
HABITAT, The United Nations Conference on Human Settlements Report of the Canadian Delegation

Approved by Canadian delegates at the final meeting
of the delegation on November 26, 1976 at Ottawa.

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Table of Contents

Introductory Note 1

Section I

The HABITAT Conference Preparatory Process 5

United Nations Objectives 5

Canadian Objectives 5

The International Preparatory Process 5

The Canadian Preparatory Process 6

Development of the Canadian Position 7

Section II

The Canadian Delegation 11

Composition of the Delegation 11

Delegation Organization during the Conference 11

Delegation Schedule during the Conference 13

Delegation Staff 14

Section III

HABITAT Conference Proceedings and Canada's Role 17

Opening of the Conference 17

Election of the Conference President 19

Adoption of the Rules of Procedure 19

Adoption of the Agenda 19

Constitution of Conference Committees 19

Election of other Conference Officers 19

Credentials of Representatives to the Conference 20

General Debate 20

Declaration of Principles 22

Recommendations for National Action 24

Settlement Policies and Strategies 25

Settlement Planning 26

Shelter, Infrastructure and Services 28

Land 30

Public Participation 33

Institutions and Management 35

Programmes for International Cooperation 36

International Programmes 36

International Institutional Arrangements 36

Adoption of the Report of the Conference 38

Section IV

Other HABITAT Conference Activities 41

The Audio-Visual Programme 41

Habitat Forum 45

Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the Canadian Delegation 47

The Special Role of Mayors 48

Media Relations 48

Section V

Appendices to the Delegation Report

- A Statement of Welcome by the Governor-General 51
- B Opening Statement by Prime Minister Trudeau 52
- C Statement by the Honourable Barney Danson on his election as Conference President 58
- D Statement in Plenary by the Honourable Allan MacEachen 60
- E Major Canadian Statements in the Conference Committees 64
 - (a) International Programmes of Cooperation 64
 - (b) Public Participation 66
 - (c) Post-HABITAT Use of the Audio-Visual Material 68
 - (d) New United Nations Institutional Arrangements on Human Settlements 70
- F Statement to the Final Plenary Session explaining Canada's Vote on the Declaration of Principles 74
- G The Canadian NGO Manifesto 75
- H Habitat Forum Statements 76
- I Declaration of the Vancouver Symposium 82
- J The Milan Declaration of the Conference of Mayors of the World's Major Cities 91
- K Members of the Canadian HABITAT Delegation 93
- L Canadian Delegation Staff 96
- M Chronology of Major Canadian and International Events leading up to HABITAT 98
- N Abbreviations used in the Report 102



The Plenary Sessions of Habitat, the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, were held in the Queen Elizabeth Theatre in downtown Vancouver. This photograph shows the podium and

part of the special seating arrangements for the representatives of 132 governments and 40 international agencies.

Introductory Note

Human settlements are becoming very large very quickly. Cities, towns and communities are having to deal with the problems created by this growth: water supply, shelter, energy, work, transport, pollution, aesthetic environment, protection, recreation, food supply . . . the list is endless. From May 31 to June 11, 1976 over 2000 experts and representatives of 132 nations met in Vancouver for two weeks to discuss solutions to these problems at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, known as HABITAT.

HABITAT was the formal and visible culmination of an extensive preparatory process, which began in June 1972 at the UN Conference on the Environment held in Stockholm. HABITAT lasted just two hectic weeks but its impact will last for many years, as the ideas and recommendations which emerged from the Conference work their way through national and international programs.

HABITAT had five major elements:

- the official Conference debates
- 249 audio-visual presentations prepared by individual nations and agencies to demonstrate their approach to solving particular human settlement problems.
- a parallel non-governmental conference, Habitat Forum, organized and run from May 27 to June 11, 1976
- extensive interaction between NGOs and delegates to the official Conference, with a highly organized and visible Canadian component.
- the participation of special interest groups; for example among the Canadian Delegation were local government representatives including mayors.

This report is divided into four sections and a number of appendices.

Section I outlines the extensive national and international preparatory process which led to the conference agenda and the Canadian position on each agenda item.

Section II of the report deals with the composition and organization of the delegation.

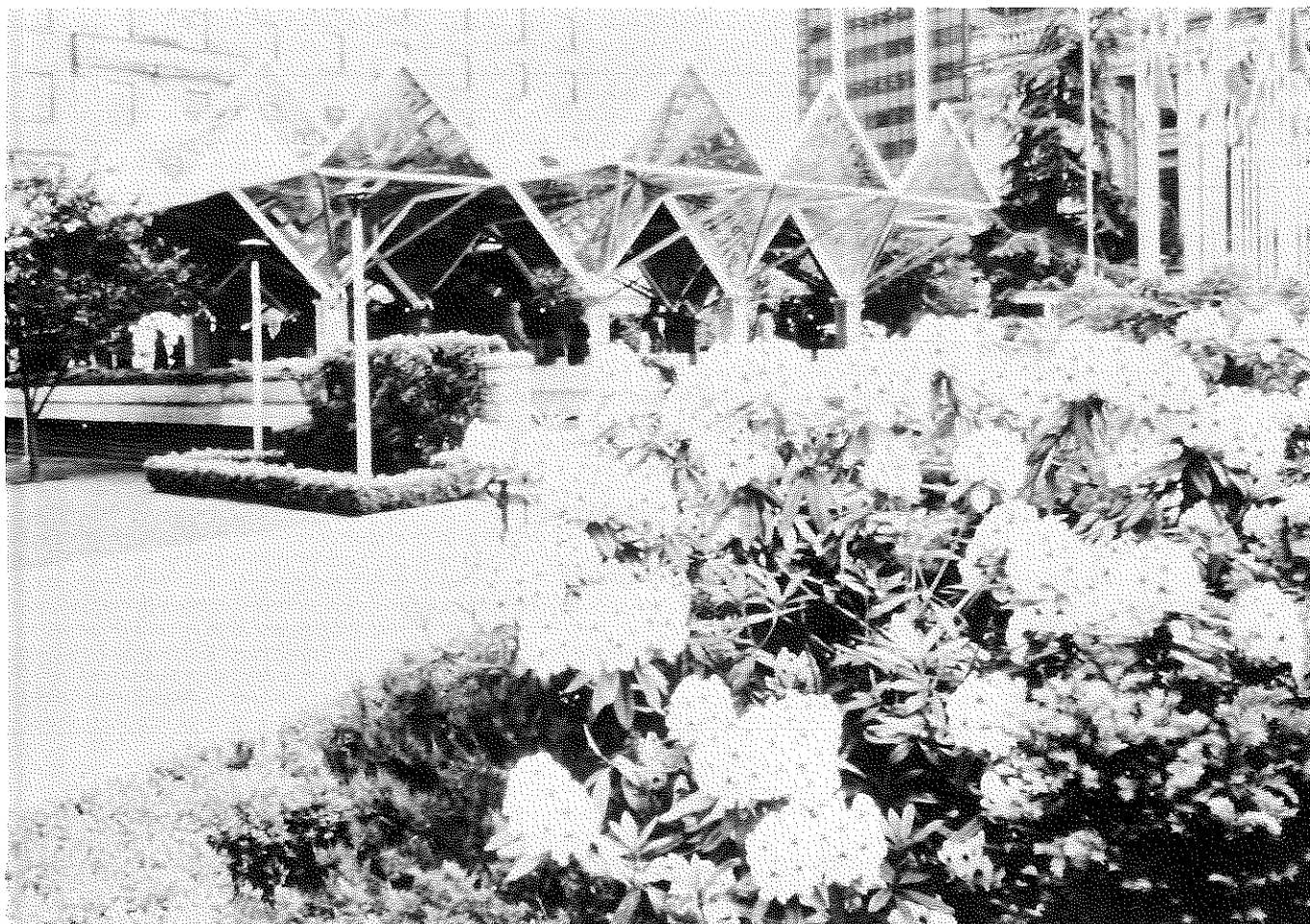
Section III outlines the conference proceedings and Canada's role and contribution.

Section IV details other major activities which were included in the total HABITAT experience: the audio-visuals, Habitat Forum, the relationship with NGOs and the special role of mayors.

The appendices contain the texts of major statements by Canadians at the conference, as well as the texts of several important declarations and statements not included in the official United Nations report.

The detailed proceedings of the conference and the texts of all recommendations and resolutions approved at Vancouver are contained in the report prepared and issued by the United Nations' Secretariat (UN document A/Conf. 70/15; UN sales number E. 76/IV.7, \$U.S.10.00).

Section I



The Habitat Pavilion shown in this photograph was located in the centre of Vancouver and served as the principal information centre for delegates and visitors on all Habitat Conference and

related activities. The roof was constructed in sections, each section being constructed and painted by different public school classes throughout Vancouver.

The HABITAT Conference Preparatory Process¹

United Nations Objectives

The international objectives of Habitat were, in summary:

- to develop, debate and approve recommendations for national action by all countries
- to recommend programmes of international co-operation to support action at the national level
- to recommend changes in the United Nations organizational structure so that it responds more effectively to the human settlement problems throughout the world
- to provide for a broad exchange of ideas and experiences in solving human settlement problems
- to raise the level of awareness and understanding of human settlement issues in governments, the media, and among concerned citizens.

Canadian Objectives

As host nation, Canada had two objectives:

- to ensure the effective operation of the Conference
- to ensure that host arrangements, facilities, and services contributed to the efficiency and success of the Conference and were a credit to Canada, the Province of British Columbia and the City of Vancouver.

As a participating state Canada had four objectives:

- to stimulate better awareness and understanding of human settlement issues in Canada and abroad
- to develop a national position on issues to be discussed at the Conference, based on extensive consultation with all levels of government, with non-governmental groups and with concerned citizens
- to share Canadian experiences in the field of human settlements and to learn from those of other countries
- to improve the capacity of the United Nations to help all countries understand and deal effectively with human settlement issues

The International Preparatory Process

UN Preparatory Meetings: In 1974, the United Nations established a UN HABITAT Secretariat, headed by Enrique Peñalosa as Secretary-General of HABITAT. This Secretariat was responsible for all international preparations.

A United Nations Preparatory Committee of 56 nations, including Canada, was established to develop a substantive framework for the Conference; to develop international agreement on such matters as rules of procedure and the Conference agenda; and to advise the Secretary-General on major substantive items such as the Declaration of Principles, the Recommendations for National Action, and the Programmes for International Co-operation, all of which would be presented in draft form to the Conference for debate. The Preparatory Committee held four formal meetings in 1975-76 and these were complemented by a wide-ranging series of intergovernmental and expert meetings at the global and regional levels. Canada was an active participant in most of these meetings. A summary of these meetings is provided in UN document A/Conf. 70/15, pp. 118-121.

The Vancouver Seminar (1973): Prior to the creation of the UN HABITAT Secretariat a seminar of experts was convened by the United Nations and hosted by Canada in Vancouver in May, 1973. It made an initial attempt to define the scope and major concerns of the conference. Barbara Ward was elected chairperson and discussion at the meeting was reflected in her publication *Human Settlement: Crisis and Opportunity* which was published by Canada and widely distributed both nationally and internationally.

The Home of Man: A major contribution to the preparatory process was Barbara Ward's book *The Home of Man* which was published in early 1976. This had particular significance for Canada since the author undertook a speaking tour across the country to promote the book's theme and the importance of HABITAT. The book and tour provided the bases for two films: the National Film Board presentation *A Sense of Place* and the film *There is Still Time* (Barbara Ward in Quebec City).

¹ Appendix M provides a detailed chronology of Canadian and international events leading up to the Habitat Conference.

The Canadian Preparatory Process

Federal Government: The preliminary work was begun within the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs (MSUA). However, as the two roles of host and participant differed in many ways, two separate agencies evolved between mid-1973 and November 1975. In November 1975, the two agencies — the Host Secretariat in the Department of External Affairs and the Canadian Participation Secretariat (CPS) in MSUA were brought together as the Canadian HABITAT Secretariat (CHS) under the direction of a Commissioner-General for HABITAT, J.W. MacNeill.

In order to ensure the best possible contribution from other federal departments concerned with the substantive issues of HABITAT, an Interdepartmental Task Force (IDTF) was established in July 1973. It had representation from 26 departments and agencies, and for working purposes, was organized into seven groups each under the chairmanship of one department. These were:

- National Settlements Policies and Development (Urban Affairs)
- Social and Economic Aspects of Human Settlements (Health and Welfare)
- Planning and Management of Settlements (Urban Affairs)
- Design and Construction of Shelter, Infrastructure and Services for Human Settlements (Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation)
- Human Settlements and the Natural Environment (Environment Canada)
- International Action and Cooperation (External Affairs)
- Demonstration Projects (Canadian Participation Secretariat, Urban Affairs)

The IDTF was involved in all aspects of the preparatory process and, because Canada's position at the Conference was ultimately a federal responsibility, the first six working groups were directly involved in drafting the Canadian position on each Conference agenda item.

Provincial Governments: Although the positions taken at international conferences are ultimately a federal responsibility, human settlement policies and programmes are under provincial jurisdiction to a significant extent. In turn many of these human settlement responsibilities are delegated by provinces to their municipalities.

Accordingly a Federal/Provincial Preparatory Committee (FPPC) was established in July 1973 and was involved in all aspects of the preparatory process. In addition, individual provinces developed their own HABITAT programmes which generated further contributions and support to Canada's host nation and participating state objectives.

Public Participation: An important feature of the preparations for HABITAT was the extent to which the concerns and ideas of the public were sought. To encourage the broadest possible participation, it was decided to work with and through organizations which were not directly governmental. As a result, two major organizations emerged:

- The Canadian National Committee (CNC), composed of concerned citizens, was appointed by the federal government to advise the Minister of State for Urban Affairs on the views of the Canadian public concerning human settlement issues, and to assist in fostering public interest and awareness in HABITAT.
- The Canadian Non-Governmental Organizations Participation Group (CNGOPG) formed by NGOs to co-ordinate the NGO contributions to the Canadian preparatory process.

Through public meetings, conferences, extensive consultation and news releases, these groups generated contributions from a wide range of citizens and organizations.

The overall Canadian preparatory process produced a multitude of events, publications and projects which influenced Canada's position at the Conference. The following summary cites those which were directly relevant to developing that position.

NGO Conferences: The Canadian National Committee (CNC) held a national Conference of NGOs in November of 1974 to promote interest in HABITAT and to encourage the presentation of ideas. In December 1975, the CNC and the CNGOPG sponsored a second national conference at which a large number of resolutions were passed. The Conference Report was formally submitted to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs.

The CNC Report: CNC sponsored a series of public meetings across Canada in the fall of 1975. Based on these meetings, on deliberations within the Committee, and on the NGO Conferences, a formal report was produced and submitted to the Minister of State for Urban Affairs.

Symposia: In the fall of 1975, 14 symposia on major settlement issues were held across Canada. Experts and concerned citizens participated in these symposia which were organized by the Canadian Participation Secretariat and supported by the Interdepartmental Task Force and the Federal-Provincial Preparatory Committee.

Canada's National Report: Canada produced an interim national report in 1975 and a final report in May 1976. The final report was widely distributed within Canada and at the Conference. Both the interim report and drafts of the final report were discussed within the FPPC and IDTF as part of the preparatory process.

Where Are We Headed?: This discussion paper was published and distributed by the Canadian HABITAT Secretariat as a contribution to the debate on human settlements in Canada. The focus of this paper was on longer-term policy issues.

Demonstration Projects and Audio-Visuals: Projects selected under the Canadian Urban Demonstration Program and those featured in Canada's audio-visual presentations were particularly useful in illustrating certain aspects of Canada's position at the Conference. In addition, the audio-visual capsules were included as an integral part of a number of Canada's formal statements at the Conference.

Development of the Canadian Position

As the conference drew closer, a major shift of emphasis occurred early in 1976 within the CHS participation program. Priority for staff was shifted from encouraging public participation to determining the composition of the delegation and the development of a basic Canadian position.

Draft position papers were prepared in response to the draft resolutions developed by the UN HABITAT Secretariat after the Preparatory Committee meeting in January. The work was made more difficult by a decision of the UN Secretariat in February to restructure totally the draft resolutions.

The prime responsibility for this draft position rested with the Chairmen of the Working Groups of the Interdepartmental Task Force, with staff support from the Canadian HABITAT Secretariat and External Affairs. Lead agencies for the various elements were as follows:

- Declaration of Principles — External Affairs
- Recommendations for International Cooperation — External Affairs and CIDA
- Settlement Policies and Strategies — MSUA
- Settlement Planning — MSUA
- Institutions and Management — MSUA
- Land — Environment Canada
- Shelter, Infrastructure and Services — CMHC
- Public Participation — Health and Welfare

The UN recommendations and draft Canadian positions were discussed initially with FPPC members and with NGOs on the delegation.

The first meeting of the delegation was held in Ottawa on April 29-30 with Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson in the chair. The three major policy papers prepared for the Conference by the United Nations Secretariat were circulated. The prime purpose of the first meeting was to have a preliminary discussion and review of proposed Canadian position papers on all the UN recommendations. These position papers took into account the prior discussions in the Interdepartmental Task Force and the Federal-Provincial Preparatory Committee, the results of the many public meetings and symposia which had been held across Canada in the fall of 1975, and the reports of the Canadian National Committee for HABITAT and the National Conference of NGOs held in December 1975.

Delegates also received detailed briefings on the agenda and structure of the HABITAT Conference and Habitat Forum, Canada's preparations as conference host, the information programme and on the general international situation and events related to HABITAT. The four Canadian audio-visual presentations and the National Film Board's major feature film *A Sense of Place*, were screened for delegates who also had an opportunity to visit the national exhibit for Habitat.

The position papers were redrafted to reflect the views expressed at the delegation meeting and, based on these papers, a Memorandum to Cabinet was prepared and approved by Cabinet in May. A set of Instructions to the Delegation was then prepared, and this, along with the redrafted position papers and preliminary drafts for Canadian interventions, was distributed to the delegation immediately prior to the Conference.

The delegation's second meeting, again chaired by Urban Affairs Minister Danson, was held at Vancouver on May 29. Further amendments to the revised position papers and notes for statements which Canada might make at the Conference were discussed. The delegation was also briefed on the results of the third session of the UN Preparatory Committee for HABITAT and the two days of informal consultation among governments which had both taken place the previous week. The assignments for the delegation also were discussed and a general daily schedule agreed upon.

Section II

The Canadian Delegation

Composition of the Canadian Delegation

The Canadian Delegation to the HABITAT Conference was the largest and most representative delegation ever sent by Canada to an international conference. There were many reasons why it had to be. The Canadian government was the initiator and host of the Conference and had taken a leading role in all the international preparations. The proposals and recommendations to be discussed and approved by the Conference were recognized as being directly relevant to the interests of all Canadians and to all the levels of government serving them. The recommendations would also directly affect Canadian foreign policy. The federal Cabinet therefore considered that Canada should have a delegation of a size and competence which would ensure an effective representation of Canadian interests and objectives, and would make a worthy contribution to HABITAT's success.

To be representative and effective, it was agreed that the delegation should include policy makers at the Ministerial level from the federal and provincial governments, mayors and representatives of the NGO community and a team of federal and provincial advisers and experts. Throughout February and March, the advice and suggestions of many people were sought on possible candidates for the delegation. The principal groups involved were the Interdepartmental Task Force, the Federal-Provincial Preparatory Committee, the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities, the Canadian NGO Participation Group and the Canadian National Committee.

In early April, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of State for Urban Affairs submitted a joint proposal on the delegation's composition to the federal Cabinet. The proposal was approved on April 8.

