struggle now facing Canadian Indians was to reclaim the ancient land rights lost when they agreed to share their lands with European settlers.

TO VISITORS at the outdoors exhibits area at Habitat Forum, there is a very simple message. Oil heating systems, flush toilets, power lines and many building materials are already relics of the past. For the tents, tepees, geodesic domes, cabins and houses erected here are made out of a variety of materials, ranging from sulphur and sand and polyurethane foam to cardboard.

Compost toilets are favoured over Sir Thomas Crapper's invention, which is damned for wasting precious water. Electrical power is generated by windmills and solar energy is used for heating, cooking and growing plants.

The Now House (above left), based on the ideas of R. Buckminster Fuller, comprises three geodesic domes made out of fibre-glass. Rainwater is collected, heated by the sun and then cycled from the kitchen to the shower or toilet. The waste water is then purified through a solar still and recycled back into the system.

The Stackwall House (above right), is made out of mortar and logs with a sawdust and lime insulation system. It was built by the department of civil engineering of the University of Manitoba from materials scrounged off the beach, and cost only \$350.

CONFERENCE PROFILE

"SELF-HELPERS depress me," says Charles Correa, provocatively, at a conference where self-help groups are very much in evidence. By this he has in mind well meaning efforts at "moving people out to self-help schemes on the edge of cities where they become a ghetto of cheap labour."

Correa, master mind behind the planning of the new Bombay, a growth centre for two million people being designed and developed across the harbour from the existing city, has a more positive vision of the future. The great growth of the developing world he sees as "a thing of hope. What you see today is only a quarter of what you will see in the future. This means that the dimensions of the problem are big enough to force us to restructure our settlements."

The message he has been working hard to put across — at yesterday's Forum meetings and elsewhere — is that settlements are a matter of space, that settlements are more than houses (residential plots are only 20 per cent of a city) and that housing cannot be separated from transport, jobs, and the wider dimensions of land use and natural resources. In Bombay there was no alternative to "rearranging the scenery on a massive scale."



"Today," says Correa, "almost the entire building industry in all our major cities is turning out a product that only the middle and upper classes can afford . . . in their confusion and desperation, architects and engineers start searching for new 'miracle' technologies. But the problem of housing the vast majority of our urban people is not one of finding miracle building materials or construction technologies; it is primarily a matter of re-establishing land-use allocations." Correa remains a part-time private architect, though his work has included the Previ low-cost housing project in Lima and the chairmanship of Bombay's housing, urban renewal and ecology board. His hobby is playing with trains.

example of Mexican federal money being used to upgrade villages that attract American tourists. She said the money didn't change the basic conditions of the people, merely improved roads and whitewashed houses. In India, she said the government erected a wall around one city slum and planted flowers on top of it. Srinivasan said cities must stop being planned by "garden city standards taken from alien cultures."

Frene Grinwala, of the South African Liberation Front, said her country prided itself on being industrially the most progressive in Africa, yet racism was institutionalised and a privilege system entrenched for a minority of the population.

Grinwala said a government resettlement programme will move 13.9m people (of a total population of 20m) to camps and barren lands far from their homes. Most of the people to be moved are black, old, infirm, unemployed, women and children. Black African men were regarded as labour units, with no rights to a home or family.

During the afternoon session, Srinivasan said Indians would explain India to the Forum because "we have heard everyone at Habitat speak for us."

K. Reghuramaiah, India's Minister of Housing, defended his country's policy of resettling squatters who "build houses overnight without authority." He said the Indian Government had decided to remove unauthorised settlements and give building facilities to the squatters, at the same time providing transport to take them to their jobs. India's housing policy was too proud and designed to remove slums and prevent squatter settlements through satellite towns. "There is no other way to solve the problem except by resettlement," he said.

When members of the audience pressed speakers on the resettlement issues, Kirtee Sha, an architect from Gujarat who has organised a volunteer professional group to improve slum conditions, accused them of talking about people they had not seen. He said the audience also did not understand the aspirations of the Indian poor.

Sha said he had worked on a resettlement in Gujarat involving 2,500 families

who moved voluntarily to a site some distance from their former home. "Contrary to academic judgment, they moved on their own and were glad to do so."

He described India's land policy, which has provided free housing sites for six million people, as "one of the most revolutionary in the developing world."

During another Forum seminar on housing, Dr. Otto Koenigsberger had some advice for planners who want to resettle slum dwellers — don't do it.

Koenigsberger, of the Development Planning Unit in London, and author of a conference background paper on absorbing newcomers into cities, said the answer was to upgrade slum settlements by providing water, electricity, and security of tenure.

He told a workshop on government-NGO co-operation for improving human settlements that forcibly moving people hurts them, and is expensive. "Urban slum dwellers are there because that's where they earn their living."

Koenigsberger said that all resources should be put into building houses, and it made no sense to pull them down by demolishing slum areas. The money should be spent opening up new land, and helping people to build their homes. "Settlement, not resettlement is the answer."

A TRUE COMMUNITY contains people of all ages, occupations, races, temperaments and interests, anthropologist Margaret Mead said yesterday. She spoke as part of the Vancouver Symposium lecture series.

"We will cripple the next generation if we condemn them to live in a town where there are no old people or no children, no unfortunates in need of help and no handicapped in need of care, no people of a different skin colour, where no one speaks a different language, where everyone is rich or everyone is poor."

Mead said people can become fragmented by bureaucracies, mass production and impersonal decision-making on a dehumanised scale. She said the people who plan communities must have "their fingers on the pulse of our local and national, continental and planetary life."

jericho

Editor: John Rowley.

Design-editorial production: Jack Glatfisch, David Sinclair.

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Telephones: Main editorial desk - 733-4223;

Media centre office, 669-4932; Jericho Beach office, 734-1361 ext. 44.

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Energy: when the waste has to stop

As chairman of Canada's new national energy corporation, Petro-Canada, Maurice Strong is concerned with the entire range of energy resources. This call for a new approach to energy planning is taken from his lecture last week to Habitat Forum.

WHATEVER patterns of human settlement develop by the year 2000, those settlements will depend upon diverse and vast supplies of energy. But if we assume that a decent standard of life for the world's people inevitably requires increasing per capita consumption of energy, we are most likely to be planning for an energy-starved world or an ecological disaster—or perhaps both.

And if we are to make better use of energy in human settlements we must break with past and current trends. Our experience in the recent past has made us wasteful, rather than wise. In the last 15 years, world use of energy has approximately doubled.

Although energy use has recently increased most rapidly in the less wealthy areas of the world, in Africa and Asia, total consumption in these regions is still only a fraction of what it is in North America. North America now uses about five times as much energy as is consumed in all of Asia, and per capita consumption is about 24 times higher.

It has been estimated that, in 1975, people in the United States wasted more fossil fuel than was used by two-thirds of the world's population.

The modern pattern has been that no matter how extravagant the style of life, people have sought, and usually have found, the energy to support it. The jet plane makes it possible for executives and middle echelon managers to attend hundreds of meetings a year scattered across continents, or even across oceans, without serious question as to their utility.

Indeed, in Canada, we have not troubled to implement a distinctive architecture for those of our settlements which are subarctic, although our more thoughtful architects have produced appropriate designs.

We must break from this pattern of rapid expansion in the use of energy and we must stress the conservation and reallocation of energy. The figures for world energy use show that the major breakthrough can be made in the rich countries.

A 5 per cent per capita reduction in European energy consumption would save as much energy as a 54 per cent reduction in Africa. Though important energy savings can most readily be made in rich countries, it is still vital for the poorest countries to stress conservation and efficiency of use.

This emphasis on conservation of energy rests on two convictions. First, human life is uniquely dependent upon energy, and there are many people, probably the majority of mankind, whose lives are seriously restricted by lack of it. Even the most basic improvement in living conditions which are now below minimal standards of human decency will require increased use of energy. Population growth will further increase the demand.

Second, I think it would be most imprudent to expect any technological

breakthrough which will quickly meet our demand for energy. Progress is likely to be steady rather than spectacular. We must remember that conservation is the least expensive source of energy.

Against the economics of saving energy we should set another hard fact. The costs of new energy are likely to keep increasing, and we can be particularly certain that the discovery and development costs of new oil will keep rising rather sharply.

The ways of conserving energy and of utilizing alternate energy sources are often quite obvious, but they are critically important if we are to have the necessary energy for the more crowded world of the year 2000. All these remedies have been possible for a decade. When will the commitment of citizens be sufficient to spur governments into action?

It is urgent to replace some fossil fuels and the possibilities of energy substitution are numerous, but the great question remains — how can energy best be utilized in order to maintain a basic standard of life?

There is evidence that some of the large cities in the less wealthy countries use less energy per person than is used in the rural areas.

However, in these cities, the use of energy is already too low. Life in the slums of vast cities is sub-human, the water supply for the city may be grossly inadequate and dangerously impure. Waste disposal also is so inadequate as to endanger health, and many great rivers and lakes have been sacrificed to our shortcut methods of waste disposal.

Only systematic planning backed by adequate technology and physical resources can deal with these massive urban dangers. The planning and the action must also cut across several levels of government — from municipal to national — and may need to be supported by international action to make the necessary resources available.

However, if the treatment of the problem is systematic and comprehensive rather than piecemeal, there can be a multiplier effect. If we have the will to plan and invest in better waste disposal systems, we can, for example, gain better water by easing pollution of lakes and streams and, at the same time, gain an important source of organic material for sustaining the fertility of our soils. Some waste processing systems can even produce energy. This interrelatedness of problems of settlements, energy use, food production, and human well-being makes the future planning of human settlements one of the greatest challenges men have ever faced.

Yet, I must express a grave doubt. Our generation, the generation which has organized this international Conference, may not have the will to break out of the pattern of limited planning. Make no mistake, it will require an enormous effort of will to break out of old habits, the old acceptance of growth for the sake of growth, and the old emphasis on consumption as the key to happiness.

In another generation the problems will have reached such magnitude that they will require nothing short of genius and heroism in order to save man's Habitat for another hundred years.



Empire building — a popular conference sport

Sir,

Mr Allen's article (Jericho No 6) would have the reader conclude that UNEP wants to consolidate all Human Settlements activities in Nairobi.

In actuality, the UNEP proposal for institutional arrangements for the international programme is quite flexible as regards location. Key activities including general direction and policy formulation would be centred at Nairobi, but the financial operations of the Foundation would be located at an appropriate financial centre. Much of the technical support activity, while directed from New York or Nairobi, would be decentralised to the regions.

David Munro,
Head, UNEP Delegation.

Sir,

Writing spontaneously as a self-appointed delegate who travelled more than 4,000 miles to attend the meetings, I find the Forum setting to be imaginative, appropriate, ingenious, specious and an interesting use of natural media. It was cold for the first few days, but I'm sure participants don't consider it a hardship to use military blankets to provide warmth while talking about the energy crisis and the necessity for fuel preservation. The use of perfectly adequate wooden benches and rudimentary toilet facilities will serve as a reminder that one of our goals might be the provision of these same facilities for the poorest 75 per cent of the world's population.

Whatever may be the result of these meetings, the city of Vancouver and the individuals responsible for the design and construction of Habitat Forum facilities deserve a hardy round of applause.

Jane Smith Garces
Bogota, Colombia

Sir,

I issue a call to action. We are now approaching the mid-point of Habitat and

Backchat

many good ideas and results have been presented. Yet an air of futility still hangs around the Forum, especially when mention is made of the downtown activities.

The common message from every speaker is that change must come from each one of us as an individual, as a community member and as a planetary citizen. Let each of us return with that message. It should guide all new and old technologies, planning methods and government decisions.