The delegation had 71 members: 7 Representatives (4 federal Ministers, the Commissioner-General for HABITAT, and 2 provincial Ministers); 17 Alternate Representatives (a Senator and 6 senior federal officials, 7 provincial Ministers, a Mayor, and the chairmen of the Canadian National Committee and the Canadian NGO Participation Group), 3 Parliamentary Observers (one each from the Liberal, Progressive Conservative and New Democratic Parties), and 44 Advisers (21 federal officials, 9 provincial officials, 8 Mayors, and 6 representatives of non-governmental groupings including labour, business, agriculture, local citizen participation groups and the native peoples). The complete list of delegates is attached as Appendix K.

Delegation Organization during the Conference

It was agreed that the delegation would function with three working groups, one for each of the three main committees of the Conference. Each working group had a lead Minister and alternate lead who convened and chaired the meetings and had overall responsibility for the work of the group during the Conference. Within each group, leaders and alternates were designated for each agenda item, as well as principal advisers and rapporteurs. The working groups were served by conference room officers experienced in the international preparatory work for HABITAT.

Committee I of the Conference dealt with the Declaration of Principles and the Recommendations for International Cooperation. The delegation working group for Committee I was led by Quebec Municipal Affairs Minister Victor Goldbloom with his British Columbia counterpart Hugh Curtis as the alternate. Brian Hunter was the conference room officer. The other members were:

- Mr. F. Dawes
- Mayor M. Evers
- Mr. P. Gérin-Lajoie
- Dr. H. Keenleyside
- Mr. E. Loignon
- Mayor G. Lamontagne
- Mr. J. MacNeill
- Mr. A. Malysheff
- Mayor R. McGregor
- Mr. H. Richardson
- Mr. R.D. Munro



The Honourable Ron Basford, federal Minister of Justice and Head of the Canadian Habitat delegation, addresses the closing session of the Conference. Beside him on the right is the Honourable Victor Goldbloom, then Quebec's Minister of Municipal Affairs. Behind them are, from left to right, Mr. J.W. MacNeill,

Commissioner-General for the Canadian Habitat Secretariat; Mr. Philip Hahn, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations in New York; and Mr. Robert Munro, Secretary-General of the Canadian Habitat delegation.

Committee II of the Conference discussed Settlement Policies and Strategies, Settlement Planning, and Institutions and Management. The delegation working group was led by the Honourable Jean Marchand with Manitoba Urban Affairs Minister Saul Miller as the alternate. Peter Nicholson was the conference room officer. The other members were:

- Mr. J. Allston
- Mr. J.P. Arsenault
- Senator Buckwold
- Hon. Neil Byers
- Mr. I. Clark
- Dr. R. Crowley

- Dr. A. Dedam
- Mr. R. Dennison
- Mr. J.R. Gauthier
- Mr. J. Gilbert
- Hon. George Kerr
- Mr. J. Major
- Mr. F. Marlyn
- Mayor D. Munroe
- Mr. A. Regenstreif
- Mr. V. Rudik
- Mr. D. Ryan
- Dr. J. Tener
- Mayor G. Wheeler

Committee III of the Conference discussed Shelter, Infrastructure and Services, Land, and Public Participation. The delegation working group was led by Senator Raymond Perrault with Minister William Yurko as the alternate. Richard Burkart and Vern Wieler were the conference room officers.

Other members were:

- Mr. R. Adamson
- Mr. F. Austin
- Mayor J. Bigelow
- Senator Buckwold
- Mr. J.G. Carrier
- Mr. W. Clarke
- Ms. S. des Rivières
- Hon. Fernand Dubé
- Mr. H. Dyck
- Ms. G. George
- Mr. G. Grenville-Wood
- Mr. W. Long
- Mayor J.M. Moreau
- Mr. W. Morgan
- Mr. H.K. Morley
- Mr. L. Munn
- Mr. C. Munro
- Mr. N. Préfontaine
- Hon. George Proud
- Ms. L. Strasbourg
- Mayor H. Taylor
- Mr. W. Teron

As leader of the delegation, Justice Minister Ronald Basford represented Canada in the plenary session for most of the Conference, although he also attended meetings of the three main committees. P. Hahn and J. Cox served as special advisers to Mr. Basford as head of the Delegation.

Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson was elected president of the Conference on the first day, and G. Hardy served throughout the Conference as special adviser to the President. R. Munro served as secretary-general to the delegation.

The delegation working groups had their first meetings on May 30, to review in detail the subjects with which their Committees would be dealing and to confirm the responsibilities and assignments of group members.

Delegation Schedule during the Conference

During the two weeks of the Conference, the full delegation met every morning to review the events of the previous day and to discuss the major issues scheduled for discussion later that day. The delegation working groups frequently met after the full delegation's morning meeting and sometimes in the evenings as well.

The usual daily schedule for the delegations was as follows:

- 08:15 Documents for Canadian delegates, including agenda for the morning delegation meeting were distributed.
- 08:30 Meeting of the full delegation, followed by meetings of the working groups.
- 10:00 Official UN session of the Plenary and three major committees, continuing to 13:00.
- 13:00 Lead Ministers and conference room officers from each of the delegation working groups met with the Head of the Delegation.
- 13:30 Daily press conference with journalists from Canada and abroad.
- 15:00 Official UN sessions of the Plenary and three main committees, continuing to 18:00.
- 18:00 Ad hoc working group meetings to:
 - consider key points for the delegation meeting the next morning, for reporting purposes or to seek guidance
 - review anticipated events and discussion for the next day's UN committee meetings
 - review assignments within the Canadian Committee Group for the next day.
- 18:30 Senior members of each working group would attend a meeting with the Canadian non-governmental community at St. Andrews Wesley Church.
- 18:30 Special advisers, conference room officers and rapporteurs met with the Secretary-General at the delegation offices to report and develop an agenda for the next morning's delegation meeting and to draft a summary of the major events and issues discussed that day. The summaries were translated overnight and distributed to delegates the next morning.



On June 12, the day following the Habitat Conference, a press conference was held to sign and announce an agreement to establish the United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements on the campus of the University of British Columbia. Seated at the table from left to right are the Honourable Ron Basford, federal Minister of Justice; President Kenny of

the University of British Columbia; and the Honourable Barney Danson, then federal Minister of State for Urban Affairs. Standing behind them are the Honourable Hugh Curtis, B.C. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Mr. Enrique Peñalosa, the UN Secretary-General for the Habitat Conference.

In addition, delegation members attended sessions at Habitat Forum, viewed audio-visual presentations, and represented Canada at meetings of Conference drafting groups and special evening sessions.

Delegation Staff

Staff support for the delegation was provided by the Canadian HABITAT Secretariat at its office in the Bentall Centre. Support services included: the printing and distribution of relevant documentation, preparation and distribution of daily reports and assignment schedules in both official languages for the morning delegation meetings, secretarial support for individual delegates, message services, protocol services and a delegation library. A list of delegation staff members is attached as Appendix L.

Section III





Prime Minister Trudeau welcomed the delegates to Canada and delivered a major address at the opening of the Habitat Conference on Monday, May 31.

The detailed proceedings and the full text of all the recommendations and resolutions approved by the HABITAT Conference are included in the report prepared by the United Nations secretariat (document A/Conf. 70/15). This section, while noting some of the major events and decisions of the Conference, will concentrate on Canada's role and work during the discussions. The information is presented according to the Conference agenda.

Opening of the Conference — Agenda item 1

When opening the conference, UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim, said HABITAT represented a major step in solving the global problems confronting mankind. Its purpose was to take positive action for the benefit of future generations and to make the United Nations, in the words of the Charter, a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations. He welcomed the Governor-General of Canada, His Excellency Jules Léger and the Prime Minister of Canada, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, and expressed the gratitude of the United Nations to the Canadian Government and people, and to the civic authorities and citizens of Vancouver and British Columbia, for their hospitality and their immense contribution to the preparations for the Conference.

The Governor-General of Canada then welcomed the delegates to Canada and Vancouver. His statement is attached as Appendix A.

Prime Minister Trudeau, in his major address, stressed the urgency of the Conference. For too long the relationship of man to his environment had been the subject of somewhat abstract debate, he said. It was now time for this debate to pass to the people. He particularly welcomed the impassioned commitment of young people to human development and to a wholesome natural environment. Youth were meeting at a parallel Conference in the Habitat Forum, he pointed out, and the proximity of the two gatherings promised to be instructive and mutually profitable. He said he would watch with anticipation to see what cracks the Forum participants could make "in the walls of ancient fears and rigid conservatism". He also emphasized the seriousness of the psychological problems raised by numbers. From now on,

mankind would have to redefine itself in terms of the very close relationship existing between groups and individuals — all of whom were becoming neighbours. Neighbours had remained at a respectable distance until the last century, but had now been brought much closer through population growth. We cannot yet imagine, he suggested, how uncomfortably close neighbours would become in the future. In concluding he quoted Teilhard de Chardin, who had written in *L'Energie Humaine*, 'Love one another or you will perish', adding that we have reached a critical point in human evolution in which the only path open to us is to move toward a common passion, a 'conspiracy' of love. Added Mr. Trudeau: "The conspiracy of men with men and the conspiracy of the universe with an even more just humanity; in this lies the salvation of human settlements and the hope held forth by HABITAT." The full text of Mr. Trudeau's statement is attached as Appendix B.

HABITAT Secretary-General Enrique Peñalosa in his message to HABITAT said that the Conference was a major part of the process in which the United Nations was now engaged, namely the rebuilding of the fundamental structure of international relationships. This, he said, required the evolution of new approaches to world problems, based on the fact of interdependence both among peoples and problems. This Conference, he said, represented a synthesis of all the concerns which have been taken up by the world community since the Stockholm Conference. Together with other United Nations Conferences, the Vancouver Conference formed part of a new concerted strategy to make true reality out of the call for a new and more equitable economic and social order.

One of the principal purposes of the Conference, said Mr. Peñalosa, was to make people acutely aware of the need to devise better forms of social organization. He stressed the complexity of the habitat problem, and the lack of deliberate policies to meet human needs in the past.



The Honourable Barney Danson, then federal Minister of State for Urban Affairs, was elected at the first session as the President of the Habitat Conference. He is shown here making the inaugural statement. With him on the podium from left to right are

Mr. Enrique Peñalosa, UN Secretary-General of the Habitat Conference; Mr. Kurt Waldheim, UN Secretary-General; and Mr. Uner Kirdar, Secretary to the Habitat Conference.

One of the main purposes of the Conference, he said, was to devise better forms of social organization. He noted that the consequences of inadequacy of past policies and programmes were only too conspicuous and emphasized the relevance of the following major factors:

- one third or more of the entire urban population of the developing world lives in slums and squatter settlements
- a large percentage of the people of the less developed countries have no water within 100 metres of their homes — a particular burden for millions of women and children
- more than half of all people in developing countries have no electricity in their homes and, after sunset, lack an adequate source of light.

Stressing the unique character of the Conference, which was in itself a sign of the recognition by Governments that the problems of human settlement are urgent, he emphasized that the major impetus must come from national authorities. International assistance can work only as a supplement to national action. Technical and administrative implications will be spelled out when the Conference formulates its recommendations.

HABITAT, Mr. Peñalosa concluded, should carry a message of hope and be a milestone in better service to this interdependent world.

Election of the Conference President— Agenda item 2

The Minister of State for Urban Affairs, the Honourable Barney Danson, was elected President of the Conference by acclamation.

In his address, Mr. Danson emphasized that the Conference offered a unique opportunity to transcend political and ideological differences. He urged delegates to concentrate on the important human settlement issues which had brought them together rather than the issues on which nations differed. The full text of the statement is attached as Appendix C.

Adoption of the Rules of Procedure— Agenda item 3

A set of provisional rules of procedure had been developed and discussed in detail at previous sessions of the international Preparatory Committee for HABITAT. Two slight changes were introduced at the Conference: a time limit for statements in Plenary, and the election of officers of the Conference by acclamation rather than by secret ballot. Both were agreed to and the rules of procedure as a whole were adopted.

Adoption of the Agenda—Agenda item 4

The proposed agenda was approved without change or debate.

Constitution of Conference Committees— Agenda item 5

The Conference agreed to establish three main committees with agenda topics allocated to each as follows:

Committee I

- Declaration of Principles, Item 9
- Programmes for International Cooperation, Item 11

Committee II

- Settlement Policies and Strategies, Item 10(a)
- Settlement Planning Item 10 (b)
- Institutions and Management, Item 10 (f)

Committee III

- Shelter, Infrastructure and Services, Item 10 (c)
- Land, Item 10 (d)
- Public Participation, Item 10 (e)

The Conference agreed that the following agenda items would be dealt with in Plenary.

- Election of officers other than the president, Item 6
- Credentials of representatives to the Conference, Item 7
- General debate, Item 8
- Adoption of the report of the Conference, Item 12

Election of other Conference Officers—Agenda item 6

The Conference elected 33 Vice-Presidents as follows: 8 from Africa—Congo, Gabon, Libyan Arab Republic, Mauritania, Nigeria, Uganda, Zaire and Zambia; 8 from Asia—India, Iraq, Japan, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic and Thailand; 5 from Eastern Europe—Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Romania and USSR; 6 from Latin America—Bolivia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago; 6 from Western Europe and other States—Australia, Austria, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Switzerland and Turkey.

The Conference elected Adolf Ciborowski (Poland) as Rapporteur-General; Father George Muhoho (Kenya) as Chairman of Committee I; Homaoun Jaber Ansari (Iran) as Chairman of Committee II and Diego Arria (Venezuela) as Chairman of Committee III. In accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conference, the committees elected their own vice-chairmen and rapporteurs.

Credentials of Representatives to the Conference—Agenda item 7

After consultation with interested delegations, the President proposed that a Credentials Committee be appointed composed of representatives from Belgium, Costa Rica, Libyan Arab Republic, Mali, Mongolia, Pakistan, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America and Venezuela. At the Committee's first meeting on June 4, the Belgian representative was unanimously elected Chairman. The Committee examined the credentials of the 132 states attending the Conference, and its report was subsequently adopted by the Conference.

General Debate—Agenda item 8

The general debate was held from May 31 through June 8 in 14 plenary meetings. One hundred and forty-nine representatives of national delegations, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations specialized agencies and programmes, and non-governmental organizations participated in the debate. Eighty speakers supplemented their speeches with audio-visual film capsules.

Two statements on behalf of a number of non-governmental organizations participating in the Habitat Forum were read to the Conference. The text of both statements is included in full in

Appendix 8. Special messages were delivered by representatives of the Heads of State of Benin, Bolivia, Chad, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Peru, the Philippines, Romania, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America and of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union. A message was also conveyed from His Holiness Pope Paul VI. These messages expressed gratitude to the Canadian Government for acting as conference hosts and emphasized the importance of the Conference as a world forum for beginning the process of dealing with a situation of gravity and tragedy for hundreds of millions of people. They also expressed commitment to the purposes of the United Nations, confidence in its capacity to take collective action to resolve the crisis that now confronts all mankind, and hope that humanity will be able to meet the challenges of growth and of rising expectations of the people of the world.

A unique feature of the general debate was the use of audio-visual film capsules, which dramatically illustrated not only the disparities and difficulties facing people all over the world, but also the potential and determination of every nation to seek and find solutions to their particular problems. The delegates were confronted, for the first time at a world conference, with the live picture of human society, its struggle for survival and for a better life. It provided an unprecedented vision of the tragedies, misery and successes of human beings throughout the world and gave the general debate an unforgettable dimension. The need to preserve the audio-visual components of the Conference and to assure their widest possible dissemination was emphasized by many delegates.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Allan MacEachen, was one of the first speakers in the general debate. In his statement, he cited seven important factors and circumstances in Canada that needed special attention in developing a human settlement policy. These factors included:

- the need to overcome major differences in the economic conditions and quality of life enjoyed by Canadians in different parts of the country
- resource conservation
- the special needs, aspirations and rights of the indigenous population of Canada
- the increased involvement of the business community, citizen groups and the public in the planning and implementation of human settlement policies.

At this point in his address the capsule film *Design Innovations for Canadian Settlements* was shown to Plenary. There were some initial difficulties which underlined the strict impartiality of the Canadian technicians responsible for the presentation of all capsules in the Plenary.

Mr. MacEachen concluded his Statement with four proposals on:

- Canadian bilateral assistance to other countries in the field of human settlements
- continued support by Canada to the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok for developing a regional training institute for settlement managers and planners
- the need for a United Nations audio-visual library on human settlements
- a target date of 1986 to be adopted by all countries, for the provision of potable water in every community.

The full text of the statement is included in Appendix D.

Declaration of Principles—Agenda item 9

A draft Declaration of Principles was prepared by the United Nations Secretariat and submitted to the Conference. The draft was based on detailed discussions by the international Preparatory Committee in August 1975 and January 1976, as well as by a special intergovernmental consultation attended by over 75 governments in September 1975.

The draft Declaration had a preamble and three main sections. The first section, "Opportunities and Solutions", dealt with various problems and opportunities for action which exist in the human settlements field including, for example, effective settlement policies, participation in planning and decisions by all people, and the strengthening of international cooperation. The second section contained "General Principles" which should guide national and international action including the improvement of the quality of life, freedom from all forms of discrimination, sovereignty of nations, a more equitable sharing of wealth among nations, concern for the environment and shelter for homeless people. The third and final section, "Guidelines for Action", contained specific goals for governments. A major priority is the establishment of human settlement policies. Others included minimum standards for an acceptable quality of life and the reduction of disparities between rural and urban areas.

Canada was in general agreement with the overall thrust of the draft Declaration prepared by the UN Secretariat and was prepared to support that text at the Conference. However, there were several slight changes in emphasis which Canada considered would improve the text. At the request of the Conference Secretary-General, Canada submitted the following suggestions to the UN Secretariat prior to the Conference:

- the close interdependence of human settlements and the environment should be recognized more explicitly in the section on "Problems and Opportunities"
- the need to reduce waste while improving the management of natural resources should be noted
- the improvement of environmental health conditions and health services in human settlements should be a priority in the Declaration
- the role and status of women in human settlements should be given more recognition in the "General Principles"
- the term "economic development" used in several places in the Declaration was too narrow and should be changed to "socio-economic development".

The Canadian delegation had further discussions in Vancouver on the draft Declaration during the weekend preceding the Conference. Those discussions led to the following two amendments which were formally tabled by Canada on June 2. Both represented new principles to be included in the Declaration's second section on "General Principles":

- special attention be given to the needs of children, youth, the aged and physically disabled. Basic services are to be provided to protect the young and to prepare them for active participation in the improvement of human settlements
- the special rights, needs and aspirations of indigenous peoples must receive full consideration, with particular attention to the rights of indigenous women.

After two days of debate on the draft Declaration, nations agreed to form a drafting group to consider all the amendments which had been submitted. However, the more than 100 developing countries which held a caucus under the title "the Group of 77" decided to produce their own draft of the Declaration, and did so during the first week. Although the "Western European and Others" (WEO) group (Western European countries plus Canada, U.S.A., Japan, Australia and New Zealand) and the Eastern European countries objected to both the procedure used as well as to parts of the text itself, the Group of 77 draft became the negotiating text.

The most contentious amendment was introduced by Iraq. This indirectly associated the Declaration with the UN General Assembly Resolution 3379 (XXX) which suggested that Zionism was a form of racism.¹ The Group of 77 initially agreed not to include this amendment and their draft text was circulated without it. However, at a critical stage early in the second week of the Conference, when there was still hope for an emerging consensus on other disputed points in the Group of 77 draft, Iraq succeeded in re-introducing its amendment in the form of a "correction" to the text. Although the spirit of compromise was abruptly interrupted by this move, negotiations continued in regular meetings of Committee I, in the drafting group, in a special "contact" group of key countries' representatives nominated by the WEO and Group of 77, and in two meetings of delegation heads chaired by the President of the Conference, Mr. Danson.

Members of the Canadian delegation took an active role in the Committee, the drafting group and in corridor consultations in an effort to have the offending reference dropped from the text and to reach a consensus on several other contentious clauses. However, Committee I was unable to reach agreement so the Declaration was sent to the Plenary for discussion.

1 Paragraph II.4 of the Declaration as originally drafted read in part: "... it is the duty of all people and governments to join the struggle against any form of colonialism, and all forms of racism and racial discrimination". In the resolutions, Iraq insisted on the addition of the following phrase, which was adopted: "referred to as adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations".

In Plenary, Canada and many other WEO Group members wanted a separate vote on the clause containing the Iraqi amendment. Some other WEO members wanted separate votes on several other clauses as well, notably those related to a New International Economic Order. Canada had some reservations on the latter references but still considered them generally acceptable.

The text of the Declaration was introduced in Plenary by the chairman of the Group of 77. He read out several changes in the printed text, including a change in the title to "Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements, 1976". However, none of the changes incorporated the principal concerns of the WEO Group, and the Iraqi amendment remained part of the proposed text.

Australia proposed a clause by clause vote. However, in a surprise move, the United States, with the support of Egypt and the Soviet Union, called for a single vote on the Declaration as a whole. Norway attempted to call for a separate vote on the clause containing the Iraqi amendment but was unsuccessful. The Declaration was passed by a roll-call vote of 89 in favour, 15 against, with 10 abstentions. Canada voted against, as did many other members of the WEO Group.

The Honourable Ron Basford, the Head of the Canadian Delegation, was the first speaker after the vote. He stressed that, apart from the Iraqi amendment, Canada found the Declaration generally acceptable. He thought that the Declaration would have been acceptable to all if there had been separate votes on the clause containing the Iraqi amendment and on several other paragraphs. He expressed the deep regret and sadness of the Canadian government at having to vote against a text which contained many excellent and inspiring paragraphs. The full text of Mr. Basford's statement is attached as Appendix F.

The vote on the Declaration falsely suggested that there was a sharp split on the Declaration between developed and developing countries. Subsequent explanations of the vote showed that many developing countries also had reservations about the Iraqi amendment. The actual vote is thus misleading in two important respects: first, there was broad support for the Declaration and secondly, there was less support for the Iraqi amendment than suggested by the result.



Heads of State and Ministers from countries around the world made major policy statements to the Plenary Session. Many of their statements were accompanied by audio-visual presentations illustrating ways in which they were dealing with their national human settlements problems. In this photograph, a Head of delegation is addressing the Plenary Session from the lectern at

the far right while his country's audio-visual presentation is being shown on the large screen above the podium in the centre of the photograph. On either side of the screen are the booths used by the Conference interpreters who provided simultaneous translation of all statements in five languages.

These two unfortunate distortions were the result of voting on a text containing the Iraqi amendment, and of not having the opportunity to vote separately at least on that amendment. The vote also had the unfortunate effect of overshadowing, for a time, the many substantial achievements of HABITAT.

The proposed Canadian amendments to the original draft Declaration were overtaken by other issues and events, as were the other amendments proposed by Canada on the special needs of children, youth, the aged and physically disabled. Nor were the special rights, needs and aspirations of indigenous peoples specifically included in the text of the Declaration adopted by the Conference. However, amendments related to both of these concerns were successfully introduced and approved in the Recommendations for National Action.

Recommendations for National Action— Agenda item 10

The 64 recommendations approved for action at the national level comprise a remarkable catalogue of what needs to be done and how. A concise and effective structure was adopted for each recommendation: a brief statement of the problem; a short statement of the recommended response and a series of approximately six or seven single statements of ways and means for achieving the recommendation.¹ No "recalling this" or "being aware of that"; just short, clear, forceful statements of what governments should do, why they should do it, and how.

¹ The three segments of a recommendation are lettered for reference as (a) the preamble, (b) the operative sentence of the recommendation, and (c) a series of ways and means, numbered consecutively as (i), (ii) . . . and so on.

The Recommendations for National Action were designed to be the centre of the Conference and its major achievements. Two of the three main committees were devoted to discussing them. As previously mentioned, Committee II dealt with the recommendations for Settlement Policies and Strategies, Settlement Planning, and Institutions and Management. Committee III dealt with Shelter, Infrastructure and Services; Land; and Public Participation.

Settlement Policies and Strategies

The recommendations proposed by the Secretary-General focussed on greater priority for human settlement planning, strong national action to achieve human settlement objectives, and greater attention to the most deprived segments of the population.

The major emphasis in the recommendations was that the resolution of human settlement problems should be a national priority. As a starting point, nations were called upon to examine critically the conditions in human settlements and the impact of existing policies and strategies on these conditions. It was further recommended that countries identify specific settlement objectives and formulate practical plans for their realization. The recommendations stressed a comprehensive planning process, integrated at the national, regional and local levels with clearly defined responsibilities for public and private organizations.

The Canadian delegation, along with most others, found almost all the recommendations acceptable. The Canadian Minister who headed Committee II, the Honourable Jean Marchand, introduced two amendments which reinforced the vital link between human settlements—the man-made environment—and the natural environment. His statement led to the revision of recommendation A.2 to read:

"A national policy for human settlements *and the environment* should be an integral part of any national, social and economic development policy."¹

In introducing the second amendment, Mr. Marchand argued that the positive potential of environment must also be emphasized in recommendation A.2, and thus clause A.2,c (iii) should read:

- "An integrated human settlement policy should be consistent with the preservation, restoration and improvement of the natural and man-made environment, *cognizant of the positive role of environment in national economic and social development.*"

Recommendation A.2, including the two Canadian amendments, was approved by Committee II and, subsequently, by Plenary.

Of the seven recommendations on Settlement Policies and Strategies, the following operative paragraphs appear to be of particular interest to Canada:

- A.1 "All countries should establish as a matter of urgency a national policy on human settlements, embodying the distribution of population, and related economic and social activities, over the national territory."
- A.7 "Governments should report publicly on a continuous evaluation of human settlement conditions."

¹ In what follows, words proposed for addition to the original recommendations are italicized; words proposed for deletion are placed in parentheses.



This photograph shows the meeting room in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Vancouver. Conference Committee II met here to discuss Recommendations for National Action on Settle-

ment Policies and Strategies; Settlement Planning; and Institutions and Management.

Settlement Planning

The 16 recommendations on Settlement Planning which were proposed by the HABITAT Secretary-General were built around the general theme that all countries should develop rational, integrated planning for human settlements at the national, regional and local levels.

In developing this theme, the recommendations placed a strong emphasis on centralized planning at the national level. The recommendations for the development of new settlements and the diversion of growth from large metropolitan areas implied considerable governmental control. Federal nations such as Canada were concerned that so little importance was attached to regional autonomy. Clearly, the UN Secretariat's focus was on unitary states.

The recommendations recognized the strong links between demographic policies, economic activities and related employment opportunities, infrastructure development and the social, cultural and ecological aspects of settlement planning. The need for integrating all these components at the metropolitan level was particularly stressed. In addition, regional development, the reduction of regional disparities and the development of new settlements were suggested as approaches that should be considered in developing an integrated national plan.

The Canadian delegation agreed with the general thrust and specific proposals in the recommendations. Consequently, Canada proposed no amendments and intervened only once in the general debate to comment on recommendation B.3, the operative paragraph of which read:

- "Settlement Planning should be based on realistic assessment, and management, of the resources actually and potentially available for development."

Admitting that Canadian communities have too often failed to heed this maxim, the spokesman, the Honourable Saul Miller of Manitoba, noted that Canadians are now much more concerned than in the past with resource conservation and environmentally-sound planning. His remarks were illustrated with the audio-visual capsule "Design Innovations for Canadian Settlements" which features the new resource towns of Fermont and Leaf Rapids, a solar heated house in Toronto, and the "Ark" project on Prince Edward Island.

The Committee was unable to agree on a proposed Cuban amendment to the preamble for the recommendations. The issue was considered to be too sensitive politically for the Committee to consider and, at Canada's suggestion, Cuba agreed to withdraw its amendment and to re-introduce it in Plenary. The paragraph introduced by Cuba in Plenary read as follows:

- "Human settlement planning must seek to improve the quality of life of people with full respect for indigenous, cultural and social needs. Settlement planning and implementation for the purposes of prolonging and consolidating occupation and subjugation in territories and lands acquired through coercion and intimidation must not be undertaken and must be condemned as a violation of United Nations principles and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

Statements were made for and against the proposed paragraph. The representative of Pakistan suggested that adoption of the Cuban amendment required only a simple majority (under rule 31 of the rules of procedure). He moved that this procedure be adopted to cover all amendments proposed in the Plenary.

The President of the Conference said that in his judgement the proposal by the representative of Pakistan involved a matter of substance and therefore required a two-thirds majority. He asked the Conference to decide whether it supported his ruling that this was indeed a substantive and not a procedural proposal. After some discussion, the matter was put to the vote. The Conference decided, by 59 votes to 30, with 6 abstentions, that the proposal of Pakistan was procedural matter and therefore did not require a two-thirds majority. Canada voted against the proposal.

After further discussion, a roll-call vote was requested on the proposal of Pakistan. It carried by a vote of 69 in favour, 28 against with 11 abstentions. Canada voted against the proposal.

A roll-call vote was then requested on the Cuban amendment—it was approved by a vote of 77 votes in favour, 8 against with 20 abstentions. Canada voted against the amendment.

The preamble as amended by Cuba and all of the recommendations under Settlement Planning were approved by the Conference.

In summary, there are two recommendations under Settlement Planning that appear to be of particular interest to Canada:

- B.5 "Planning for rural areas should aim to stimulate their economic and social institutions, improve general living conditions, and overcome disadvantages of scattered populations."
- B.8 "Settlements must be continuously improved. Renewal and rehabilitation of existing settlements must be oriented to improving living conditions, functional structures and environmental qualities. The process must respect the rights and aspirations of inhabitants, especially the least advantaged, and preserve the cultural and social values embodied in the existing fabric."

Shelter, Infrastructure and Services

The Secretary General's recommendations to the Conference focussed on three major themes:

- provision of basic levels of physical, health and social services as a government objective
- conservation of resources in the process of providing shelter, infrastructure and services
- the use of indigenous skills and "appropriate technology".

The major emphasis of the recommendations was on developing countries' problems in meeting the most basic needs of their people. While many of the recommendations applied to developed nations as well, for the most part, they did so with considerably less urgency.

The ideological thrust of the recommendations was neutral on the issue of private versus public enterprise. The most forceful statements almost without exception, were directed at the issue of technological alternatives, including, for example, the organization of technology, in developing new forms of services to cater for the special needs of dispersed rural populations.

"Shelter, Infrastructure and Services" was considered by Committee III which appointed a drafting group (with Canada as a member) to incorporate amendments and additions proposed by delegates. After debate and amendment by the full Committee, the recommendations were adopted by consensus in the Plenary.

Canada had no fundamental difficulty with any of the Secretary-General's original 17 recommendations. Some minor amendments were proposed as follows:

- that Recommendation C.8 be expanded and clarified to read:
"The informal sector, *including cooperatives, squatter organizations and citizen groups*, should be supported *financially and technically* in their own efforts to provide shelter, infrastructure and services (for the poor majority)"

The suggested amendment was not adopted in the final report.

-
- that Recommendation C.14 be clarified to read:
"Policies on transportation and communication *should be used to promote desired patterns of development and the distribution of activities to satisfy the needs of the population.*"

The adopted Recommendation incorporated the clarified wording and went further to add: "to assure the distribution of activities to favour mass transportation, and to reduce congestion and pollution by motor vehicles."

Five new Recommendations were proposed by Canada, three of which concerned themes that Canada stressed throughout the Conference, viz, full participation of women, and the special needs of children, the elderly, and the handicapped. The texts proposed were:

- the participation of women must be sought in the design of shelter and in the provision of transportation and access to community services
- the needs of children and youth should be accommodated through such services as the provision of day care facilities and play areas
- the special needs of the handicapped, the elderly, and of single individuals of low income should be taken into greater account in the design of shelter, transportation and related facilities
- measures should be considered to overcome factors which contribute to under-use of the existing housing stock
- ways should be considered to minimize the vulnerability of shelter, infrastructure and services to energy interruptions, natural disasters and to sudden adverse changes in economic, physical or environmental conditions.

None of the Recommendations was adopted exactly as phrased. The intent of the third was reflected in the final form of Recommendations C.4 and C.14.¹ "A concern to minimize settlement vulnerability was expressed by several delegations, particularly in connection with natural disasters" (Recommendation C.5, c(v)).

¹ Under C.4, c(viii) it was stated that (the choice of designs and technologies should be) "sensitive to the needs of the handicapped"; while C.14, c(v) calls for "innovative modes of transportation and communications suited to the needs of children, the elderly, and the handicapped."

The subjects of nuclear energy and safe drinking water were prominent at HABITAT in the formal debates and in public discussion. Both fell within the ambit of "Shelter, Infrastructure and Services".

Considerable controversy surrounded the question of nuclear energy. The final conference recommendation called for the efficient use of energy by "emphasizing where possible the use of renewable over non-renewable energy sources and the rationalization of technologies which are currently known to be hazardous to the environment" (C.5, c(iv)).

The original text of recommendation C.5 sought to "limit" nuclear technology. This formulation was unacceptable to Canada for reasons given during a HABITAT press conference by Prime Minister Trudeau. While Canada was fully prepared to accept an amendment which would subject nuclear technology to improved "safeguards and controls", the Conference consensus was that technologies known as hazardous should be "rationalized".

At HABITAT and before, Canada repeatedly stressed the vital importance of safe water and hygienic waste disposal. Appropriately, the Canadian statement in Committee III by William Teron was illustrated with an audio-visual capsule on *Canwel*, a new technology which promises to permit the cleansing and recycling of household waste water. The Canadian delegation then sought to amend Recommendation C. 12 by establishing 1986 as the latest date to achieve safe water for all nations. The final recommendation as adopted by the Conference states only that urgent action is necessary to "adopt programmes with realistic standards for quality and quantity to provide water for urban and rural areas by 1990, if possible" (C. 12, c(i)). It was the Canadian view that the words "if possible" weakened the force of this recommendation.

The developing nations did not appear to place a particularly high priority on clean drinking water. Past patterns of expenditure by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) would support this observation bearing in mind that CIDA responds to requests *initiated* by aid partners.

Nevertheless, Canada re-emphasized the water theme in its closing statement to the Plenary, urging nations to make firm dollar commitments. In the words of the Honourable Ron Basford:

- "Many countries, including Canada, have identified the need to provide potable water for all peoples of the world by 1990 at the latest, as the programme of top priority. Canada wishes to lend every assistance, even in excess of what CIDA has already committed, in carrying out (potable water) projects, starting in this current fiscal year. Such Canadian assistance should however be in support of greater national effort and a greater allocation of local resources to potable water projects as part of national plans of action in human settlements development. Such commitments should be indicated in the requests of national governments for Canadian assistance. May we encourage other countries to consider their commitment to the improvement of human settlements in the less developed countries, by stating specifically what financial resources they think may be available at least in support of the provision of water, the source of all life."

Also at the closing Plenary, attention was drawn to the 1977 United Nations Water Conference in Argentina. HABITAT adopted a resolution (co-sponsored by Canada) which, among other points, noted that the Water Conference "should consider the establishment by all nations of measurable qualitative and quantitative targets for the supply of safe water serving all the population by a certain date."

In summary, the Recommendations on Shelter, Infrastructure and Services that appear to be of particular interest to Canada are the following:

- C.5 "The efficient use of energy and its various mixes, should be given special consideration in the choice of designs and technologies for human settlements, especially the relative location of work places and dwellings."
- C.6 "In choosing alternatives for shelter, infrastructure and services, account should be taken of their social, environmental and economic costs and benefits including that of future management, maintenance and operations as well as capital costs."
- C.10 "A major part of housing policy efforts should consist of programmes and instruments which actively assist people in continuing to provide better quality housing for themselves, individually or cooperatively."
- C.12 "Safe water supply and hygienic waste disposal should receive priority with a view to achieving measurable qualitative and quantitative targets serving all the population by a certain date; targets should be established by all nations and should be considered by the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Water."
- C.13 "In the development of human settlements the quality of the environment must be preserved. Pollution should be prevented by minimizing the generation of wastes; wastes which cannot be avoided should be effectively managed and whenever possible turned into a resource."

Land

The Secretary-General's recommendations to the Conference focussed on the need for controlled land management: public ownership to implement desired land use and public recapture of speculative land profits.

These themes emphasize rational land planning to benefit everyone. Strong emphasis was placed on the regulatory and administrative aspects of land use planning and control, especially public ownership of land and taxation measures.

In Canada's view the debate on Land in Committee III was the most interesting and controversial among the substantive questions considered at HABITAT. The Land issue was the lead story in Vancouver on three of the first eight newspaper days of the Conference. Particularly contentious was Recommendation D.3, which in its original phrasing stated:

- "The plus value resulting from change in use of land or from public investment must be recaptured by the community."

There was some confusion and disagreement within the delegation regarding the meaning of "plus value" and the phrase "change in use of land". Some feared that the Recommendation called for the confiscation of all land profits whether earned or not. Others considered that a proposal to amend the resolution by introducing the words "an equitable portion of that plus value" weakened the original intent of the UN resolution to too great a degree. After lengthy discussion by the delegation the Honourable William Yurko proposed to Committee III that D.3 be amended to read:

- "An equitable portion of that plus value resulting from change in use of land caused by public investment or decision should be captured by the community."

The addition of the phrase "equitable portion" to modify "plus value" was seen by most other delegations and by many Canadian non-governmental observers as a retreat from the original intent of D.3, which had been widely perceived as an anti-speculation recommendation.

The drafting group of Committee III then proposed the following wording, which evidently was an attempt to satisfy a number of conflicting sentiments:

- "A major portion of the unearned increment resulting from the rise in urban and suburban land values resulting from change in use of land, from public investment, or due to the general growth of the community must be subject to recapture by appropriate public bodies (the community), unless the situation calls for more radical measures such as new patterns of ownership, the general acquisition of land by public bodies or other similar measures."

Before this proposed text came to the floor of the full Committee, it was clear that it was unsatisfactory to most delegations and would certainly be further amended and strengthened. The Canadian delegation reconsidered its earlier position and, after a wide-ranging debate, modified it. On behalf of the delegation, the Honourable Ray Perrault then proposed to the Committee the following changes in the drafting group text:

- to delete the phrase "A major portion of" which modified "unearned increment"
- to delete the words "urban and suburban" which modified "land values" so that the Recommendation might apply to all lands, and in particular those used for agricultural and recreational purposes
- to add the words "or decision" to follow "public investment," so as to cover unearned increases in value due, for example, to zoning decisions
- to change the phrase "recapture by appropriate public bodies" to "appropriate recapture by public bodies".

The Canadian proposals carried in every case, with the result that clause (b) of the adopted Recommendation D.3 reads as follows:

- "The unearned increment resulting from the rise in land values resulting from change in use of land, from public investment or decision, or due to the general growth of the community must be subject to appropriate recapture by public bodies (the community), unless the situation calls for other additional measures such as new patterns of ownership, the general acquisition of land by public bodies."