Richard Roth
Experimental Cities, Inc.
Intermediate Technology
(of California)

Sir,

Dr. Slooff's comments on my talk at the Plenary session (Jericho 3 June) were both unkind and irrelevant. No one claims that malaria spraying operations have had no benefit.

The problem is that: (1) the benefits are now doubtful since many (if not most) malaria conquests have now had irreversible setbacks due to mosquito resistance or administrative dead-ends; (2) there is now ample evidence that implicates malaria DDT sprayings as the main culprit in causing very high levels of DDT residue in human milk, and (3) the spraying approach to disease eradication is a diversionary tactic. No disease will be eradicated, no exploding population growth controlled and no poor housing abolished until development efforts take on the entire spectrum of social, cultural and ecological, as well as economic, factors into account.

M. Taghi Tarvar
Iran

DECLARATION OF THE VANCOUVER SYMPOSIUM

Time to draw back from brink of chaos

Habitat is turning out declarations like confetti. But it is unlikely that a clearer blueprint for "resolute action to turn the world's settlements from areas of potential breakdown, violence and despair and give them the promise of becoming truly human communities" will emerge than yesterday's statement from the Vancouver Symposium. This is the full text.

IN THE course of the first week of Habitat, the Declaration, published on 30 May 1976 by the members of the Vancouver Symposium, has been the subject of some comment and discussion. This particular document is a response to these comments and queries and is issued by the rapporteur after consultation with other members of the Symposium.

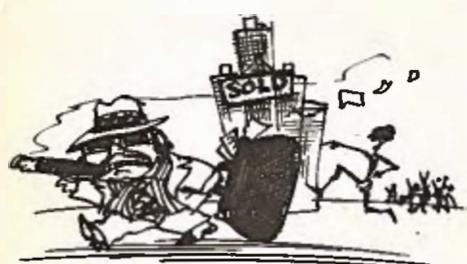
The Declaration is not designed to recapitulate all the important decisions and proposals of earlier UN conferences. Nevertheless, we would like to stress the degree to which effective action in human settlements requires the realisation of earlier governmental resolutions taken in such areas as:

- the monitoring and preservation of the life support systems of the biosphere — air, soil, fish, fresh water and the oceans (Stockholm 1972);
- the provision of adequate nutrition, maternal and child care, and family planning services available to couples and individuals to secure the survival of children and a consequent reduction in family size (Bucharest 1974);
- the creation of emergency food stocks, the building of a world grain reserve system and a large increase in investment in Third World agriculture (Rome 1974);
- the participation of women in every stage of the design, planning, implementation and evaluation of the development process at all levels of society, global, national and local (Mexico City 1974).

We repeat our conviction that, in the past, settlements have been all too often the residual result of decisions taken about other issues — agricultural policy, transport, resources, industrialisation — and have reflected the systems of production and of political decision-making in the community at large.

We reaffirm our belief that the quality of life of human beings in their settlements, their relations with each other and with their natural environment, their access to work, income, culture and the values of the spirit are the prime purpose of the community's economic activity and development. Settlements can become "lead sectors" in the healthy maintenance of an economy or in its necessary growth. The resources and labour of all kinds required for this over-riding priority are available. But it can be impeded by lack of political will. It can be blocked by methods of development which put "growth first and redistribution later" and leave society with vested interests, private and public, which become impassable obstacles to social equality and full participation.

To put an end to the profound inequities in income distribution and in citizen participation in all societies, developed and developing alike, is the fundamental purpose of making humane and decent settlements the central organizing principle of society and of the economy.



Control over land use

To this end, the community must first of all control the use of land. The forms of control vary with different stages of development and forms of society but a balance has to be achieved between securing the community's over-riding responsibility for its basic, unexpandable resource — land — and various forms of security of tenure required to give individual citizens a sense of continuity and, particularly in urban communities, incentives to self-help. The community's control has a number of implications for public policy.

The organisation of the whole national territory as the basis of settlements planning

The whole national territory must be the area of control. While action for social change goes forward, there must also be a careful mapping of resources, soil types, eco-systems, and areas of unique beauty — natural or man-made. This basic survey of the national endowment can then be a better basis for the optimum location of new sites for settlements and provide guidance for the renewal of existing communities.

The reinforcement of intermediate cities and rural settlements to create systems which strengthen agriculture and lessen the pressure on the biggest cities.

A particular need in many countries is to redress the neglect of rural areas and to stimulate agricultural production and employment. This requires not only a wholly new emphasis on such public works as reforestation, water conservancy, land reclamation. It also needs a careful organisation of villages and intermediate centres linked to the whole settlement system — from metropolis to village — by networks of public transport and communication which are not themselves environmentally disruptive.

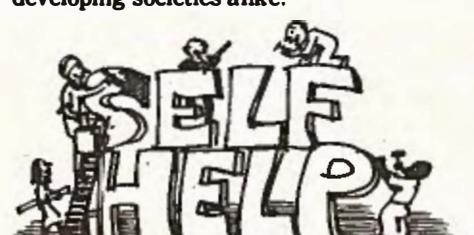


The creation of better-balanced communities in which the mix of different social groups, occupations, housing and amenities ends all forms of social segregation.

The same balance of optimum siting is required within settlements to secure safe, quick access to work, residence and recreation, to build neighbourhoods with a fully human variety of ages, incomes, occupations, cultures and interests. In many developed societies, this objective is entirely defeated by the divisions between centre city and suburban belt, by increased reliance on private cars and the decay of public transport.

The securing for the community of unearned increment from land sales.

The kind of settlements strategy based upon the best use of sites and the most neighbourly forms of community cannot be achieved without securing the unearned increment from land sales. Values created by the community's needs must be returned to the community. Speculative land markets build inflation into all forms of construction and increase the evils of social segregation. Speculative land markets are also a contributing factor to the choice of high rise buildings which, built with total disregard to social costs, are proving to be prime causes of stress, violence and vandalism among poor urban dwellers in developed and developing societies alike.