The meaning of the word "appropriate" in this context is still subject to interpretation. Some members of the Canadian delegation would suggest that it refers specifically to "other measures" as is implied in the last clause of the recommendation. Other members interpret that "appropriate recapture" could include an element in common with the earlier Canadian formulation of "an equitable portion",¹ while yet others considered "appropriate" to refer to the means to be adopted. Nevertheless, the underlying principle that the unearned increment of land value must return to the community continues in force and effectively establishes the spirit of the Recommendation.

There were other points of Canadian intervention in the debate on Land. In addition to screening the audio-visual capsule, *The Management of Urban Growth and Land Use*—which dealt with public land banking—the following changes were proposed in the Secretary-General's original text:

- in D.3 (a) add the word "Excessive" before "profits" lest it seem that all profit from land development was illegitimate and a principal cause of the concentration of wealth in private hands (Amendment accepted)
- in D.4, the operative sentence should read: "Public ownership, transitional or permanent, should be used as *one method* to implement urban land reform and to supply serviced land to those in need of it."

The Conference eventually adopted the phrase "wherever appropriate" in place of "as one method". The point remains that public ownership is not held out as the *only* means to implement land reform.

¹ Though it does not appear on the official record, it should be noted that the Polish delegate questioned the inversion of "recapture" and "appropriate" as proposed by Canada. He moved that the phrase be left in the original, unambiguous order —i.e., "recapture by appropriate public bodies". Unaccountably the Chairman, when reading the recommendation, and attempting to include all proposed amendments, missed the Polish motion and then promptly adjourned the meeting. The issue was never raised again.

- in D.5, Canada strongly supported an Australian amendment pertaining to indigenous people. Canada noted the importance of land claims to native people stating that they deserve a full role in determining the way in which land and other resources are used. The adopted wording reads: "Special attention should be paid to the land rights of indigenous peoples so that their cultural and historical heritage is preserved" (D.5, c (viii))
- again on D.5 Canada intervened in favour of an amendment (later adopted) which sought the "redefinition of legal ownership including the rights of women and disadvantaged groups and usage rights for a variety of purposes".

The matter of legal ownership of land insofar as it affects women is under active consideration in Canada and should be an important matter for post-HABITAT follow-up. In this context "disadvantaged groups" would be particularly relevant to native women and their ownership rights.

When the report of Committee III on Land was brought to Plenary, two amendments to Recommendation D.1 were proposed, one by Syria, and the other by Panama. The operative sentence in D.1 reads: "Land is a scarce resource whose management should be subject to public surveillance or control in the interest of the nation." The Syrian amendment stated:

- "In all occupied territories, changes in the demographic composition, or the transfer or uprooting of the native population, and the destruction of existing human settlements in these lands and/or the establishment of new settlements for intruders, is inadmissible. The heritage and national identity must be protected. Any policies that violate these principles must be condemned."

Several states, including France, Israel and Paraguay objected to the political tone of the amendment, claiming it had nothing to do with the original intent of the Conference. Nevertheless, it carried by a vote of 69 in favour, 8 against and 26 absentions. Canada abstained.

Explaining Canada's abstention, Mr. Basford said that extraneous issues should not be introduced into the Conference. The subject of the amendment would be one of the most important elements in any peace settlement in the Middle East and was clearly out of bounds for this Conference.

The Panamanian amendment read: "Governments must maintain full jurisdiction and exercise complete sovereignty over land . . . This resource must not be the subject of restrictions imposed by foreign nations which enjoy its benefits while preventing its rational use."

At the suggestion of the United States the amendment was adopted by consensus as were all other clauses of the report on Land (the Syrian amendment excepted).

The Recommendations on Land that appear to be of particular interest to Canada are the following:

- D.1 "Land is a scarce resource whose management should be subject to public surveillance or control in the interest of the nation."
- D.2 "Change in the use of land, especially from agricultural to urban, should be subject to public control and regulation."
- D.3 "The unearned increment resulting from the rise in land values resulting from change in use of land, from public investment or decision or due to the general growth of the community must be subject to appropriate recapture by public bodies (the community), unless the situation calls for other additional measures such as new patterns of ownership, the general acquisition of land by public bodies."
- D.4 "Public ownership, transitional or permanent, should be used, wherever appropriate, to secure and control areas of urban expansion and protection; and to implement urban and rural land reform processes, and supply serviced land at price levels which can secure socially acceptable patterns of development."
- D.7 "Comprehensive information on land capability, characteristics, tenure, use and legislation should be collected and constantly up-dated so that all citizens and levels of government can be guided as to the most beneficial land use allocation and control measures."



One of the principal Recommendations for National Action approved by the Habitat Conference called for new measures within and among countries to provide access to safe and ample water supplies. On the Sunday following the first week of the Conference, a large walk through Vancouver to the Habitat Forum was organized in support of the water supply objectives. Leading the walk in this photograph are, from left to right, the Honourable

Ron Basford, federal Minister of Justice and Head of the Canadian Habitat delegation; Mrs. Margaret Trudeau; and the Honourable Barney Danson, then Minister of State for Urban Affairs and President of the Habitat Conference. Immediately behind Mr. Basford are Mr. George Muhoho of Kenya, the chairman of the UN Habitat Preparatory Committee; and Mr. J.W. MacNeill, Commissioner-General of the Canadian Habitat Secretariat.

Public Participation

The Secretary-General's recommendations to the Conference stressed the importance of the participation of all segments of society in the development of human settlements whether in the physical construction of buildings (self-help) or through involvement in the political process. Emphasis was also placed on the need for open channels of communication between government and people if participation was to be effective.

From discussions in Committee III, it was clearly recognized that a cooperative effort of the people and their Governments is a prerequisite for effective action on human settlements. The magnitude and intractability of the problems are too great for Governments to act alone. Public participation should be an integral part of the decision-making process on the full range of human settlement issues and the public should be provided with opportunities for direct involvement in the decisions that affect their lives. Such participation could heighten their awareness of the complexity and interrelation of problems and the urgent need for concerted action. This involvement could also be an important means of tapping the creative use of the public's ingenuity and skills.

Canada offered three amendments to the text of the Secretary-General's recommendations:

- to expand E.2 (b) to read:
"To be effective, public participation requires the free flow of information among all parties concerned and must be based on mutual understanding, trust and education."
The amendment was adopted—with "must be based" changed to "should be based"—as Recommendation E.3 of the final report.
 - to expand E.4(b) to read:
"Public participation must respond to both newly emerging needs of society as well as to existing social, economic and cultural needs."
The Committee added a further sentence:
"The people and their governments should establish mechanisms for popular participation that contribute to developing awareness of people's role in transforming society."
 - to include the following points in the preamble to the Recommendations on Public Participation:
(a) The vulnerability of women, children and the elderly in the face of adverse human settlement conditions
(b) The right of women to be involved to the fullest extent in all aspects and at all levels of the participatory process
(c) The right of women to be trained in the professions concerned with human settlements.
The preamble, as adopted, contained the following new paragraph:
 - "Every effort must be made to remove the barriers which preclude the active participation of women in the planning, design and execution of all aspects of human settlements and at all levels of government."
- In addition, many of the Recommendations were strengthened to include new clauses which recognized the importance of reaching all groups whose participation is normally limited.

London Mayor Jane Bigelow, speaking for the Canadian delegation, stressed that governments should be prepared to provide financial assistance and to make information easily available to encourage public participation. She also emphasized the need to reach lower income families and native people who are usually not sufficiently involved in the decisions that profoundly affect their lives. Women too must be encouraged to participate more, she said, adding:

- "There can be few countries, and Canada is certainly not one of them, that can claim that human settlements are planned to a significant extent by women or to meet needs of the total family unit. The Canadian delegation considers as fundamental to the participation of women, legislation concerned with property rights, rights to education and voting rights . . ."

The Canadian intervention in the debate was illustrated with the short film *Community Revitalization*, which traces the successful efforts of the residents of Strathcona in Vancouver to rehabilitate their community and, in the process, to influence fundamentally the philosophy of urban renovation in Canada. The full text of the Canadian statement by Mayor Bigelow is included in Appendix E.

The Recommendations on Public Participation of particular interest to Canada are:

- E.2 "Public participation should be an indispensable element in human settlements, especially in planning strategies and in their formulation, implementation and management; it should influence all levels of government in the decision-making process to further the political, social and economic growth of human settlements."
- E.3 "To be effective, public participation requires the free flow of information among all parties concerned and should be based on mutual understanding, trust and education."
- E.4 "Public participation should integrate the various sectors of the population including those that traditionally have not participated either in the planning or in the decision-making processes."

Institutions and Management

The Secretary-General's recommendations to the Conference had the following main themes:

- the integration of economic and human settlement planning within a unified framework
- the encouragement of public participation, e.g., by giving high priority to the dissemination of information
- the necessity for institutions to be adaptable
- the need for separate financial institutions to meet the requirements of human settlements.

The discussion in Committee II recognized that an institutional and legislative framework is required in order to implement settlement policies and strategies. There were differing views on the need for a single, high-level national institution to deal with human settlement problems. One delegation felt that excessive centralization of institutional authority and competence was inconsistent with the Committee's strong views on the need for local participation. Other representatives, however, felt that a single, high-level institution was the best means of ensuring comprehensive public control over human settlement policies and co-ordination between government institutions at local, regional and national levels.

Canada drew attention to the special situation of federal states, where jurisdiction for settlement matters is constitutionally shared among levels of government and proposed appropriate wording, to make several recommendations applicable to federal systems. This was incorporated and, as a result, an entirely new paragraph was added to the preamble on "Institutions". It read:

- "In political systems where responsibilities and resources are shared amongst different levels of government and governmental agencies, joint consultation on matters of common concern is essential to achieve national settlement goals and objectives."

The Canadian intervention, delivered by the Honourable George Kerr, was illustrated with the audio-visual capsule *Governing Human Settlements*. It described three models of area-wide local government: Metro Toronto, Winnipeg Unicity and Regional Districts in British Columbia.

The Recommendations on Institutions and Management of particular interest to Canada are:

- F.1 "There must be institutions at national, ministerial, and other appropriate levels of government responsible for the formulation and implementation of settlement policies and strategies for national, regional and local development."
- F.2 "Institutions for human settlements should be co-ordinated with those responsible for national economic and social development and environmental plans and policies, and interrelated on a multidisciplinary basis."
- F.3 "Separate financial institutions and adequate means are necessary to meet the requirements of human settlements."

Programmes for International Cooperation— Agenda item 11

This agenda item was assigned for discussion to Committee I, and had two major parts: proposed international programmes in the field of human settlements and international institutional arrangements.

International Programmes

There was virtual unanimity in the Conference and in Committee I that the most appropriate level for dealing effectively with human settlement problems was at the national rather than international level. International programmes in the field of human settlements should therefore be designed to supplement and support action at the national level and should respond to priorities defined by the recipient countries.

The basis for Committee discussion was a policy paper prepared by the UN Secretariat proposing a series of proposed international programmes. However, the Committee decided not to recommend or approve specific proposals, and instead identified a series of areas in the field of human settlements within which specific international programmes might later be developed. These areas included: policy formulation, management and institutional improvement, education and training, and applied research.

The Canadian delegation supported the Committee's decision on the areas identified for future international cooperation. In a major statement to the Committee at the beginning of its debate, the President of the Canadian International Development Agency, Paul Gérin-Lajoie, briefly described Canada's position on bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the field of human settlements. The full text of his statement is included in Appendix E.

The only specific programme discussed in detail was Canada's proposal to establish a United Nations audio-visual centre. Mr. MacEachen first introduced the proposal in his statement to the Plenary session on June 1 (see Appendix D).

This Canadian proposal was described in detail in a major statement to Committee I on June 4 by the Honourable Hugh Curtis. The full text of the statement is included in Appendix E. The resolution drafted by Canada and co-sponsored by 15 other countries proposed that a United Nations Audio-Visual Information Centre on Human Settlements be established at the University of British Columbia for an interim period up to December 31, 1976 and, if the resolution is approved by the United Nations General Assembly at its session in the fall, 1976, for a further five years. This resolution was approved unanimously by the Committee and subsequently adopted unanimously by the Plenary session of the Conference. The interim agreement was signed on June 12 by representatives of the United Nations, the Government of Canada, the Government of British Columbia and the University of British Columbia.

Near the end of the deliberations by Committee I on this agenda item, the delegations of Egypt and Algeria introduced a draft resolution requesting the preparation of a report by the United Nations on the "Living conditions of the Palestinians in occupied territories". The Committee referred the draft resolution to the Plenary where it was adopted by a vote of 73 in favour, 3 against, with 42 abstentions. Canada abstained.

International Institutional Arrangements

The United Nations Preparatory Committee for HABITAT had considered the questions of new institutional arrangements on human settlements in the UN system on each of its three formal sessions. A larger group of countries had also discussed this question in detail at a special working group meeting at Geneva in September 1975. Canada was a very active participant in all of these discussions. All countries were in agreement on the need to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations in the field of human settlements, largely through the consolidation of existing staff and resources in a single unit at the global level, with a subsequent redeployment of those resources to ensure effective work at the regional level.

The UN secretariat had prepared a policy paper on various institutional alternatives as a basis for discussion in Committee I. However, it soon became apparent that some proposals, as well as the paper's structure, did not have general agreement.

The Canadian Commissioner-General for HABITAT, Jim MacNeill, made a major statement during the initial debate in which he reviewed the key areas and points on which some consensus had already been obtained among governments. He stressed the importance of reaching agreement at the Conference on institutional arrangements to lead to more effective and efficient international support for required action at the national level, especially in developing countries. Mr. MacNeill urged the Committee to identify contentious points as quickly as possible so that negotiations could be started to reconcile the differences. A working group had already been formed for this purpose, and he pledged Canada to support its work in every possible way. The text of his statement is included in Appendix E.

A draft resolution which attempted to consolidate and reconcile the views expressed by many countries in the debate was introduced by the United States. It succeeded to a large extent and became the focus for all subsequent discussions.

The draft resolution had ten major sections. Amended versions of the first nine sections were approved by the Committee and, subsequently, by the Plenary. These nine sections proposed that there be a global intergovernmental body for human settlements composed of not more than 58 members reporting to the Economic and Social Council or, through it, to the General Assembly. The global body would, among other purposes and functions, propose overall policy objectives and goals in the field of human settlements for the United Nations system and develop ways and means of achieving them. It would be served by a secretariat, headed by an Assistant-Secretary-General or an Under-Secretary-General, and would comprise the existing staff and budgetary resources of the United Nations Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and the United Nations HABITAT and Human Settlements Foundation. It would also incorporate selected posts and associated resources from relevant parts of the UN

Environment Programme Division of Economic and Social Programmes and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

The HABITAT Preparatory Committee had strongly recommended that most of the United Nations staff and resources on human settlements be deployed at the regional level. The resolution includes this proposal and recommends that the United Nations Regional Economic Commissions establish intergovernmental regional committees on human settlements. The regional committees would report through the Commissions and to the global intergovernmental body and be served by a unit in the secretariat of the parent Regional Economic Commission.

The secretariats would establish close links with the principal financial institutions at the regional and global levels, especially the regional development banks and the World Bank Group, as well as with the UN Development Programme at global, regional and national levels. The secretariats would also establish working relations with universities, research and scientific institutes, non-governmental organizations and other national and regional institutions which can provide special services, training and research assistance on human settlements.

Agreement was not reached on the tenth section of the Resolution which dealt with the precise nature of the proposed institution, its relationship to the rest of the UN system and its location. Before the Conference were two proposals for the institutional arrangements which would have placed the international responsibility for human settlements either within the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi or within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (ESA) in New York. Although most countries expressed a preference for the ESA option, no agreement was reached.

Variants of the two basic structural alternatives were suggested by four countries and are briefly described in an appendix to the Resolution. However, there was substantial agreement on many important features of the proposed institutional arrangements and the United Nations General Assembly was requested by the Conference to take a decision on the unresolved issues at its 31st session in the fall of 1976.

Throughout the debate, the Canadian delegation attempted to find and promote some reasonable compromises among the divergent views, so that the Conference could make a firm and complete recommendation to the UN General Assembly on the institutional issue. Initially, the delegation avoided taking any strong public stand on the two principal issues. However, when it became apparent that a consensus was unlikely, the delegation declared its support for the attachment of the secretariat to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, replacing the existing Centre for Housing, Building and Planning and for the location of the headquarters unit in an established United Nations centre, preferably New York.

A separate recommendation, approved in Committee, requested the Secretary-General to submit a working paper on the financial implications of the alternative institutional arrangements to the next session of the General Assembly. Another resolution asked the Secretary-General to convene regional meetings to establish guidelines for HABITAT follow-up action.

Adoption of the Report of the Conference— Agenda item 12

The draft report was presented to the Conference by the Rapporteur-General on the last two days. A few amendments were proposed and agreed on. The report, as amended, was adopted and subsequently issued as United Nations document A/Conf.70/15.

The Conference then adopted by acclamation a resolution expressing its gratitude to the host country and the City of Vancouver for their hospitality and most generous assistance.

Secretary-General Peñalosa, in his closing statement, stressed that the Conference had unanimously approved a series of recommendations for national action which were revolutionary in scope and which could set in motion dramatic changes in the social organization of all countries. He noted also that the Conference had unanimously approved recommendations for international action which, if accepted by the General Assembly, will provide a new and valuable framework for global development and cooperation. In speaking of the Declaration of Principles, he said it would serve not only as an inspiration but also as a yardstick for measuring the health and standard of living of each society. In conclusion, Mr. Peñalosa stated that the Conference, and its preparatory process, had created a new awareness of the issues of human settlements. Its full success could only be measured by the policies, plans and programmes which would be implemented in the future, and those were now in the hands of national governments.

The President of the Conference, Mr. Danson, said in his concluding remarks that the HABITAT Conference was the middle phase of a three-stage process. During the preparatory work, enormous progress had been made in the understanding of human settlements issues throughout the world. The Conference had improved on this work, adopting important recommendations for national action. Governments had, singly and together, committed themselves to improving the quality of life, he said. The third phase would continue for years ahead and would be the real test of the achievements of the Conference. He then declared the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements closed.

Section IV

The Audio-Visual Programme

The Audio-Visual Programme was an integral part of the HABITAT Conference; 249 full-length films (averaging 15-20 minutes) and approximately 160 capsules (averaging 2½-3 minutes) were presented by participating nations and international agencies.

These were made available in a number of different ways:

- Capsules were presented to the Plenary and to Committees II and III, as part of the statements by individual nations
- capsules were previewed from May 24 to June 2 for delegates and the media
- capsules were available on demand to media and delegates in the Media Centre from May 24 to June 11
- full-length films were available on demand at the Project Presentation Centre, where 30 viewing booths were available for media and delegate use
- full-length films were shown on a scheduled basis and open to the public at the Queen Elizabeth Playhouse from June 1 to June 10
- films were shown on Vancouver Cable TV (Channel 10) at all programme times when Conference and Forum proceedings were not being shown
- selected films were shown at Habitat Forum, along with other films on human settlements issues.

Despite this range of opportunities, most delegates saw very few films because there were so many pressures on their time. In order for Canadian delegates to make effective use of their viewing time, CHS staff and a few delegates previewed as many films as possible, mainly in capsule form, and provided the delegation with an annotated listing of those of particular interest.

In addition, CHS staff set up three special screenings at the Project Presentation Centre. These screenings featured three films each, and representatives of the nations whose films were shown were invited to discuss them with members of the Canadian delegation. The screenings took place as follows:

June 3: Films from Colombia, Lesotho and Sierra Leone, with delegates present from the latter two nations. These films focussed on Third World problems and solutions, notably squatter settlements, self-help and water.

June 9: Films from Australia, the Federal Republic of Germany and the United Kingdom with delegates from all three nations. Directly relevant to developed nations' problems, the film of the Federal Republic of Germany dealt with climatological planning in Stuttgart, and the other two films with the problems of redevelopment and the need for achieving a human scale of development.

June 10: As the Conference had reached a particularly hectic stage, and few delegates could attend, only one film was shown: Poland's presentation on the reconstruction of Warsaw. A Polish journalist discussed this with delegates who attended.

In general, the films were not used as much as had been hoped, and the full value of the films will only be realized through continuing use. Further consultations will be held at the 31st session of the UN General Assembly on the post-conference use of the audio-visual presentations to ensure the best use of this valuable material. In addition, various agencies and even private groups will be compiling special films based on Conference audio-visuals and these will ensure further dissemination. For example, CIDA has contracted with the NFB to produce a series of such films aimed initially at Canadian schools.

Canada's official contribution consisted of five presentations:

- *Design Innovations for Canadian Settlements:* the communities of Leaf Rapids and Fermont, a solar-heated house in Toronto and the "Ark" in Prince Edward Island.
- *Governing Human Settlements:* examining Metropolitan government in Toronto and Winnipeg and the Regional Districts in British Columbia
- *The Management of Urban Growth and Land Use:* land banking in Red Deer and in rural Saskatchewan; DREE programmes, especially in Cornwall, Ontario; the British Columbia Land Commission; and the Toronto-Centred Region concept
- *Canwel:* CMHC's water treatment system
- *Community Revitalization:* citizen participation in the Strathcona area of Vancouver.



As shown in this and the following photograph, the meeting rooms for Committees II and III were equipped with television monitors. As many delegates in such large meeting rooms were unable to see the speakers, they could follow his address on the monitors. Moreover, when a delegate wished to illustrate his

statement with any one of the nearly 250 audio-visual presentations prepared for the Conference, he could request it be shown on the monitors. Delegates could also step outside of their meeting room and follow on monitors in the lobby any of the debates in the Plenary Session and Committees at other locations.





This photograph shows the control centre for Committee III. The operator is about to call onto the screen the text of Recommendation D.2 on Control of Land Use Changes. In this way, delegates

could review amended versions of recommendations without always waiting for the printed versions, thereby speeding up the proceedings considerably.



A special audio-visual presentation centre was established in the Hyatt Regency in downtown Vancouver. It had copies of the audio-visual presentations of all countries in all official languages of the Conference. Delegates could view any presenta-

tions in private screening facilities or book larger screening facilities for seminars with experts from other countries, using as a basis several films around a common theme.

These presentations were used at the Conference when their themes related to the debate. The Canadian presentations were considered average or slightly better than average in quality. Special screenings were provided of two other Canadian films on HABITAT—*A Sense of Place* and *There is Still Time* (Barbara Ward in Quebec City). These were also used by the CBC during the Conference.

The International Broadcast Institute Limited was requested to make an independent and detailed evaluation of the use of the audio-visual material at HABITAT.

Preliminary observations by delegates showed that the use of capsules tended to be more powerful and effective than full-length films. The capsules fitted more easily into the plenary statements than into committee debates related to specific recommendations where films of a more specific nature were required.

HABITAT was envisaged in part as a consciousness-raising exercise and the films were a useful aid in illustrating and highlighting particular issues and concerns. However, their potential was not fully realized. Pressure of work precluded most delegates from viewing more than a small number of films. Also very few films, perhaps only 20 or 30, used the medium with great imagination; most took the form of traditional documentaries rather than candid attempts to examine a nation's human settlements problems and proposed solutions. Not surprisingly, governments were hesitant to fully expose their national problems to an international forum.

Nevertheless, they did provide a very useful immersion course in world economics and settlement geography. In particular, the films served to highlight specific issues and to broaden delegates' understanding of many major issues including water, land management and control, planning at all levels, the power of self-help, the wastefulness of the developed world's recent urban development styles and the priority which must be given to rural development.

Both full-length films and the capsules were wide-ranging which made them useful as "teasers". They showed how film can usefully complement written papers and personal contact for the exchange of technical information.

The final evaluation will have to take into account the longer-term benefits which might result from post-conference use of the films for public information and education and training programmes.

Habitat Forum

Located at Jericho Beach, a 20-minute ride from downtown, the Forum was the parallel conference for non-governmental organizations. The site—a recycled Canadian Forces Base, with seaplane hangars converted into conference areas, exhibition areas and a Social Hall—was a triumph of ingenuity in the use of recycled materials and a limited budget. However, in poor weather (of which there was plenty) it was cold, damp and often uncomfortable.

The Forum opened May 27 and ran until June 12. It encompassed a very wide range of activities, with up to 80 events scheduled on a given day, plus the informal exchanges that took place in the exhibition areas and in the Social Hall.

The Forum was organized by an International NGO Committee, with a Vancouver-based group, ACSOH (Association in Canada Serving Organizations for Human Settlements) as hosts.

CHS staff submitted daily reports on Forum activities to the delegation, which reviewed the previous day's events and indicated highlights of the coming day. The Forum newspaper, *Jericho*, provided daily coverage and schedules of the Forum as well as the Conference, and was made available to all members of the Canadian delegation. Assignments usually made it possible for a number of delegates to attend the Forum and most found it useful and informative.

The prime objectives of the Forum were:

- to influence the Conference by lobbying and by focussing concern on specific issues
- to act as a forum for exchange of information and ideas and for the creation of continuing networks for information exchange and organized action.

The lobbying function of the Forum exerted relatively little influence on the Conference. However the Vancouver Symposium, a group largely independent of the Forum, also met prior to the Conference and did have a strong impact on it. This Symposium of international experts headed by Barbara Ward emphatically confirmed the importance of such issues as the public control of land use, the recapture of speculative profits from land transactions, the provision of clean water, energy and other resource conservation, self-help and rural and small town development. All of their concerns were reflected in the main Conference. For the full text of the Declaration of the Vancouver Symposium, see Appendix I.

The Vancouver Symposium also recommended a moratorium on the adoption of nuclear technology. This was later taken up by the Habitat Forum in a lengthy debate. Unfortunately, the Forum's preoccupation with this topic overshadowed other more relevant concerns such as energy conservation, about which little was heard.

The Forum was also the focal point for Water Day (June 6), when world leaders confirmed their concern with and commitment to the provision of water supplies to all world settlements. Canadians, including Mr. Danson and Mr. Basford, took leading roles.

In terms of lobbying, the Forum programme lacked focus as its agenda was very general and not directly related to the Conference. The Forum statements, (Appendix H), were broadly criticized as "wishy-washy", and less progressive in many areas than the UN recommendations.



The Habitat Forum was held at Jericho Beach in converted aircraft hangars. As this photo shows, the site was converted by a dedicated group of volunteers from across Canada and other

countries into a stimulating and lively setting for meetings of experts and non-governmental organizations from around the world.

There were a number of reasons for the ineffectiveness of the Forum lobbying process:

- the International NGO committee was not prepared to take aggressive and controversial positions; they arrived at their positions by consensus and were extremely sensitive to potential criticism
- the major sessions were organized in terms of set speeches and audience comment; there was no "cut and thrust" debate and no real resolutions
- the programme was too far removed from the conference agenda; although there was a daily briefing on Conference issues, briefings did not develop into a real debate because they took place early in the morning and were only sparsely attended

- audio-visual links were not adequate, so the Forum could not monitor conference proceedings; the channel 10 link was not in a central place: a large screen and a viewing area in the Social Hall would have been very useful.

In terms of information exchange, the Forum was much more successful. There were some genuine revelations and a number of channels of information were created. The main ones concerned special self-help programmes and environmentally-appropriate technology. Others ranged from new co-ordinating groups to a simple exchange of names, addresses and papers. Many people found support and contacts through the Forum.



This photograph shows the Habitat Forum Plenary hall in one of the converted airplane hangars at Jericho Beach. Much of the

wood used in constructing the seating and platform was salvaged from Vancouver beaches and sawn to shape on the site.

NGO's and the Canadian Delegation

The Canadian Delegation included six NGO representatives, who played an active role in all delegation discussions and activities.

International NGO's had their headquarters in the Georgia Hotel, and from there organized lobbying, press conferences and other activities. These did not relate to any great extent to the Canadian delegation.

A HABITAT Observer Team (HOT) of Canadian experts monitored all conference proceedings, held a number of press conferences and will be reporting later.

The major NGO interaction with the Canadian delegation took place in daily meetings at which a Canadian NGO monitoring team, organized by the CNGOPG, gave its views of the actions of the Canadian delegation and made recommendations for future action. Members of the delegation also used these meetings to report on their official activities. The meetings drew a large attendance (100-150 people) and a broad and frank exchange of views took place. These sessions were held at the Canadian NGO headquarters, St. Andrew's Wesley United Church, with the exception of the June 4 meeting with Mr. Basford, which took place in a larger room where translation services were provided.

NGO views were reported each day in a HABITAT Participation Report prepared by the CNGOPG. This report was made available to the delegation each morning and CHS staff also reported on NGO activities to the delegation every day.

The NGO/delegation meetings were extremely successful, largely because both groups were prepared to be candid and because the delegation made it clear that the NGO input was relevant and useful. This was particularly evident on the land speculation issue.

During the second week of the Conference, the CNGOPG produced the NGO Manifesto (see Appendix G) highlighting their major concerns. Because of time-pressure during the last two days of the Conference, the delegation was unable to provide an immediate formal response.

During HABITAT, the Canadian delegation agreed that a conference would be held in the fall of 1976, at which NGOs would discuss HABITAT and its follow-up. The Ministry of State for Urban Affairs offered to sponsor this conference.

Despite the general success of the NGO/delegation contacts, the delegation did not debate the NGO recommendations each day, and did not respond to them, mainly because of time pressures. In future, perhaps a short time period could be allocated at each delegation meeting for discussion of NGO concerns and formal responses to them.

At the request of the NGOs, every effort was made to have Ministers present at the NGO meetings as well as delegates responsible for the major items on the agenda each day. This was very much appreciated by the NGOs.

The Special Role of Mayors

HABITAT, like all UN Conferences, was a meeting of national governments. Nevertheless, it was recognized both within the UN HABITAT Secretariat and within Canada that the Conference would be of particular importance and relevance to mayors and municipal governments. As a result, measures were taken to ensure that the ideas and concerns of municipal governments were considered to an unprecedented extent in a UN forum.

Internationally, the UN HABITAT Secretariat encouraged the inclusion of mayors on national delegations and lent its support to a Conference of Mayors of the World's Largest Cities held at Milan, April 15-17, 1976. The Milan Conference was a major international preparatory event to HABITAT and produced a Declaration informing the Vancouver delegates of the main concerns of local governments throughout the world. See Appendix J for the text of the Milan Declaration.

In Canada, municipal governments both individually and through the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities, played an active role in public discussion and preparations. Nine Canadian mayors attended the Milan Conference.

At Vancouver, Canadian local government was represented on the Canadian delegation by nine mayors. Through the cooperation of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities and the Canadian HABITAT Secretariat, facilities were made available throughout the Conference for mayors and municipal officials from all national delegations to meet for continuing consultation.

Media Relations

From June 1 throughout the Conference, the Canadian delegation hosted a daily lunchtime media briefing. These 45-minute briefings followed a common format, beginning with an update on the Conference proceedings by the Head of the Delegation, Mr. Basford or his designate, followed by a question and answer period. The leaders of Committee Working Groups, other representatives and alternates were also on hand to answer questions.

Elected officials on the Canadian Delegation were provided additional support for individual interviews through two media relations officers on the Delegation staff.

Section V

You will confront mankind's most immediate problem, that of his habitat. This Conference is a follow-up to that of Stockholm four years ago. We are attempting to reconcile humanity with its environment.

This Conference is the largest in the history of the United Nations and this global interest is proof of the success of the United Nations' efforts in this field.

I am proud that Canada is host to this important meeting. Your work is of paramount importance for all humanity.

In the name of all Canadians, I welcome you.

Appendix B Opening Statement by Prime Minister Trudeau

On behalf of the Government and people of Canada, I extend to you a most cordial welcome. It is with great pride that I greet you here today. The pride is not mine alone; it is shared by all of my fellow Canadians, and especially by the citizens of British Columbia and Vancouver, for they know that this city will long be remembered as the site of one of the most important meetings ever held by the United Nations: Habitat, the Conference on Human Settlements.

I should like to extend a special welcome to the Secretary General of Habitat, Mr. Enrique Peñalosa. His has been the difficult—and sometimes delicate—task of directing the long, laborious preparations, both intellectual and physical, which have led up to this conference. To this man we are triply indebted: for his devotion to his fellows, for his warm personality and for his professional competence. On behalf of all here, I extend to Mr. Peñalosa an expression of our thanks and our admiration.

Canadians will not soon forget the honour that has been given them in hosting Habitat. It has been our endeavour to demonstrate the appropriateness of that selection. From the inception of the United Nations in a neighbouring city to the south, successive Canadian governments have lent with vigour support to the UN, its activities, and its international ideals. During the course of this conference, you will learn that in its size and the diversity of its geography, in the contrasts and harshness of its climate, and in its ethnic and cultural mosaic, Canada reflects to an appreciable degree the realities of today's world.

We do not pretend to possess answers to everyone's settlement problems; we do know, however, that the early settlers in Canada faced difficulties which were at least the equal of those anywhere else. The vastness of the country, and the extremity of the conditions demanded of our pioneers patience, endurance and ingenuity. These qualities we have tried to preserve. We have tried to preserve as well something of what we have learned from the process of settling this country from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Great Lakes to the Arctic Circle. The process is yet far from complete (but then what country can claim to have finished?), yet equally it is far from a failure. We have accomplished much, and are dedicated to doing more.

Canadians are far from complacent about their urban record. In the course of our development we have committed both the ordinary and the serious mistakes that have been made elsewhere. Nor have we avoided the errors of omission: we have at times been stricken with paralysis; we have at others been mere mimics. Why is it that societies are so prone to observe enormous blunders elsewhere—as in the area of urban planning or land use—to note with dismay the deplorable consequences, and then—once the feeling of dismay has passed—to do nothing to avoid similar errors themselves? This conference will be a success if such repetition can be avoided in the future.

Canada can claim some originality in the techniques it has employed in housing its people, some value in its experience. It recognizes, nevertheless, its deficiencies and understands its need to learn more. We are ready to share these techniques and this value, and to learn in exchange from others. This country has been endowed with space and with natural resources. These form a wealth to enjoy and to administer for the benefit of future generations.

There is a new world in the making, and a spreading awareness of that fact. No longer can there be a measure of fortune without an equal measure of responsibility. No nation can afford to isolate itself in self-contemplation, clasp to its breast its possessions in denial to others. Human demands require us to be more open with one another; modern technics demands it. No longer is it possible—either morally or technically—not to be accountable. We have entered, willingly or otherwise, the era of a community of interest, vital to the survival of the species, that has brought us together here. To me, this is the meaning of this historic gathering.

Of all the factors that bear on this conference, I regard urgency to be as important as any. For too long, the relationship of Man to his environment, of Man as inhabitant of the planet, has been the subject of intellectual—and somewhat abstract—debate; considered to be the domain only of scientists, bureaucrats, and—on Sundays—theologians. It must pass to the people to become a vehicle of human benefit, to become a symbol of hope for a richer and more wholesome life. To do so, urgency is required, I am delighted that this process is underway and particularly so among young people. They have made an impassioned commitment to human development and to a wholesome natural environment. It is a commitment which ignores formalities, which demands from authorities immediate corrective action or innovation.

These youth, of whatever age (who could be younger in spirit and more enthusiastic in commitment than Barbara Ward?), are here in Vancouver. They are meeting alongside us in a parallel conference: Habitat Forum. To them, too, I extend a warm welcome. The long years of experience, the specialization, the advanced knowledge and the wisdom of the delegates to Habitat, mixed with the imagination, the originality, the spontaneity, the boldness and the irreverence to be found at Habitat Forum will produce, I am sure, an effervescence of quality. The proximity of the two gatherings promises to be instructive and mutually profitable. Both groups are asking the same questions and working toward the same goal. We are all asking ourselves what to do now, how to proceed immediately, in order to make our human settlements truly human, and at the same time to prevent further deterioration of the natural environment. We possess powerful political, economic, social and technical tools; we plan to make an inventory of them and examine in each case their possible application. I do not suggest that the brain-storming of Habitat Forum can by itself completely shatter the taboos of culture and the darkness of tradition which pose such shocking obstacles to action in a world where change has become a matter of life and death. But I shall be watching with anticipation as our indispensable trumpeters lay siege to Jericho, to see what cracks they succeed in making in the walls of ancient fears and rigid conservatism.

Appendix B

The large international conferences which are so common in our time seem to me to denote two things: first that nations recognize the growth of interdependence and the need for cooperative action; second, that nations are sensitive to the urgency of current problems.

The concept of international cooperation is not new; it has been present in our minds for many years. My plea to you at the outset of this conference is to encourage that concept to descend to your guts, where thought can be leavened with passion, and accomplishment can become a reality. Altruism is not the most highly developed of international phenomena. But it does exist, it is real, and it is making progress and growing. The international organizations which we have created, of which the United Nations is the most ambitious and the most valuable, are signs of this altruism. Stockholm, Bucharest and Rome are, similarly, manifestations of this quality, and are to my mind decisive in spite of the modest scope of their practical results. Vancouver will, I am convinced, mark a yet more important stage, for it gathers together and extends a number of major concerns arising from previous conferences, and because its theme is of an absolutely fundamental nature.

The theme of human settlements is one of immense scope; in a manner of speaking it focuses the spotlight on very nearly the entire culture of each participating country. Any human settlement, understood in the full complexity of its components and considered on a national basis, is nothing less than a given culture demonstrating its actual existence. That nations have consented to open themselves up to one another in this way appears to me to be unprecedented in international relations.

The feeling of widespread and growing urgency which has been so acute at recent international conferences seems to me to be even more intense and noticeable here. I am not surprised that this should be so. Human settlements are linked so closely to existence itself, represent such a concrete and widespread reality, are so complex and demanding, so laden with questions of rights and desires, with needs and aspirations, so racked with injustices and deficiencies, that the subject cannot be approached with the leisurely detachment of the solitary theoretician. Man's habitat, with its infrastructure and its network of public utilities, is an area of continuing intervention and perpetual rearrangement; in the still uncertain and groping realm of our intentions in this matter, there will be constant improvisation and expediency. It is necessary and inevitable that this should be so. For it is a question of existence. And existence is not a matter of waiting for something in the future; it is a question of the here-and-now. It is difficult to remain indifferent in the face of all this. One feels overwhelmed, in the midst of this assembly and its message of urgency, by a spirit of feverish haste.

It is human nature to seek time to dwell on one's difficulties, to expose their roots to the light of reason, to minutely examine the fruits of every possible solution. Unfortunately, we do not have the time. All we can do is to cut back the foliage, to prune and trim, to try to combat the persistent resurgence of custom and tradition. No longer are we allowed the leisure of lingering. On one hand, the irrational roots in our gardens are too deep and too firmly entrenched to remove; on the other, the seeds of reason which gave birth to human settlement and the fruits of knowledge and intelligence borne by them are so precious that to destroy them would be madness. Furthermore, we have nothing at the moment to put in their place.