In developing societies, the encouragement in migrant communities of the full range of "self help", by means of security of tenure and assistance with essential services.

Low-rise housing, especially in developing societies, is also the only type of shelter people can construct for themselves, once they are given security of tenure and public assistance with essential services.

The importance of housing built by people themselves and the activity and employment the whole process generates is a reminder that the kind of jobs created in building more humane and more environmentally satisfactory settlements do not require large-scale mechanisation and industrialisation of building techniques. The search for "human scale", for neighbourly values and sound environmental conditions in settlements can also provide socially useful labour, multiply jobs, increase skills and draw citizens into the construction or maintenance of their own communities.

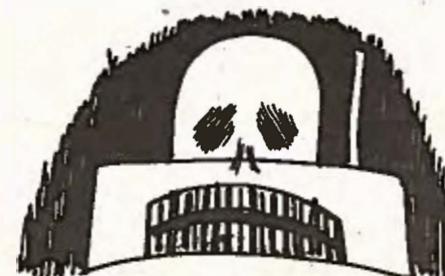


Special emphasis on the provision of clean water by a specific date.

Most essential services can be provided only by public authorities. Of these, the most critical is clean water which, for a sum not much exceeding \$3,000m a year for about a decade, could be provided to everyone in all human settlements by, say, 1990.

The introduction of conserving and recycling services.

In developing countries, the provision of safe water needs to be accompanied by simple, basic services of drainage and garbage collection. As wealth increases, such services can be expanded on an incremental basis. They should seek from the start to separate industrial from municipal waste and every modern technique of recycling metals and organic materials should be introduced as soon as possible in order to cleanse the environment, recycle wastes and thus help to provide necessary municipal funds.



A moratorium on the adoption of nuclear power generation, and emphasis on environmentally safe and economically cheap "income energies" such as solar power.

In this context, the fundamental importance of energy for all societies, developed and developing, should be underlined. But given the extravagant waste of energy in developed societies and the number of alternative energy options open to all societies — coal, crop fuels, solar energy, wind power, oceanic and geothermal energy — it is vital that mankind should not be stampeded into the nuclear option before far more certainty exists than its potentially catastrophic consequences — for man and for nature — can be overcome. We repeat our plea for a moratorium on the use of nuclear power

generation and we add to it an equally strong demand that developing countries with scarce energy supplies be helped in every way to develop indigenous energy resources. These may not only be safer. They can be under local control and decentralised on a scale which allows public participation in decisions about energy use and distribution.

The reorganisation of national, regional and local government to respond to the new emphasis on human settlements.

This respect for the people's right to be consulted and involved has wider implications both for the national and the international community. Full participation in community decision-making is blocked if society's concentrations of wealth or power (or both) leave citizens with a sense that they are basically powerless.

Genuine participation, therefore, requires not only to be reinforced by basic minimum standards of good water, health, income, and literacy. It also requires a quite new consideration of "upper limits" to the personal consumption of energy and resources and to the extent and concentration of political and bureaucratic control.

The issue is all the more urgent in that, with the increasing possibility of the earth's resources not being adequate to provide "developed" levels of income for all, large concentrations of personal wealth will more and more imply absolute deprivation in other parts of the local and global community.

A further challenge to public authorities at all levels is the fact that in circumstances of rapid change, it is difficult not to bewilder and entrap citizens in a whole set of changing and often contradictory strategies evolved at different levels of government and by different interests and agencies. It should be a fundamental principle of development in settlements that local and national authorities and also international aid-agencies avoid these overlapping confusions. One of the potential advantages in planning for whole settlements and not for sectors (or interests) is that such a focus of policy can encourage coherent internal strategies and help to coordinate external proposals and assistance.

A commitment on the part of the international community to make the basic services in human settlements a first call on capital assistance.

A new direction in research and academic institutions to give the problems of settlements the attention and the data-base they require.

The need for coherent internal and external strategies should determine the type of international organisation set up to carry on the work of Habitat. The functions of this body are more vital than its location. They must be responsive to regional and local variations in culture and development. They must secure the widest possible cooperation from all local citizens — from the universities to the building unions. They must support — not raid — such irreplaceable instruments of creative change as national research teams. They must foster the development of the new discipline of critical areas as, to name only a few, the employment patterns of the conserving society, the balance needed between community control and private initiatives, the adaptation of traditional communal values to new concepts of citizen welfare. A pledge taken here at Habitat to set in motion the co-operative process of settlement development and improvement.

Given the immense urgency of the crises confronting human settlements, governments and the international community should be urged to give as much attention to the follow-up of Habitat as they have given to the preparatory process.

SELECCIONES

Transcurrida la mitad de Hábitat los participantes del Simposio de Vancouver enfatizan su convicción de que esta Conferencia sobre Asentamientos Humanos trata los problemas de mayor importancia encarados por la humanidad. Para lograr sus objetivos, los participantes del Simposio proponen enfáticamente: agua potable para todos en 1990 y asignar en esta Conferencia las cantidades presupuestarias necesarias; el control de las tierras responsabilidad de las comunidades; energía para todos los asentamientos, evitando su derrame y el lanzamiento prematuro a una opción nuclear; construir, mantener y renovar los asentamientos en forma tal que termine las distorsiones actuales sobre ingresos oportunidades y amenidades entre ricos y pobres; planejar los asentamientos con entendimiento y respeto a las condiciones del medio ambiente nacional, regional y del planeta entero; dar participación a los ciudadanos antes de la adopción de políticas afectantes a la comunidad; preservar la riqueza, variedad de valores y culturas y tradiciones en los asentamientos del mundo mediante el trabajo de agencias públicas y privadas dedicadas a los asentamientos humanos. Los miembros del Simposio repiten su llamado a los gobiernos para que den un efecto positivo a las resoluciones aprobadas en otras conferencias anteriores de la ONU sobre Ambiente Humano, Población, Alimentos, y la Condición de la Mujer. Dada la presionante urgencia de los problemas encarados por los asentamientos humanos los gobiernos y el sistema de las Naciones Unidas deben dar la misma atención y esfuerzo al seguimiento de Hábitat como lo han hecho al proceso preparatorio.

En reacción al arresto de dos mil filipinos el sábado pasado en Manila, un grupo de profesionales participantes en el

simposio sobre vivienda económica y de autoayuda del Foro Hábitat, pidió ayer a las Naciones Unidas el cumplir con los principios enunciados para Hábitat mediante la adopción de una resolución la cual reprende al Gobierno Filipino por impedir la participación en Hábitat de los auténticos representantes y por el arresto de dos mil personas que protestaron su falta de representación en esta conferencia. Igualmente, el grupo de profesionales demandó que la ONU recomiende al Gobierno Filipino la suspensión del Concurso Internacional de Arquitectura para Manila, al menos que los habitantes del distrito Tondo tengan una directa participación en la implementación de los planes para su comunidad. El grupo manifestó que el concurso de Manila viola la declaración de principios de la ONU en lo concerniente a la efectiva participación popular en el planeamiento de asentamientos.

NOUVELLES

Un concours tel que le Concours International d'Architecture de Manille est un scandale, a déclaré M. Weill, de l' Union Internationale des Architectes. L'on savait au départ que c'était de la pure utopie et il apparaît maintenant fort douteux qu'il soit jamais construit. Grouper cinq cents familles dans chaque *barranguay* chacun avec son centre d'énergie et sa coopérative de construction, permettre aux habitants de ces voisnages de s'éduquer progressivement et arriver ainsi à acquérir une certaine autonomie, c'est de l'utopie. C'est du moins ce que laissent penser les autorités Philippines, qui ne sont pas disposées à mettre en œuvre le projet séduisant de Ian Athfield, le gagnant néo-zélandais, suivant les principes de base de ce projet. A quoi tout cet argent dépensé aura-t-il servi? Méme les quelques quatre cent cinquante architectes participants au concours, ont-ils appris quelque chose, ou dépensé leur énergie en vain?

On parle beaucoup de participation, à Hábitat: à la Conférence il s'agit de participation intergouvernementale, au Forum, de participation populaire, que quelqu'un a qualifiée de romantique. Et on ne s'entend guère. Telle forme de participation coûte cher au Royaume Uni, alors que, dans les pays en voie de développement, rien ne se ferait sans elle. John Turner s'est déclaré contre une forme de participation où des organisations politiques ou professionnelles diraient aux gens ce qu'ils doivent faire, et ceux-ci le feraient à leurs frais, c'est-à-dire, du point de vue de ces organisations, gratuitement.

Les gens ont l'habileté de s'organiser et de planifier, et la productivité des organisations locales est généralement supérieure à celle des grandes organisations. Celles-ci coûtent au contribuable; ce sont les gens à petits revenus qui subventionnent les plus fortunés, a ajouté Turner. Jacques Burnicourt, de Dakar, a cité le cas d'un bidonville où, afin de réduire la pollution de l'eau responsable d'une sérieuse épidémie infantile, il fallait avant tout construire des égouts. La ville venant de dépenser un milliard pour pavé les rues d'un quartier résidentiel n'avait pas les quatre vingt millions nécessaires aux travaux. Les habitants concernés ont alors revu les plans et décidé de faire eux-mêmes les travaux, ce qui a fait tomber le coût pour la ville à huit millions.

Les architectes et autres professionnels ont tendance à être élitisés dans beaucoup de pays, notamment ceux en voie de développement lorsqu'ils ont été formés suivant des normes occidentales. La population doit être éduquée pour résoudre ses aspirations et ses rêves propres, et non ceux des architectes et des politiciens. Participer c'est travailler ensemble, dit un architecte mexicain. Le toit est une partie intime de l'habitat: on doit avant tout créer une unité sociale, avec ses services principaux. Ensuite les gens peuvent se construire leur propre maison.

Geneviève Lemarchand

Now read on

1011: Worlds of Patrick Geddes. an English biologist and early town planner, is the title of a new book by Philip Boardman, of the University of Oslo, to be published later this year by Routledge & Kegan Paul of London. Geddes, who died in 1932, did pioneer work in town planning and slum clearance in Edinburgh in the 1880s. Between 1914 and 1923 he reported on studies of about 50 cities and towns in India. Geddes wrote *City Development and Cities in Evolution*, both influential books on city planning.

Philip Boardman has also been concerned with habitat, as secretary of the international recruiting committee wanting to make a set of "Patrick Geddes Proposals" to the Conference to recognise Geddes "early ecological warning" as being even more important today than when first sounded in 1884.

Lewis Mumford has described Boardman's new book on Geddes as "the fullest account that has yet been published of that original and wide-ranging personality. This book will long remain an indispensable introduction to that great pioneer of twentieth century thought."

"In the Vancouver area, not one single municipality is seriously considering doing anything significant to reduce housing costs," says Ian Beveridge in his paperback *A Third Eye View of the Greater Vancouver Housing Scene*. Available at local bookstores at \$2.95.

More is Less by Elizabeth Bardwell is a small paperback selling at \$2.25. It tells what happened to an American community which grew from 80,000 to 180,000 between 1948 and 1970. Order from the book store in Hangar 8 or from Capital Community Citizens, 114 W Carroll St., Madison, Wisconsin, USA.

NOTICE BOARD

Habitat Housing, 3396 West Broadway, has mail for Claudia Dutra, Brazil. Tel: 732-1191.

The International Housing Association will hold a press conference for media at 1000 in the Queen Anne Room, Georgia Hotel. The theme will be Rural Housing, a Challenge for World Community.