Over the centuries, man has created wonderful structures and numerous architectural monuments in which to house himself, yet in all too many instances the appearance of his dwellings and the conditions within them are deplorable, and inhuman when measured against our universally-held ideals. This is the contradiction of the human condition itself: we are conscious, but not fully conscious; we are free, but our freedom is incomplete; we are rational, but not rational enough. Conditions beyond our control are attached to whatever we are, have and do. Against these conditions we must persist, yet in the final analysis we have to adjust to the fact that our success will never be more than partial. To attempt to eliminate our determinism would not only be foolhardy, it would be as impossible as escaping from the universe itself. No desire for integrity will ever eliminate our basic ambiguity.

This ambiguity is the reason why almost all of the inventions associated with progress can turn against us. It sheds light on the ambivalence inherent in the notion of progress and on the reason why, despite the magnificent structures of our philosophies, arts and sciences, we have never been anything but provincials in the realm of reason. To limit ourselves to matters closely related to the concerns of this conference and to the solutions it seeks, this ambiguity accounts for the fact that whereas in themselves our techniques and machines denote a high degree of rationality, they can in fact be insufferably unreasonable from the psychological, social and ecological viewpoints. Nevertheless, it is to them that we must look for new solutions by seeking ways of restoring them to their intentional purity and to the purposes for which they were originally intended. The organizers of Habitat rightly maintain that the world's nations now have the means to solve the problems of human settlements. Mankind has a technical and mechanical heritage which is extraordinarily rich but which is misunderstood, mismanaged and poorly utilized.

Many thoughtful persons have reflected on the regrettable fact that our technically—and mechanically—oriented civilization has been unable to develop a universal technology, in the true sense of the word, and a mechanology. What an incredible shortcoming this is! It means that technics and mechanics have not yet been endowed with the conceptual and critical apparatus which would enable us to understand them immediately for what they are, or with the specific systems of thought which would have integrated them with culture as they developed, and would continuously have reoriented them. Had it been otherwise, had we been masters of technics and mechanics, we would undoubtedly be less dependent on the empirical groping to which we have resigned ourselves. Be that as it may, time is pressing, and our intention to work steadfastly toward correcting the injustices we have perpetrated on mankind and on the recklessness we have displayed toward nature is in itself an act of contrition. We are indeed beginning to understand that, as the Bible sternly declares, "... the universe will ... fight the reckless" (Wisdom, V, 20). And we are discovering the truth in the Scriptural affirmation that "... the elements fight for the virtuous" (ibid., XVI, 17).

Appendix B

Barbara Ward, who has outlined the objectives and the spirit of Habitat in a masterly fashion, and the authors of the papers written for study by the delegates, have stressed the demographic aspect of human settlements. They have gone to great lengths to point out the catastrophic nature of the population imbalances being everywhere created by excessive urbanization and by the uncontrolled growth of cities. The stressful effects of living in confined areas, the deterioration of the social climate, the disintegration of rural life, the disappearance of farm lands through the spread of cities and their satellites, the widespread degradation of the environment, the destruction of present and future food sources, the disorganization of transportation, the overconsumption of energy, the exorbitant costs for services, the unbridled speculation and cutthroat competition—all these disorders play a part in the breakdown of human settlements. But the main theme of the papers I am referring to is not the influx or the concentration of population in given areas; it is the very number of people presently on the earth and the inevitable consequences of this—that in thirty years the world's population will have doubled to six and one-half billion.

In order to obtain a clear picture of the present situation, we must take a fresh look at the huge crowds we are so used to seeing and which therefore no longer amaze us, and imagine what these crowds represent in terms of the satisfaction of their basic needs today, tomorrow and for ever after, not to mention the fulfilment of their aspirations and their legitimate desires. To obtain a clear idea of what the year 2000 holds in store for us, the population mass of 1976 has to be doubled and the area and density of our conurbations and megalopolitan areas increased several times over, made even more complex by the countless needs of this enormous population.

Many things, some of them terrifying and others reassuring, are being said and written about the consequences of the world population explosion. Views oscillate between the gloomiest pessimism and the most categorical optimism. I personally avoid either extreme, adopting a position quite similar to that of Teilhard de Chardin.

The notion of population growth is central to the prophetic thought of this extraordinary scholar. He constantly seeks to show his readers its positive side, while at the same time acknowledging the danger it holds for mankind as a whole. He obviously regards the question of numbers as a factor—and a problem of capital importance.

I believe it would be ridiculous to think and to act as if our numbers on this earth were not so great. Numbers are already creating overwhelming problems for mankind with respect to shelter, transportation, food, drinking water, education, employment, government and, in a word, all aspects of our concrete existence. Habitat will deal with numbers from its beginning to its end. The psychological problems raised by numbers are extremely serious. The simple existence of every individual is submerged in the coexistence of all; from now on we will all have to redefine ourselves in terms of a very close relationship with other groups and individuals—all of whom have become our neighbour. Our neighbour, who remained at a respectable distance from us until the last century, has been brought much closer through population growth, and we cannot imagine how uncomfortably close he will come in the future. How are we going to tolerate this new neighbour in tomorrow's settlements? How will we put up with ourselves in the human beehive which was envisaged by Teilhard and which is already well on its way to becoming a reality?

It is no use saying that the population will level off and even decline to a level which we would be tempted to call "human". Our numbers are destined to increase for centuries to come. What, then, is to be done?

It is clear that in order to survive, we will be forced to socialize ourselves more and more. What is actually meant by "socializing"? From a human viewpoint, it means loving one another. We will thus have not only to tolerate one another, but to love one another in a way which will require of us an unprecedented desire to change ourselves. Such a change will be more drastic than a major mutation of our species.

The only type of love which would be effective in the tightly-packed world we already live in would be a passionate love. The fact that such a statement sounds slightly ridiculous is a measure of the extent of the change we must make if we are to save ourselves.

Love one another, or you will perish, writes Teilhard in *L'énergie humaine*, adding that we have reached a critical point in human evolution in which the only path open to us is to move toward a common passion, a "conspiracy" of love.

The conspiracy of men with men and the conspiracy of the universe with an ever more just humanity; in this lies the salvation of human settlements and the hope held forth by Habitat.

Statement by the Honourable Barney Danson on his election as Conference President on June 1, 1976

I am grateful to this distinguished assembly for the honour you have given me and my country. I assure you I will do my utmost to warrant your confidence.

I know that I speak for all of you in paying tribute to the dynamic leadership of the Secretary-General of the Conference, Mr. Enrique Peñalosa, and his small but very effective staff. They have guided the preparations for this conference with great dedication and wisdom. Their commitment to the betterment of human settlement on this planet is an example for us all.

I know that I speak for all of you as well in expressing our appreciation for the work of the Preparatory Committee. Under the wise and able chairmanship of Father George Muhoho of Kenya, it provided invaluable assistance and advice to the Secretary-General.

As your President, I would also like to thank each nation here represented for its assistance in preparing for Habitat. The films, slides and other excellent presentations which each delegation has brought to Vancouver are vital tools with which we can work to accomplish the tasks before us.

As President of Habitat, this Conference on Human Settlements, I will do everything I can to ensure the success of the global effort all of you have invested in the preparations for this moment.

During the next two weeks, we have a unique opportunity to demonstrate that a United Nations conference can transcend political and ideological differences, to alleviate problems still unnecessarily afflicting the human condition.

The ideals in the documents we have before us are high and the aspirations are long-range, yet we must be realistic in choosing as our priorities, problems which are urgent now and have the greatest impact on the greatest numbers of people. We must emphasize the most readily achievable solutions to these problems, if we are to keep faith with those who look to Habitat to bring a greater degree of dignity to their existence.

We cannot resolve all of the world's problems here in Vancouver between now and the eleventh of June. We should respect the competence and responsibility of other United Nations' organs, in particular the General Assembly and the Security Council, which are already seized of some of these important and difficult problems.

What we undoubtedly can accomplish at Habitat, if we set our minds determinedly to this goal, is agreement on essential but achievable objectives that can give new hope to those most in need on this planet.

Habitat will be successful only if it is a conference of commitment, whatever may be our respective ideologies.

In making procedural judgements and rulings, I shall be guided essentially by the mandate which the conference has received from the General Assembly, the preservation of the effectiveness of the conference, and the pursuit of its successful conclusion. These are the basic criteria by which the relevance of our labours will be judged in the end. In discharging the demanding assignment with which you have entrusted me, I know that I can count on your full cooperation and understanding.

In order that each delegation has the opportunity for equal contribution, I am sure that you would wish all interventions to respect the time limits necessary to permit this. You will be asked this afternoon to approve these limits, along with a signal system bringing the assistance of technology to the Chairman's responsibility for enforcing equality of intervention opportunity. In this I shall try to be as diligent and fair as I possibly can.

There are those in the world who, while not represented here, have expressed deep cynicism about the ability of world bodies to come to grips with real problems of human concern. We have an opportunity not only to reduce or remove that cynicism, but to elevate international meetings like this to conclaves of hope, inspiration, education and essential political action which will strengthen the United Nations as well as improve the living circumstances of the human family.

Indeed, the success of this conference, in areas where success is not only possible but essential, can provide nations and their peoples with a better understanding of one another that can only enhance the opportunities for agreement in other areas.

We know that those whose lack of opportunity still threatens their very physical survival comprise the most fundamental issue of human settlements. We also know that the ultimate reason why such a lack of advantage still exists is not lack of resources to eliminate it, but a lack of political will.

As Barbara Ward has so rightly said (in *The Home of Man*): "The world's poor increasingly know that their condition is not an act of God but the choice of man."

We have an opportunity here to change that choice. This, to me, is what we mean when we speak of Habitat as being a solution-oriented conference.

Before I lapse into the judicial objectivity required of a chairman, I would like to express this hope for Habitat: let us try to ensure that Habitat is the beginning of the process to end that degree of deprivation which threatens individual existence itself. Let us, in a full spirit of cooperation, agree on a program that can achieve this objective in the shortest possible time.

I am told that I am not expected to be politically neutral but that, as your Chairman, I must be procedurally objective.

With over 170 nations and observer groups expected to participate, your Chairman will naturally be preoccupied constantly by the best use to be made of the very limited time at our disposal, by the integrity and credibility of our proceedings, and by the realization of our objectives.

It is thus my hope that you will extend your cooperation and support in dealing diligently with the compelling problems which are now before us.

We can deal with them successfully at Habitat by dealing with one another with respect and dignity. We can best help humanity achieve its full potential by handling the solvable problems of the present with a sense of urgency and commitment.

If we address ourselves single-mindedly to the fundamental issues before this conference, the human family to whom we are all ultimately responsible will look upon Habitat as a new beginning, as the point in time where the world began to regain faith in our institutions, and where belief in humanity's capacity to achieve its highest potential was renewed.

**Appendix D Statement in Plenary by the Honourable Allan MacEachen
on June 1, 1976**

HABITAT will thread a new design in the fabric of the global aspirations of the community of man. Conferences, such as ours, dealing with socio-economic problems of concern to the whole of humanity are a new phenomenon in international life. They reflect the quest for greater equality and justice among nations and individuals made more pressing than ever by decolonization, the assertion of human rights, and the spread of modern technology and communication.

HABITAT has its origin in a proposal advanced by Canada at the Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm in 1972. The quality of the environment, we were convinced, had to be matched by the quality of human life. Since then, the international community has endeavoured to come to grips with other basic aspects of the human condition on our earth. Those aspects that have the most direct bearing on the problems of human settlements were population, which as discussed at Bucharest in 1973; food, at Rome in 1974; and development, raw materials and economic cooperation, notably at the 6th and 7th Special Sessions of the General Assembly in New York. Out of this cumulative confrontation and harmonization of widely diverging national experiences and aspirations is slowly but unmistakably emerging a body of concepts and values which find a growing universal resonance.

HABITAT, our conference dedicated to human settlements, will be expected, as Barbara Ward has said, to address the most vital and urgent needs of the millions of human beings who are living—and dying—in conditions that can only be described as inhuman. It will aim at mobilizing the necessary spirit of cooperation and political will, and at establishing innovative forms of sharing knowledge, experience, and essential ways and means towards more effective national and international action.

Human Settlements in Canada

Canada wholeheartedly endorses the fundamental recommendation before the conference that national governments should establish a human settlement policy as an essential component of an overall national strategy of socio-economic development. This proposition, it seems to us, is valid regardless of the political ideology and of development of the country concerned.

In the past, improvements in living conditions have been seen as a consequence of development, as a benefit to be derived from advances in the more productive elements of the economy. I believe that this conference will recognize and proclaim that the creation of adequate living conditions and building of better settlements are the basic foundation of any real and meaningful development. To produce more, our farmers, our miners, our industrial workers and our office workers must have decent shelter, food, health services, education and the other elements which maintain and improve the human condition and happiness.

In developing a human settlement policy, Canada must take into account a number of factors and circumstances peculiar to our own situation:

(a) First, unlike most of the participants at the Conference which are unitary states, Canada is a federation. Our several levels of government—federal, provincial, territorial and municipal—all have significant responsibilities for human settlements. Coherent and effective human settlement policies in Canada can only be achieved through intergovernmental cooperation. The HABITAT Conference will no doubt further encourage national debate and intergovernmental consultation in the field of human settlement and stimulate in particular the further development of national, provincial and metropolitan land use policies.

(b) Secondly, we believe that settlement policies and strategies should focus on the problems of growth and decline, that is to say, on the improvement of the quality of life in larger human settlements and the maintenance of a vital community life in smaller towns and villages and in rural settlements. In Canada, as in many other countries, we are faced with an increasing concentration of population growth in a few large cities and metropolitan areas, such as Edmonton, Calgary, Toronto, and Vancouver. The frequent result of rapid growth has been sprawl, loss of the best farmland, and—too often—substandard living conditions. Concurrently, many of our smaller towns and rural areas have remained static or have declined, losing many of their most productive people to the big cities. This has been the case in many parts of our country.

(c) Thirdly, while the major portion of our population growth is the result of natural increase, immigration plays a critical role in shaping the growth of Canadian human settlements. With the sharp decline in our birthrate, immigration is becoming even more important.

(d) Fourthly, one of the objectives of human settlement policies in Canada must be to overcome the major differences in the economic conditions and the quality of life enjoyed by Canadians in different parts of the country. Our human settlements must be able to offer to our citizens in various parts of the country comparable, if not equivalent, employment, housing, education, health and other basic facilities.

(e) Fifthly, resource conservation will be one of the key factors shaping future Canadian human settlements. We are terribly concerned with the urban despoliation of some of Canada's best farmland. This resource is irreplaceable and requires a more responsible stewardship, and we are determined to rehabilitate our existing built environment. Canadians have learned that the costs of indiscriminate demolition and redevelopment are too heavy both in economic and in human terms.

We are also beginning to recognize how better settlement design can effect major reductions in our rate of energy consumption. Energy conservation in human settlements will have to play the major role in achieving my government's target of reducing the annual growth in Canada's energy consumption from its current 5.5% to 3.5% by 1985. We will have to achieve better insulation standards; put more reliance on renewable forms of energy; perhaps adopt more compact forms of urban settlement, and thus reduce our dependence on the automobile for city transportation; and encourage innovation in housing construction. As evidence of our preoccupation with this question, Canada will, in October 1977, host a seminar under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe which will deal specifically with the question of energy conservation and the planning and development of human settlements.

(f) The Canadian government wishes, in the context of HABITAT, to underline the special needs, aspirations and rights of our indigenous population. Many aspects of the distinctive cultures and lifestyles of Canada's native peoples, such as a strong attachment to the land and its resources, the sharing of community wealth, and a strong sense of community life are particularly relevant to the concerns of HABITAT. Canada has provided support to allow its native groups to develop political strength and to articulate their grievances and their aspirations.

Our respect for the traditions, culture and special needs of Canada's native people does not imply any restrictions in the freedom of individuals to participate fully in Canadian society.

(g) Finally, we believe that it is highly desirable, indeed essential, to involve the business community, citizen groups and the public at large in the planning and implementation of human settlement policies. The ultimate test of whether our human settlements are good is whether they are congenial to those who live in them.

Out of the process of intergovernmental cooperation and public involvement, there is emerging in Canada the recognition that future settlement policies must emphasize the reduction of waste and the importance of conservation: conservation of energy, of prime agricultural land, and of the natural and the built environment. To illustrate this point, I should like, before commenting on the international aspects of our Conference, to show a capsule version of one of our audio-visual presentations that is particularly concerned with new and more environmentally appropriate designs for Canadian human settlements.

International Cooperation

Canada will examine sympathetically and constructively the various programmes for international action which will be provisionally endorsed for further consideration and definition within the United Nations system.

At this time I would wish only to mention four aspects of international cooperation in the field of human settlements to which Canada attaches particular importance:

First, we will be prepared to respond favourably, through our bilateral aid and cooperation programmes, to proposals for assistance in the field of human settlements from our partners in these programmes. In addition, we shall use our influence within the multilateral development agencies to encourage a similarly positive response from them. We think that existing bilateral and multilateral financing institutions should be ready and willing to participate in expanded human settlement programmes.

Second, we see particular merit in the proposal to establish regional training centres for those who must plan and manage settlements. For some years now Canada has supported the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok and its Faculty for Human Settlements. We consider that this programme deserves continuing support and, indeed, that it might become a model for similar programmes in other regions.

And third, Mr. President, we are also particularly interested in the proposal to establish an international information programme to continue and to further develop the exchange of ideas and experience which will take place here at HABITAT. We think it important that the Conference recommend the creation of a United Nations Audio-Visual Library on human settlements and consider it a matter of some urgency that interim arrangements be made for the preservation and use of the valuable material prepared for HABITAT.

Fourth, we anticipate that the Conference will have before it a proposal that all nations adopt as a minimum target the provision of potable water in every definable community by 1986. Canada will lend strong support in principle to such a target and to practical programmes to achieve it.

Finally, Mr. President, this conference has a mandate to make recommendations to the General Assembly on the institutional arrangements within the United Nations system which will enable the organization to participate fully, and indeed to take the lead, in extending international cooperation to the field of human settlements.

Discussions in the preparatory meetings for HABITAT have indicated wide agreement that the existing Secretariat structures require reorganization, through consolidation of the existing posts and resources into a single organization, one which would consist of a small, centrally-located headquarters and a number of regional units. This consolidation and redeployment of the Secretariat's resources would occur in parallel with the establishment of a central intergovernmental body and the establishment of Committees on Human Settlements in each of the Regional Economic Commissions of the United Nations.

Canada supports, in general, the proposals to this end that are reflected in Conference documents. We expect the conference to make a clear recommendation on this issue, and shall be offering more detailed comments and suggestions at the appropriate time.

In closing, I should like, Mr. President, once again to welcome all delegates in the name of the Government of Canada, which is honoured and pleased to be your host, and to promise you our full cooperation in making HABITAT a memorable success.

Four major statements were made by Canadian delegates to the main committees of the HABITAT Conference. Canadian representatives also spoke briefly on many other important issues in the three committees, usually to emphasize a point of special concern to Canada or to introduce an amendment to one of the proposed recommendations. These occasions and issues are identified in the report of the delegation.

(a) Statement on "International Programmes of Cooperation" by Mr. Paul Gérin-Lajoie to Committee I (June 2, 1976)

I welcome this opportunity to address the Committee of the HABITAT Conference on the subject of programs for international cooperation in human settlements.

We have come here to focus on solutions to settlement problems. We shall, I hope, depart with a new commitment to improve our settlements, and with a commitment to continue and to further develop the international cooperation which this Conference itself represents.

All nations must take effective actions to improve the quality of life of their peoples, particularly those who are in greatest need. These actions must be taken within plans designed to achieve clearly defined national and international objectives, and I would like to suggest that these objectives should be:

- First, a significant increase in the production and distribution of food
- Secondly, a significant improvement in the quality of shelter and supporting services
- Thirdly, a significant improvement in the quality and availability of public health services
- Fourth, a significant improvement in the availability of appropriate education.

General Position

Canada recognizes that many nations will require external assistance in implementing their plans for human settlements, and we are prepared to play our part in providing such assistance. Our position is, in general:

- that effective international cooperation in human settlements must begin with national commitment and action
- that HABITAT should be used as an occasion for all countries to commit themselves to provide for settlements or to enable their people to provide the basic essentials of life at the highest standards attainable, and to reflect this priority in their national development programs
- that where such commitment exists, the world community, through international agencies and bilateral assistance programs, must be prepared to respond to human settlement priorities reflected in national development programs.

Bilateral Position

In the framework of its overall strategy for international cooperation in development, Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency, is prepared to grant priority to projects bearing on human settlements.

This priority, however, should be in accordance with the requirements of its partner in the bilateral aid program, and the projects should be part of a national strategy that includes balanced urban-rural development.

In particular, we are ready to support projects aimed at providing essential services to human settlements, especially supplies of drinking water in accordance with minimum standards, and projects to provide planned areas having minimum services for housing urban migrants, especially if these projects give migrants a degree of security of tenure.

Multilateral Position

In addition to the work that will be done through our bilateral programs, we are in favour of greater participation in the development of human settlements by multilateral agencies with which we are associated. These agencies—the United Nations Development Program, the World Bank and the regional development banks, for example—have gained solid experience in this area, and we feel that they will be ready to meet the challenge of these expanding programs.

Support to Non-Governmental Organizations

The Government of Canada has for the last 10 years provided increasing financial assistance to Canadian NGOs involved in the field of international development cooperation. For the past two years this program has been extended to international NGOs.

A good number of projects thus funded have dealt with the improvement of human settlements. Canada will in the future strongly encourage NGOs in this direction and will offer them financial assistance on a priority basis to this end.

Programs Proposed in Policy Paper

The policy paper presented by the Secretariat contains proposals for a broad range of regional and global programs in human settlements. They are good suggestions and we feel that they should receive serious consideration and elaboration by the United Nations Organization, by regional bodies and by individual nations, as appropriate to each.

There are, however, two among these proposals to which we are prepared to offer our active support at this time. The first of these is the proposal to establish regional training centres for settlement managers. CIDA now supports the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok, which conducts a post-graduate program in human settlements sciences. We intend to expand our support for this institution and think that it might become a model for similar institutions in other regions. We consider that such training institutions should contain, or be closely associated with, research centres and information centres since the three functions of training, research and information tend to reinforce one another.

We also strongly support the proposal for a global information centre. As a first step towards this centre, we shall sponsor a proposal designed to assist the United Nations in creating such a centre through an interim arrangement which we hope will guarantee the preservation and effective use of the valuable audio-visual and other information materials assembled for HABITAT.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I must emphasize the need to make national and international commitments to carry out such programs. This is the way for the international community to respond with concern for the destitute and homeless of the world. As Barbara Ward writes in her Conference book *The Home of Man*: "Cities must not be built for economics alone, or to build up the property market, nor to glorify the politician or prince. They must be built for people and for the poorest first."

(b) Statement on "Public Participation"
by Mayor Jane Bigelow to Committee III (June 3, 1976)

I would like to begin my remarks on this subject by underlining the importance that public participation has in regard to the solution of human settlement problems. Clearly, the task of decision-making in the field of human settlements is too complicated and affects citizens too drastically for governments to accomplish it without consulting our citizens, using their ingenuity and skills and harnessing otherwise untapped resources.

What is taking place here at present in Vancouver, Mr. Chairman, has some important lessons in regard to public participation. Most major conferences since Stockholm have been accompanied by simultaneous meetings of non-governmental organizations. These meetings have had a large measure of success to date.

However, the major problem that has arisen in this form of public participation has been the weakness of the link between the official and unofficial meetings. Some say that this has been a difficulty currently being experienced by Habitat Forum.

Somehow we must find ways of maintaining strong links between NGOs and governments at the international level. It is important to recognize that the participation process is not a static one—there is no one model at either the local or international level.

We are also surrounded at HABITAT by audio-visual communications, reminding us that the public is able to monitor, and respond to, the deliberations of this Conference to an extent never possible before. This electronic hardware is also a reminder of the power of television and other forms of communications which have a significant capacity to stimulate the participation activities.

On behalf of the Canadian Delegation, which includes representatives of non-governmental organizations among its members, I would like to mention some aspects that seem of particular importance here in Canada.

Our experience in Canada has taught us that government cannot wait for public participation to happen spontaneously. This does not mean that governments should try to direct public participation by providing leadership or organization. But, in our experience, it does mean that governments should provide some financing facilities and easy access to information. The sharing of knowledge is a real investment that contributes very effectively and creatively to the achievement of the goals set out by governments and the people they represent.

Thirdly, Mr. Chairman, we need to recognize that, although public participation has become a very important element in action on human settlements, there are still large segments of the population that *should* be involved in the process but are not. In Canada, it is clear that lower-income families and also native people are usually insufficiently involved in the decisions that profoundly affect their lives.

The public enquiry into the proposed Mackenzie Valley pipeline (a project which would have enormous impact on the settlements and lives of the population of the area) is one sign of a change in this regard.

In fact, the very enthusiasm with which Canadian native people have participated in this enquiry has helped to emphasize how much we normally fail to do. Similarly, we have failed to obtain the equal contribution of women in the planning and development of our human settlements. There can be few countries, and Canada is certainly not one of them, that can claim that human settlements—houses, neighbourhoods or cities—are planned to a significant extent by women or to meet needs of the total family unit. Public participation is one avenue by which women can make their contribution to ensure that their perceptions of needs are given more weight. The Canadian delegation considers, as fundamental to the participation of women, legislation concerned with property rights, rights to education and voting rights and will introduce an amendment to that effect.

Another aspect of public participation relates not to the decision-making process of governments but to that of the corporate or private sector. Many major decisions affecting our human settlements and lifestyles are made by the private sector. But so far, the public has failed to penetrate those areas of private sector decision-making which affect human settlements except, in a few isolated cases, through the efforts of consumer advocacy groups and worker participation movements. Government has a role to encourage and facilitate this participation.

Mr. Chairman, I referred earlier to the importance of the Habitat Forum in the deliberations of governments here in Vancouver. Clearly, such non-governmental gatherings can and do play a vital role in helping governments shape policies of global and national importance. For example, here in Canada, since the UN Conference in Bucharest, we have mounted a national debate on population policy. Public debates also have been important in focusing on environmental, energy and land use issues. In the two years that Canada has been preparing for HABITAT we have tried to mount an effective participation program to involve non-governmental organizations and individual Canadians in these preparations. In this context, delegates may be interested in reviewing the report of the Canadian National Committee entitled *HABITAT and Canadians* and the *Report of the NGO Conference on Human Settlements* held in December of last year. While we may not have succeeded to everyone's satisfaction in these national debates, governments have gained much from the process and we intend to continue in the future. For instance, we do intend to support a post-HABITAT Conference involving representatives of non-governmental organizations and of the Canadian National Committee for HABITAT, to review the results of HABITAT and to develop recommendations for future actions and to evaluate the participation between the non-governmental and governmental process in an effort to make it more effective.

As useful as these national debates are in obtaining the perceptions, concerns and ideas of groups and individuals on issues of national concern, there can be no doubt that the most immediate and visible impact of public participation in the decision-making process of governments is at the municipal or neighbourhood levels. One example of the effectiveness of public participation at the local level occurred here in Vancouver and I would like to conclude my remarks by presenting an audio-visual capsule of this example.

(c) Statement on "The Post-HABITAT use of the Audio-Visual Material" by the Honourable Hugh Curtis to Committee I (June 4, 1976)

Since its inception in Stockholm in 1972, HABITAT has been seen as the *beginning* of a global search for solutions to the problems of human settlements.

This led directly to a decision in 1973 to undertake what has become the most innovative feature of HABITAT: The audio-visual program.

That decision, many distinguished delegates will recall, was taken with some apprehension. Nothing similar had ever been attempted before on such a scale. It was completely without precedent. I think we would all agree, Mr. Chairman, that the success of this program has far exceeded our most optimistic expectations. To date, 125 countries have produced and submitted over 240 film and slide presentations on various approaches to the management of urbanization as well as on a wide range of solutions to human settlements problems. Members of the Canadian delegation who have seen most of the capsules and many of the films, inform me that the material is not only of excellent technical quality but, more important, it is filled with vital ideas and information relevant to our agenda and for future reference. The films treat an amazing range of subjects. They illustrate the complexity of human settlement problems. But furthermore, they demonstrate that people at all social and economic levels in countries around the world are working in innovative ways to help solve their own problems. Anyone who spends a few hours viewing the capsules — and I hope that you will all take advantage of the special showings available — cannot help but experience a real lift of spirit to see what people can do to identify and solve their own problems.

I would like, Mr. Chairman, to express our feeling of gratitude to the United Nations, and especially to the United Nations Environment Program, which three years ago displayed courage and commitment in deciding to help finance this program.

I would also like to commend those governments and organizations that have participated in the program. I am told that in many countries the work of selecting the film projects, the filming process, and exhibiting the films to local and national audiences, has significantly transformed and made more relevant the national preparations for this United Nations Conference. This has certainly been true in Canada.

Perhaps most of all, though, Mr. Chairman, I would also like to commend the Secretary-General and his staff who have really made this program possible. They have shown great dedication and ingenuity in developing and managing it.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that the audio-visual and other materials prepared for HABITAT constitute an invaluable information resource on human settlements. Brought together here in Vancouver, they represent the first "solution bank" of its kind in this field.

We believe further that this resource is important not just for the period of the Conference. We believe that its most significant value lies in the use to which it can be put after the Conference to assist in the effective implementation of the recommendations for national action, the programmes of international cooperation, and in the realization of the goals in the field of human settlements to be established by this Conference.

We believe, Mr. Chairman, that *this* view is shared by most, if not all, of the participants in this Conference. During the preparatory meetings for HABITAT, especially in the last year, many governments have stressed the desirability of making arrangements to ensure the continued availability and widespread use of the audio-visual and other materials after the Conference, as well as for the gradual enrichment of this initial bank or library.

As you know, during the April 1976 meeting of UNEP in Nairobi, the Secretary-General convened informal consultations on this matter. After these consultations, the representative of Canada, our Commissioner General Jim MacNeill, informed the Governing Council that Canada would submit a proposal to this Conference in accordance with which the University of British Columbia in Vancouver would offer to assume responsibility on behalf of the United Nations for the custody and management of the audio-visual materials following the conclusion of the Conference. I am pleased to say that the Governing Council decided to recommend that this Conference consider favourably this offer of the Government of Canada.

Since then, Mr. Chairman, we have been working closely with the United Nations Secretariat to prepare a suitable proposal for consideration by the delegates. On behalf of Canada, I express our appreciation for the cooperation we have received from all quarters. There is a full report on this in the special note submitted yesterday by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and numbered A/Conf. 70/8.

As a member of the Canadian Delegation, Mr. Chairman, and more particularly as a member of the Government of The Province of British Columbia, I was very proud to participate last Saturday in the opening of the new Centre for Human Settlements at the University of British Columbia. I am also very pleased that UBC, through this new Centre, has decided to take this initiative and that the Government of Canada has agreed to share with the Provincial Government and University of British Columbia in the capital and operating costs necessary to make this program a continuing and growing success. These expenditures will be significant over a five year period.

Mr. Chairman, with the cooperation and support of the United Nations and participating governments, we would like to ensure that HABITAT is the beginning of this global search for solutions. We wish to ensure that the investment of the United Nations, UNEP and 125 countries in this program to date is not lost or dispersed. Canada hopes to see the materials prepared for HABITAT brought together to form the nucleus of an audio-visual and information centre on human settlements that can be a part of an eventual United Nations Global Information Program.

Naturally this initial bank of material would be put to immediate use by countries, regional and national organizations and institutes around the world which would form part of an expanding network and we would like to see this initial bank gradually augmented and enriched. This, Mr. Chairman, would be especially important to developing countries with regional training and other programmes.

In the hope, Mr. Chairman, that these objectives will commend themselves to this Committee, I would like to place before you a draft resolution co-sponsored by Australia, Austria, Colombia, Finland, Ghana, India, Kenya, Mauritania, Mexico, the Philippines, Poland, Sweden, the United States of America and Yugoslavia.

The preamble expresses the need for an audio-visual and information centre on human settlements in terms similar to those outlined.

May we now draw your attention to the operative paragraphs of this draft resolution.

Operative Paragraph One recommends that the General Assembly establish an audio-visual and information centre as part of a global information programme. This makes it clear that we are dealing here with only one part, but the most urgent part, of the global programme.

Operative Paragraph Two invites all participants in the Conference to make the necessary arrangements with the Secretary-General to permit the continuing use of the audio-visual material they have prepared for the Conference. With a view to obtaining all the necessary rights and materials, Secretary-General Peñalosa has already circulated a draft memorandum of agreement, and I understand that the majority of states have responded favourably. Canada has entered into such an agreement, and I urge all others, who have not already done so, to conclude such an agreement with the Secretariat as soon as possible.

The Third Operative Paragraph recommends that the General Assembly authorize the Secretary-General to conclude an agreement with the University of British Columbia for the custody, reproduction, use and augmentation of the materials for a period of up to five years. The agreement envisaged here is intended to place the arrangement on a firm basis for several years in order to justify the considerable capital costs and operating expenses required. I should add that it is intended that this will be at no expense to the United Nations.

Operative Paragraph Four covers what must be done here and now if the collection of audio-visual material is to be properly safeguarded and put to immediate use. If this resolution is approved by the Conference, we expect that it will be possible to conclude this interim arrangement before delegations depart from Vancouver.

Mr. Chairman, the Canadian delegation believes this is an important, indeed a vital component of this Conference, and we trust it will receive the support of this Committee.

(d) Statement on "New United Nations Institutional Arrangements on Human Settlements" by Mr. Jim MacNeill to Committee I (June 4, 1976)

The Canadian Delegation would like to offer a few additional comments on this important subject of international cooperation, especially on the institutional aspects.

The discussions over the past few days have been most productive and constructive. We have listened to the many excellent interventions with great interest and, as others have remarked, we have gained a new appreciation of the immense importance of the work before us.

One of our most important and, perhaps, most difficult tasks is to recommend changes in the institutional arrangements for human settlements within the United Nations. However difficult, Canada believes that this Conference has a clear mandate from the General Assembly to make recommendations in this area. Moreover, given the rapid explosion of settlements and settlement problems, especially in developing countries, with which HABITAT is now seized, we believe that this Conference has a clear duty to resolve differences still outstanding on this issue and to recommend institutional re-arrangements that promise to be efficient and effective.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, the 56-nation Preparatory Committee did extensive work on this, as did the Secretariat, and we believe that a considerable measure of agreement has been reached on the nature and role of the organizational arrangements which this Conference might recommend to the General Assembly.

We consider, Mr. Chairman, that there was a near consensus, if not a complete consensus, in the Preparatory Committee, that the present arrangements within the United Nations are not adequate for the tasks before us now, let alone for the challenges—and opportunities—that will confront the world community in the immediate future. If that is true—and surely all of the discussion and films of the past week reinforce this view—then the question before this Conference is not whether—or even *when*—but *how*: what kind of institutional rearrangements are required to strengthen the capability of the United Nations, now and in the future, to support the actions of governments in all countries—but especially in developing countries—in implementing the recommendations for national action? What kind of institutional rearrangements are required to implement efficiently and effectively a programme of international cooperation in human settlements?

We consider that Document A/Conf. 70/6/Add. 1, the Addendum to the policy paper on international cooperation, contains within it a fair consolidation of the general thinking on UN institutions for human settlements, as it has developed during the preparatory process.

I would hasten to add that the document obviously contains some points which are quite contentious. We do not have a fixed position on these points and we would like to hear them further discussed and clarified in the proposed working group.

Nevertheless, we consider that the Addendum, together with the main document on International Cooperation, represents a good starting point for our work here and I propose to address the balance of my remarks mainly to them.

First of all, Mr. Chairman, we recognize, in common with most countries, that the existing human and financial resources of the UN in the field of human settlements are very limited. In order to strengthen their present capability and effectiveness, Canada would fully support the regrouping of available posts and resources into a single and integrated unit. This would entail the appropriate combination of at least the Centre for Housing, Building and Planning, the Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and the Human Settlements Division of UNEP. The Foundation with its recent mandate should retain its identity within the resulting organization, and be structurally integrated into it.

Appendix E

As to the global intergovernmental body, we would like to see it established as soon as possible to guide the implementation of the work coming out of HABITAT. We believe that it should report either to the Economic and Social Council or through the ECOSOC to the General Assembly. Human Settlements is essentially an economic and social development matter but with strong environmental implications. We support the suggestion that this new body should be considerably larger than the existing 27-member Committee on Housing, Building and Planning which it would replace.

The notion that this rearrangement of existing human settlements posts and resources into a single, integrated unit ought to have a strong regional focus is one that was supported repeatedly and vigorously by the Preparatory Committee. Canada supports this as a vital criterion for reorganization. It is probably one that is generally applicable in the world of today but it is especially important in the field of human settlements.

This argues strongly for the gradual redeployment of the bulk of the available posts and resources of the consolidated unit to the regions to work with the proposed regional intergovernmental committees attached in some way to the Regional Economic Commissions. Our own experience with the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning of the Economic Commission for Europe has convinced us of the value of such an arrangement, and we would expect that other regions would wish to make some similar arrangements for cooperation in human settlements, within the UN system.

It would follow from this that the central headquarters staff of the consolidated unit should be small but effective. This also follows from its proposed leadership, coordination and other functions.

Among its other functions, Mr. Chairman, we would agree that the consolidated unit should act as adviser and as executing agent for United Nations development projects in human settlements. This function has been merely touched on in the Addendum, and we think it deserves somewhat greater emphasis. To date, this development function has been discharged largely by the Centre. It should receive increased effort by the proposed unit. It is a task that requires close cooperation with many UN agencies, in particular with the UNDP and the World Bank, and with other multilateral and bilateral agencies, and hence the need for the most effective possible links with them.

We believe that the role of the consolidated unit requires that it be headed by an official of the highest rank possible, preferably a rank equivalent to an Under-Secretary-General.

The main points to be considered in selecting a location for the headquarters are the location of the principal units with which it would need to work and the need for operational effectiveness and efficiency. This leads us to favour a location in New York. The considerable deployment of the staff to the regions should ensure an increased presence and capability in developing countries, while the location of the headquarters unit should ensure good coordination with major financing organizations and with the rest of the UN family.

We fully recognize the intimate relationship between human settlements and the environment. Our present concept of human settlements, and HABITAT itself, originated in the Stockholm Conference and have been developed with the care and support of the Environment Programme. We believe that UNEP can and must continue to take a great interest in the environmental implications of human settlements, just as UNEP must be concerned with all other development activities affecting the environment. For this it will require some continuing expertise in the field. In addition, a close relationship must be established and developed between the UNEP and the human settlements organization. This should be done formally through the Environmental Coordination Board and other consultative machinery, but we believe that more direct cooperative arrangements will be needed to meet objectives which are often shared.

Obviously, Mr. Chairman, we have a great deal of work to do this next week. A number of contentious points need to be further discussed and, hopefully, resolved at this Conference. A recommendation on institutions from this Committee to the Plenary needs to be put together, desirably in a form that, when approved by the Plenary, can go to the General Assembly. We understand that this will be initially the task of the Working Group on Institutions that you have proposed. The Canadian Delegation will support its work in every possible way.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to stress the importance that I am sure we all attach to this. Governments in all countries, and especially in developing countries, will require increasing global and regional support to respond to their human settlements problems. One of HABITAT's most urgent tasks is to ensure that the United Nations has the capability, now and in the future, to provide effective and efficient support for required action at the national level which is being defined by the other two main committees of this Conference.