Virojna Bangcham of the Thai delegation lost his passport and government documentation when his briefcase disappeared from Committee 3. The papers were in a standard conference briefcase, which someone may have mistaken for his own. Could it please be returned to the Habitat Secretariat.

There will be a meeting of the Jericho site staff today at Hangar 5, Room A at 21.00. The future of the site will be discussed.

Energy: Energy from humans, the solar system and from the biomass are alternative sources of energy for the Third World, according to George L. Chan of New Caledonia. Chan says developing countries must realize they cannot buy outside energy.

programme

CONFERENCE

- 1000-1300 — Plenary and Committees convene. Speakers at the Plenary:
1. Afghanistan: Dr. A. Wasee Basharyar, President of Central Authority of Town Planning and Habitat.
- 2. Denmark: Hege Nielsen, Minister of Housing and Environment.
- 3. Swaziland: Prince Masisela Dalamin, Minister for Local Administration.
- 4. Ecuador: Alfonso Arcos, President of the National Planning Board.
- 5. Libyan Arab Republic: Muftah Kaiba, Minister of Housing.
- 6. African National Congress of South Africa: Sindicato Mienyana, Head of Delegation.
- 7. Nepal: Dr. Ratna Shumshere J.B. Rana, Honorable Member of National Planning Commission.
- 8. Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (South Africa): Mokalake Elias Ntloedibe, Administrative Secretary, Leader of P.A.C. Delegation.
- 9. Trinidad and Tobago:
- 10. International Cooperative Alliance: Wallace J. Campbell, Permanent Representative to the United Nations.
- 11. International Chamber of Commerce: J.A. Armstrong, Chairman of Imperial Oil (Canada).
- 12. International Confederation of Free Trade Unions: Heinz Umrath, Secretary, International Housing Committee.
- 13. Organization of African Trade Union Unity: Mr. Otieno Ooro, Director of the Organisation's Liaison Office to the United Nations.
- 1500-1800 —
1. Costa Rica: Eliodoro Jara, Head of Delegation.
- 2. Papua New Guinea: Paul Japhlom, General Manager, Housing Commission.
- 3. Peru: Isaias Paredes, Ministro, Vivienda y Construcción.
- 4. Panama: Dra. Ana H. de Pitti, Directora de Planificación Social Ministerio de Planificación y Política Económica.
- 5. A.N.C. of Zimbabwe:
- 6. International Planned Parenthood Federation: Dr. E.O. Pratt, Vice-President, UN-ECA Regional Adviser on Family Welfare.
- 7. International Association of Art: Guy Simser, Office of Design, Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce (Ottawa), (Spokesman for nine NGOs, signatories to the Nieborow Declaration).
- 8. Conference of NGOs in consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council: Dr. Diane Reed, (on behalf of 39 NGOs represented in the Committee on the United Nations Decade for Women).
- 9. International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources: Robert Allen, Representative.
- 10. World Federation of United Nations Associations: Thelma Baker, Representative.
- 11. International Federation of Home Economics: Dr. Bonnie Morrison, Representative.

FORUM

- 0900 — Briefing (Conference up-date) — Hangar 5-Plenary Plenary.
- 0900 — "Earthball". Children's Portable Theatre — Outdoor Stage.
- 0930 — Building Human Community. MacInnes Room, Gage Residence — U.B.C.
- 0930 — Discussion of "Survival". Sam Pagee — Hangar 5-Room I.
- 1000 — "La vivienda cooperativa" Francisco Ramirez — Hangar 6-Room F.
- 1000 — (Colombia). "All pedestrian, mass transport, low energy, land saving, new city types" Prof. Hans Asplund — Hangar 6-Room J.
- 1000 — World Council of Churches storytelling: "Forced Resettlement of Peoples: Janata & the Pacific." — Hangar 8-Conf. Room.
- 1015 — Community Action for a Better Habitat, Chairperson Mr. P. Psomopoulos (Secretary-General World Society for Ekistics), Panel: includes Jessica Fernandez-White (Philippines), Prof. Guidicini (Italy). — Hangar 5-Plenary Hall.
- 1015 — "Solving the Farm Land Crisis" Seminar on

Agricultural Land — Hangar 5-Room A.

1015 — "Solving the Farm Land Crisis: Seminar on Agricultural Land Preservation". Terry Simmons (Sierra Club.) — Hangar 5-Room A.

1015 — Appropriate Technology. 10:30 "A.T. in Tanzania" By Dick Stanley. 10:30 "A.T. in the Philippines" by John Keller, 11:30 "A.T. in Chile", by Joseph Valdez — Hangar-Room J.

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1015 — Natural Resources Management, Chairperson: Cyril Ritchie (E.L.B.) — Hangar 3-Theatre A.

1015 — Land Policies for Planned Human Settlements. Speakers: Charles Correa, R.W. Archer, Prof. Donald Hagman Dr. Darlin-Drabkin, Dr. David Morley, Jorge Hardoy, Charles Weir. — Hangar 3-Theatre B..

1015 — Energy Conservation Ideas for Existing Building Studies, Guidelines and Standards, Fred S. Dublin, (USA), contributed paper — Hangar 6-Room H.

1015 — Project Ouroboros, Prof. Dennis Holloway, (Highly recommended!) — Hangar 6-Room C.

1015 — S.H.S Self Help Housing Technology - New Methods

1015 — Self help housing room — Hangar 8.

1030 — Sunburst New Age Communities (Multi-media presentation) — Hangar 6-Room B.

1100 — Settlement Change in Papua New Guinea. — Hangar 8-Theatre 2.

1115 — "Landscape formations of settlements (The use of modern forms of plantation) Dr. G.P. Macris (Greece) contributed paper — Hangar 6-Room H.

1130 — Toward creating the interdisciplinary science of human settlement. Gamal El-Zoghby — Hangar 6-Room F.

1200 — Paper - "Demographic policy and mass-media" (in Spanish) — Hangar 6-Room J.

1200 — Films on Mayans (Mexico) and Guatemala — Hangar 6-Room B.

1230 — Discussion "Planning for people or profit?" R.J. Harvey — Hangar 8-Conference Room.

1230 — Landless without Landlords. Mr. Turnbull — Hangar 6-Room H.

1300 — UN film programme — Hangar 3-Theatre A.

1300 — "Planning Aid" Dave Lock — Hangar 6-Main Hall.

1300 — "Rehabilitation operations in the old center of the city of Tunis - Medina" (film) Dr. Mohammed El-Bahi — Hangar 6-Room C.

1300 — "Growing Connection" John Fagnotti — Hangar 6-Room J.

1300 — Nomadic Settlement Workshop. Centre for Endogenous Development Studies — Hangar 6-Room B.

1330 — Self-Help Housing Technology - Local Materials and Traditional Methods. Self-Help room — Hangar 8.

1400-1500 — Special Satellite Hook-up from Habitat Forum — South-East Room, Hangar 8.

1430 — Lunch Lecture, Jack Mundey (Australian Trade Union Leader) "The Role of Workers in Industrialized Societies in Achieving Global Egalitarianism" — Hangar 5-Plenary Hall.

1440 — Person-powered dialogue. Workshop-demonstration on Alternative Communication — Hangar 8-I.P.P.F. Stall

1400 — "I Ching" Friends of Nutmeg — Hangar 8-Conference Room.

1400 — Totally integrated Energy and Food Systems. Peter Keegan — Hangar 6-Room J.

1445 — Singapore. High Rise Commitment vs Quality of Life Standards, Ms Enid Holospole, contributed paper. — Hangar 6-Room H.

1445 — "The Struggle of a Neighborhood in Amsterdam" (slides) — Hangar 6-Room C.

1500 — SECOND FORUM STATEMENT — Hangar 5-Plenary Hall.

1500 — Community Action for a Better Habitat, Working Groups — Hangar 5-Rooms A & J.

1500 — Health & Human Settlements, Co-ordinator: Dr. Richard Abbou, and Professor J. Listori — Hangar 3-Room A.

1500 — Land Policies for Planned Human Settlements (Cont'd) — Hangar 3-Theatre B.

1500 — "How we saved Auckland's harbour from

Pollution" Sir Dove Myer Robinson (New Zealand) — Hangar 6-Room F.

1515 — "Education for Participation" Anthony Fyson & Salvador Jury — Hangar 8-Conference Room.

1530 — "Last Grave at Dimbaza" (film) South Africa Action Coalition — Hangar 6-Room B.

1540 — American Samoa: An Island Microcosm of Development and Environment Challenges, S. Scott Porter, contributed paper — Hangar 6-Room H.

1600 — Workshop: Science and Religion (Baha'i) — Hangar 5-Room D.

1630 — Indoor Air Pollutants in the Home Environment, Dr. Albert J. Fritsch, contributed paper — Hangar 6-Room H.

1630 — "Organic farming" Ted Owens — Hangar 6-Room J.

1700 — "Slow ways for transport" (slides) Elias Duek-Cohen — Hangar 6-Room H.

1730 — Sandplay for All Ages" Austin Delany — Hangar 8-Conference Room

1800 — Health Policies and Actions in Cuban Settlements (slides & film) Cuban Health Ministry — Hangar 3-Theatre B.

1800 — "Ekankar - A Way of Life" — Hangar 6-Room C.

1800 — The Declaration of Interdependence — Hangar 5-Room D.

1900 — Guru Blanket Man — Hangar 5-Plenary Hall.

1900 — World Soundscape, The Quality of the Acoustic Environment — Hangar 3-Theatre A.

1900 — Magna Carta human rights plan. John Franklin — Hangar 8-Conference Room.

1900 — Self-help Housing — Hangar 6-Room J.

1900 — International Sound Foundation Society - Your Precious Ears — Hangar 6-Room B.

1900 — International Sound Foundation Society — Your Precious Ears, speakers: H.M. James, President, Dr. Erwin Stewart, Dr. K. Tawsky, Dr. E. Sinanan, A.J. Smits, David Brown — Hangar 6-Room B.

1900 — Rural and Agricultural Development. film-workshop — Hangar 5-Room A.

1900 — Housing and Settlement Planning in Rural Development Melissa Burns — Hangar 5-Room J.

1900 — Aurolive (film or slides) — Hangar 6-Room C.

1900 — Communal life in Israel. Dr. Arie Shachar — Hangar 6-Room F.

1930 — S.H.S Self Help & Low Cost Housing, Technology - Summary: Self-Help & Low Cost Housing Room — Hangar 8.

2000 — Person-powered dialogue. Workshop-demonstration on Alternative Communication — Hangar 8-I.P.P.F. Booth.

2000 — Light Pollution presentation by Ralf Kelman — Hangar 3-Theatre A.

200

Food means wages says Robinson

FOOD is what you make it and the World Food Programme (WFP) is converting it into wages to produce capital projects like roads, community centres, piped water schemes and schools.

As WFP Executive Director Thomas Robinson said: "Mobilising food, giving it to people who do particular things, creates real capital — it converts unused human time and energy and talents into something else."

Robinson said in communities with a food problem "food is better than money. King Midas didn't eat very well you will recall."

The food-for-work programme works well in Asia but in South America and the Caribbean it is banned outright in some places and in others there is reluctance because of its associations with slave plantation labour conditions. "Many countries are reluctant to admit they can't feed their people," Robinson said.

But the emphasis at this Conference was on urban settlements which are not expected to feed themselves. Food is a factor but should not overshadow other issues, he said.

Was there a predominant issue? "I don't get any focus in the Plenary. Maybethere is

Habitat

a focus some place else but it hasn't really touched me yet."

This former farm boy from the American wheatlands, who has been with the WFP for 12 years, was undisguisedly proud that food-for-work had built 80,000 miles of roads — twice the circumference of the earth — roads which might not have been built without the programme.

But he was equally proud that only six per cent of WFP's budget goes on administrative costs and just a little guilty that WFP had three delegates at Habitat. "If anyone should have stayed at home it was me," he quipped. He made it very clear

WFP was against a new agency emerging from Habitat — the present UN set up was complicated enough, he said.

SECURITY was the tightest ever seen at the Queen Elizabeth Hall yesterday as the wife of the Philippine President, Mrs Imelda Marcos, addressed the Plenary session. But the expected demonstration by thousands against alleged maltreatment of squatters in Manila proved to be a rather damp squib.

While the security forces blocked off the roads and roped off the forecourt of the Queen Elizabeth Hall only about 200 demonstrators paraded with placards in a very decorous fashion.

It was a pale show in comparison with the demonstrations in Manila Sunday when it was reported that 2,000 slum dwellers and religious leaders were arrested by police for contravening the country's martial law proclamation of 1972 which bans demonstrations.

In the calm of the auditorium the elegant Philippine first lady told delegates that urbanisation was inevitable and irresistible as long as the city remains the fountain of civilisation. "The future is a world of cities," she said. "This Conference commits us to making the earth the city of humanity."

Mrs Marcos then swept through a cordon of security men who had sealed all but the front entrance to the building, and drove off in cavalcade flanked by outriders.

CHRIS DU TOIT, an NGO representative at the Forum, is a little reticent to speak his views on two counts. Firstly, he is from South Africa, a country that was not invited to the Conference. Secondly he works for a multi-national corporation.

Du Toit is a personnel consultant in industrial relations and housing for Anglo-American Corporation, the largest mining company in South Africa. He is one of six South African NGO people at the Forum.

"We're not interested in talking about politics but about human beings. If we participate too actively then there's too much argument and constructive discussion becomes destructive." Du Toit says he came to Habitat to see whether Anglo-American's housing for its workers was correct, and, if not, to suggest changes.

He says Anglo-American provides free housing for some 50,000 people in mining communities, with a minimum housing standard of a three-bedroom house of 65 square metres, up to a maximum of 280 square metres. Housing, he says, is tied to pay and is free of racial discrimination.

Du Toit says South Africa is one of the few places where the First and Third World live side by side. "It's as if you put Rio de Janeiro right here in Vancouver and of course you would then have discrepancies in housing and everything else."

"We all know there are things that are not right in South Africa. But hell, there's things not right in any country. Forgetting politics, South Africa is very conscious of the socio-economic needs of all its people. We've got water. We've got sewage systems. A lot of these problems being discussed at Habitat don't exist in our country."

DR. BABAR HAMID wants his papers back. "The documents were given to the custody of Alan Clapp on 31 May and he assured me they would be displayed within a day," Hamid said. "They now seem to have disappeared altogether."

Hamid, an advisor to the Pakistan delegation, says he can't conduct a seminar today unless the papers are returned. "I wish to voice my total disgust with the management of Habitat Forum who have not given any attention to the delegates who have very conscientiously come to attend the Conference."

Participation is the rage

Gremlin

'Don't look for dramatic events'

AN OPTIMISTIC note on the progress of the Habitat Conference has come from Pieter Keuneman, the Minister of Housing and Construction for Sri Lanka. Speaking at the early morning briefing session at the Forum, Keuneman said he disagreed with the scepticism being voiced in some sections of the media that Habitat was not worth the time, effort and money being put into it.

"The media like to concentrate on the dramatic," he said. "Habitat is not dramatic. It only becomes dramatic when it's not working." He said some people thought a conference such as Habitat was no use whatsoever "unless the affluent reach for their cheque books or reach some kind of joint executive action."

Changes would take place as a result of the Conference, but such changes would not come overnight. It was only now that "things are happening" as a result of the 1972 UN conference on the environment in Stockholm, Keuneman said.

Arts and Human Settlements:

A Forum workshop on Arts and Human Settlements has demanded recognition of the rights of all peoples in all cultures to creative expression and involvement in the planning, creation and development of their environments. The all-day session 4 June decided that settlement policies are too often exclusively concerned with physical necessities. "We insist that the arts in cultures are essential to all considerations of the quality of life and must be included in the development of all settlement policies."

ONE of the Forum focal points is the south end of Hangar 3, where three people have turned the corrugated iron surface into a traditional Haida design. The design was adapted by Bill Reid, a British Columbia artist, and executed by Frank York, Lenore Barron and Carlos Basanta. They covered six windows, each measuring 10 feet by 10 feet, with corrugated iron and primed the

entire 4,000-square-foot surface. The original design was reduced to a photographic color slide and projected onto the hangar at night by the light of the moon. Felt pens were used to outline the image and exterior latex paint applied with brushes. The mural took about two months to complete.

ticipants are able to see on closed circuit TV the discussions by governments of issues dear to their hearts. Up to yesterday this was true, but it is now no longer so.

Two of the three major documents before the UN Conference which have aroused the interest of NGOs are the Declaration of Principles and the Recommendations for International Co-operation. The first of these is designed to lay down the guidelines for action on human settlement issues and has been the subject of lengthy amendments, particularly by developing countries. The second document deals with the functions and structure of whatever international organisation is spawned by the

Conference itself: what its targets should be and how they might be achieved. This, predictably, has also been the subject of considerable horse trading between delegations.

So important are the debates on these issues that the UN Conference on Human Settlements yesterday decided to exclude non-governmental humans from the sessions and to black out all TV coverage of them. This is not entirely a bad thing in that it will at least convince any unofficial humans still cherishing hopes that governments mean what they say about participation, that the comfort of governments remains directly proportional to their distance from their electorates.

So much for participation.

Petition:

The Peace Action League group is sponsoring a petition to stop the nuclear arms race. Those interested in signing can visit the Peace Action League booth in Hangar 8.