Appendix F Statement to the Final Plenary Session explaining Canada's Vote on the Declaration of Principles (Given by the Honourable Ron Basford on June 11, 1976)

Mr. President, Distinguished Delegates,

It is obviously with a very deep regret and very deep sadness that my government has had to, by reason of having the vote on the whole of the Declaration at once, indicate a no vote on the Declaration of Principles and it's a matter of sadness to me and I think to others that we have at this Conference been unable to arrive at a real consensus on the Declaration. I pay tribute to those who worked so hard at endeavouring to achieve that consensus. Had there been votes on separate paragraphs of the Declaration, Canada would have voted against paragraph 4 in Part II of the Declaration. The reason for Canada's doing that would have been that while the document as a whole is found acceptable, the words at the end of paragraph 4 of Part II regrettably link the Declaration in a clear and unequivocal manner with the General Assembly resolution 3379 adopted by the General Assembly on November 10 of last year. That resolution of the General Assembly pretended to determine that Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination.

Mr. President, Canada condemns all forms of racism and racial discrimination absolutely and unequivocally and was prepared in the Declaration to say so. But Canada will not and cannot accept the view that Zionism is a form of racism or racial discrimination. Canada has consistently voted against any attempt to equate or link those concepts and that position has been stated by my government firmly and clearly on many occasions. Except for those offending words at the end of paragraph 4 of Part II, we would have been prepared, Mr. President, to have joined in the consensus with other distinguished delegates.

Mr. President, on the other hand, as I indicated, it is with real sadness and regret that I have had to indicate on behalf of my government by reason of paragraph 4, Part II, our negative vote on the Declaration. Let me on the other hand, Mr. President—let us not forget that this Declaration contains in many of its paragraphs excellent and inspiring articles that will help many member states to set and reach their goals for better human settlements and in fact, Mr. President, as I indicated, a large majority of those paragraphs are acceptable. I think it would have been acceptable to all of us had they been voted on separately.

Thank you, Mr. President.

1. Regarding the New International Economic Order, let Canada take action to lead in establishing new international agreements and arrangements regarding trade, monetary systems, industrial strategies and resource development programmes that are advantageous to the developing countries. Let Canada's response to the needs of poor countries not be *only* aid through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

2. Let land be treated as a community resource and not as a market commodity. Let such a principle be reflected in control of land speculation, control of urban expansion onto food land, and in terms of provincial policies and legislation.

3. Let Canada lead in establishing a moratorium on expansion of nuclear power, with accompanying emphasis on alternative power sources and on energy conservation.

4. Let there be an end to fragmentation of housing programmes among the federal, provincial and municipal levels of government. Let priority in housing be directed to special-need groups, especially by means of government action at all levels to control the cost of land and the cost of money for housing.

5. Let there be a Canadian dollar commitment now to programmes for clean water, but let Canada's commitment in this regard especially be tied in with trade, monetary and other changes aimed at building up the self-reliance of every nation as the main means for attaining the objective of clean water everywhere.

6. Let indigenous land claims be settled prior to the undertaking of development projects in Canada; and let special attention be paid to advancing the equality of indigenous women and to the general needs of native peoples in such matters as housing and jobs.

7. Let all levels of government, and non-government organizations, follow through in deeds what has so often been said in words about equality for women in Canadian society.

8. Let there soon be Right to Information legislation covering all levels of government in Canada to facilitate public participation, as well as legislation to permit citizen class actions against environmental offenders. Let governments also encourage and facilitate public participation in private sector decision-making.

These points are submitted as a challenge to post-HABITAT commitment and action at every level of government in Canada. In future, let the three-level division of responsibilities in Canada not be used as a device for passing the buck and dodging responsibility. Let the Canadian federation be made to work for people.

First Habitat Forum Statement of June 2, 1976

Introduction

The objectives of the Human Settlements Conference will only be fulfilled if it addresses itself to the fundamental causes of the most serious of the human settlements problems.

Without an adequate and historical analysis of man's habitat, and without a proper explanation of the existing barriers which prevent the implementation of effective policies for improving that habitat, we cannot expect to offer a proposal with positive results. We believe that an effective improvement of human settlements conditions implies a change in national and international socio-economic structures.

The Problem of Habitat

1. One can only understand man's habitat—i.e., the biophysical, socio-economic and political expression of man's social activities—by first understanding the way in which that habitat is produced and used.

In general, man's habitat is, in different countries, an expression of society's economic structure, of the power relationships amongst social groups, and of the structure of the state. More specifically, type and level of industrialization, the relations between rural and urban area, the dominant form of ownership and the distribution of income. Each of these factors is, in its turn, conditioned by the place of each country in the world system of domination and dependency.

2. Partial explanations which fail to consider the problem in its historic perspective, run the risk of overemphasizing ecology, urbanistic developments or catastrophic predictions about overpopulation.

3. Even if one accepts that in all countries in the world human settlements are in a precarious condition, and that poverty and social exclusion exist everywhere, it is in the underdeveloped countries that their situation is most dramatic because of the sheer dimensions of the problem. In these countries the so-called "deprived areas" are not the exception but frequently the rule. According to World Bank statistics, more than 900 millions have to survive on an annual income of less than \$75.

In these countries the basic resources necessary for the creation of settlements are often controlled by monopolies. Moreover, the absence of sufficient job opportunities and the concentration of income in the hands of a few as a result of the prevailing organization of the production, means that no attention is given to the housing, infrastructure and social service needs of the vast majority of the population, both in urban and rural areas.

4. It is important to realize that the forms of urbanization in these countries are not the result of an incidental process but rather the logical products of the prevailing social system which, in a large number of countries, benefits small minorities to the detriment of the majority of the population.

5. The type of tenure of land is one of the most important factors that determine the characteristics of each habitat. We strongly support the Recommendation for National Action in your document No. 5 which states that "Land, because of its unique nature and the crucial role it plays in human settlements, cannot be treated as an ordinary asset, controlled by individuals and subject to the pressure and inefficiencies of the market. Private land ownership is also a principal instrument for the accumulation and concentration of wealth and therefore contributes to social injustice. . . ."

Furthermore, the private sector is motivated by an exclusive concern for profit which does not often coincide with social requirements. Equally, the interest of governmental groups, which in some countries make common cause with the private sector, use the benefits of settlements and in this way, make enormous profits. In doing so they deprive the majority of the population from essential goods and services.

6. These factors present such obstacles, especially in underdeveloped countries, that the right to a habitat, and notably the right to produce and utilize it in accordance with their particular interests and needs, has become a farce for most people. For this reason they, and especially the newcomers among them, are forced to set up their own settlements which are considered illegal. Thus they suffer not only from a substandard habitat but are also subjected to repressive action. Governmental policies tend to institutionalize such unjust situations.

7. Under such circumstances, the notion of participation is often abused in order to disguise the real causes of the problem, and to permit the maintenance of low income levels and to load the settler with many non-remunerative tasks.

8. We propose a new style of development that:

- provides for new forms for the allocation of resources to society
- allows for a redistribution of income and wealth
- guarantees everyone the right to work
- promotes a shift from private to public consumption of goods and services
- directs the activity of governments towards satisfying the needs of the majority of the population
- stimulates the active participation of the population in decision-making.

These proposals require the establishment of a new pattern of international economic relations and a confirmation of the principle that nations control their own resources.

Recommendations for Action

9. All governments should establish at all levels of decision-making a framework wherein people and communities can make the maximum number of decisions for themselves and be given the means to implement them. The opinion of the elderly, the handicapped, the poor, the newcomers, must be obtained and acted upon, particularly with regard to social services, employment opportunities, building design, transportation policies and the provision of utilities.

10. We consider it fundamental, however, to propose a policy which goes much further and is radically different from the general notion of participation. This new policy should promote the control, by those concerned, of the elements of the production process (land, technology, material, professional services, etc.) by the creation of autonomous mechanisms for social participation, possessing sufficient powers to fulfill their tasks.

In this context we should like to associate ourselves with another recommendation of document 5 which states that, "By definition, popular participation cannot be planned or ordered from above; it can only be encouraged, in particular by removing political or institutional obstacles standing in its way." Among these obstacles we should like to draw special attention to the lack of access to information and the absence or one-sidedness of education.

The concept that the mass of the population have the right to control the production as well as the use of their habitat must also be one of the guidelines directing future international technical and financial cooperation.

11. Security of land tenure, building materials and credit facilities are the instruments by which governments can help people to build their own settlements. Specific goals should be set for the improvement of basic services and these should include the following:

- provision of clean water for everyone
- provision of an adequate system for human and solid waste disposal incorporating concepts of recycling and energy conserving technologies
- provision of appropriate forms of transport to enable all segments of the population to have inexpensive, safe and easy access to it. Priority should be given to public transport

Furthermore:

- those technologies should be applied which are in the social interest of the users and in accordance with the specific and ecological requirements of their location
- indiscriminate transfer of knowledge experiences and resources based on external interests should be avoided
- land use and ownership policies should guarantee public control of land in the public interest. Owners of land shall not profit from an increase in the price of land that results from public investment in the infrastructure
- there should be imposed a global moratorium on the construction of nuclear power plants and those presently operative should be phased out. Research into alternative sources of energy like solar and wind power should be intensified
- governments should implement the World Population plan adopted by the World Population Conference
- no real improvements of human settlements around the world will take place without the mobilization of the necessary political will and Governments, especially those of the richer countries, should be prepared to finance the programs for achieving the goals of HABITAT. As a first step towards the goal of total disarmament which will make human settlements much safer places to live in, it is proposed that:
- 10% of all appropriations presently allocated to military purposes by member nations (approximately \$300,000 million) be transferred annually to a fund for improving human settlements and the quality of life for the poorest of the earth's inhabitants
- the Recommendations For National Action is perhaps the most important document of this Conference. As a modest step towards ensuring the implementation of the recommendations we propose that Governments be requested to submit biannual progress reports to the United Nations
- finally, we request the Governments, when they decide on the organizational structure within the United Nations which will be responsible for human settlement issues, to make appropriate arrangements for the involvement of non-governmental organizations both in the planning and implementation stages of its programs.

Second Habitat Forum Statement of June 9, 1976

Introduction

On June 2, a First Statement on behalf of the participants at the Habitat Forum was presented to the UN Conference. In this second statement, we want to follow up on the principles contained in the First Statement and express our opinion on a few specific items which are currently being discussed by the Conference. We also want to put forward some other ideas, which up to now according to our views have not received sufficient attention.

In accordance with our First Statement we are of the opinion that the various aspects of human settlements' problems such as housing, basic services, energy, environmental pollution, land use, participation, financing, etc. . . . cannot be dealt with and resolved in an isolated and individual manner. We consider that these problems can only be solved by a global and integral approach which has to go to the heart of the matter and transform the economic, social and political structures which caused them, both at the national and international level. In other words we need not only a New International Economic Order, but simultaneously and not less urgently we need a new and just internal economic order.

The major human settlements' problems are of a world-wide significance and they call for global solutions: the world's resources are limited and they need care and maintenance; they have to be distributed more equally among nations.

We need a society which is no longer based on profit and exploitation, and does away with the notion of accelerating consumption which creates false needs for the individual.

Participation

The problem with people's participation in the planning and implementation is pre-eminently political; we might say it cannot be considered independently of the character of the state and the power relations in each country.

In societies in which the state is an expression of the interests of privileged groups participation must be considered both as a process and as a goal. In this sense popular mobilization in the creation of a habitat must be pushed as a mechanism for the organization of majority and minority groups, and by the means of which it would be possible to generate those structural changes essential for the development of authentic popular participation. Working to the same end is the need to introduce associated forms of production (production cooperatives, community enterprises, etc.) as an additional mechanism, by which to create the conditions, needed for an effective popular participation.

Without exception we must assure that the population has the right to control the creation, production and social appropriation of human settlements, participating actively in all the stages associated with the implementation, generation and evaluation of plans and programs.

It is necessary to point out within the participation issue that the specific problems of the discriminative minority are of the same nature as those of the oppressed majorities, either within the most developed countries or the dependent nations. And it is only through action involved in changing the socio-economic structure that these specific claims can succeed.

Land

Especially in those countries where the majority of the population live in the rural areas, land is one of the most important means of production. Its ownership and use determine the living conditions of the population. This notion should be reflected in national policies concerning land. Where necessary, agrarian reforms should take place or be intensified. These reforms should be integrated in global development plans and provide for efficient and economically viable units based on social participation and forms of cooperative production. Land, whether rural or urban, should be regulated and controlled in the public interest.

We strongly advocate that the original text of paragraph D. 3 (b) of Doc. A/CONF 70/5 be maintained, reading "The plus value resulting from changing the use of land or from changing public investment must be recaptured by the community". The income thus obtained should be deposited in a national fund for the improvement of settlements of the great majority of the population while priority should be given to the under-privileged minorities. Agricultural land should be regulated for the social needs of the population regarding employment opportunities and food supplies. Effective control should be exercised over the multinational corporations which, apart from introducing indiscriminate technologies contrary to employment requirements, base their production programs on criteria that are alien to the basic nutritional need of the population. In relation to the control of land use we reaffirm that the authority over national territory is the exclusive jurisdiction of the sovereign state.

Water

We support the objective of providing clean water for all but must emphasize that this requires profound changes in the existing socio-economic structures. At present, in a large part of the world, clean water supply is conditional on the economic capacity of users and is therefore inevitably linked to the prevalent unjust income distribution.

Equally, in as much as the pattern of water utilization in agriculture is intimately related with the pattern of land ownership, a more just distribution of water will only come about by its inclusion as an integral part of agrarian reform.

Supply of water implies a concurrent effort at reducing all sources of pollution which includes that associated with:

- intensive agricultural activity based on the indiscriminate use of inorganic fertilizers and insecticides whose production and distribution is controlled principally by transnational corporations
- the inadequate treatment of waste water from industrial plants and human settlements.

State action, which could constitute a corrective element of the disequilibrium generated by the spontaneous nature of the economy, faces two limitations: firstly, as state control of the investment resources is minimal, it lacks the financial capacity that massive water supply programs require. Secondly, given the characteristics of the state in developing countries, its action in many cases tends to exaggerate this situation of disequilibrium.

Energy

Aggravation of the problems of environmental pollution associated with the production and use of energy and the growing pressure on non-renewable resources results from the type of economic system that exists at a world level and which is itself characterized purely by profit motives.

This state of affairs, which influences global conditions of life, has an especially detrimental effect on the potential development of the Third World Nations, being typified by:

- sophisticated and diversified patterns of consumption that lead to the waste and depletion of non-renewable resources
- the internationalization of energy resources whose control and use operate to the benefit of the most developed nations
- the monopoly creation and dissemination of technology by the transnational corporations satisfying their own commercial interests.

In this context, changes in consumption patterns which favour collective consumption and the establishment of new international economic relationships are of vital importance in order to allow a greater economy in the use of energy resources and likewise make possible a reduction in the level of environmental pollution.

In addition to the above mentioned points we would indicate that the use of atomic energy with the danger of unknown risks of operation and very specific war-like purposes is unacceptable. In this respect, the most developed nations must be responsible for implementing policies of energy consumption and technical change that lead to the use of alternative energy sources and renewable resources.

With regard to atomic energy, we propose the following amendment: "to emphasize where possible the use of renewable over non-renewable energy sources and the moratorium on the use and export of technologies which are known to be hazardous, such as nuclear power".

International Cooperation

International cooperation must be oriented toward the strengthening of popular organizations with a determined aim of community work.

We support the initiative of creating a coordinating body jointly responsible for the actions of these organizations, bringing resources to the solution of human settlements problems.

This body must, besides, implement control mechanisms to carry out agreements arrived at.

In accordance with the valuable experience of this NGO Forum each one of these international events should have such a representation, since it can generate many ideas as a contribution to official discussions.

Appendix I Declaration of the Vancouver Symposium (May 31, 1976)

The Vancouver Conference is about the whole of life. Habitat is concerned with pulling together the issues faced at the United Nations conferences on the environment, population, food, the status of women and the whole balance of the world economic order. For it is in settlements that the effects of all these particular issues come together. It is in settlements that mankind achieves happiness, justice and dignity — or suffers rejection, despair and deepening violence.

The focus of all policies for urban and rural settlements must therefore be the people who live in them. Yet in both the developed and the developing world there are ghettos of poverty and abandonment in a ring of middle-class suburbs; wealthy enclaves encircled with shanty towns; abandonment and deprivation in the countryside; the relegation of migrant workers to a new subservient class. If the world's population doubles by the century's end, as it well may, we run the risk of doubling these repellent errors of the past.

Yet mankind does not lack the human skills and the physical resources to create and regenerate truly humane communities. It is a tribute to the sense of responsibility and awareness of the world's governments that they have come together at Vancouver to devise ways of mobilizing the ideas and resources needed to create settlements that are more truly "civilized" in a fundamental sense.

To achieve this aim, a first priority must be to see that settlements are no longer "residuals", the outcome of decisions reached on other issues. Their vitality and growth must not be made dependent upon economic revival or development in other sectors. They must themselves be seen as "lead sectors" in world recovery and world development.

This priority demands from governments:

- control over land use
- the securing for the community of unearned increment from land sales
- the organization of the whole "national space" as the basis of settlements planning
- the reinforcement of intermediate cities and rural settlements to create systems which strengthen agriculture and lessen the pressure on the biggest cities
- the creation of better-balanced communities in which the mix of different social groups, occupations, housing and amenities ends all forms of social segregation
- 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, with special emphasis on the provision of clean water by a specific date
- the introduction of conserving and recycling services
- a moratorium on the adoption of nuclear technology, and emphasis on environmentally safe and economically cheap "income energies" such as solar power
- the full participation of all residents in the decision-making that determines policies for their settlements
- the reorganization of national, regional and local government to respond to the new emphasis on human settlements

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- a new direction in research and academic institutions to give the problems of settlements the attention and the data-base they require
 - a commitment on the part of the international community to make the basic services in human settlements a first call on capital assistance
 - a pledge taken here at HABITAT to set in motion the cooperating process of settlement development and improvement.

The New International Dialogue

In the 1970s, the whole international community started to confront the realities of its planetary life. The process started with the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in 1972, where for the first time mankind's ultimate dependence on the planet's biosphere — its life support systems of air, soil and water — was clearly recognized. Since then the problems of population, of food, of the status of women have been examined in a series of world conferences, and the United Nations has devoted many sessions to the whole issue of better balance in the world's economic order.

As the nations assemble once again to consider their planetary destiny, we call on governments to reaffirm their commitment to the positive proposals made at the previous assemblies. We believe that here at HABITAT in Vancouver they are involved in the most urgent of all these consultations. It is in human settlements that all other issues come together, to shape the daily life of the world's peoples, to determine the citizens' achievement of the goods of civilization — justice, happiness, dignity, self-respect, participation — or, on the contrary, to see them lost in rejection, despair and deepening conflict.

In a very real sense, HABITAT is about the whole of life. True, it therefore presents the risk of offering too vast a subject. But its promise is that it can help governments, participants, the media, the world at large to see that in our interdependent existence partial answers are not enough. The community itself and all its people must become the focus of policy.

The "Residual" Cities

The city in history has been the focus of civilization, the creator of true "urbanity". But, since the coming of the technological order, most settlements have grown not with any particular civilizing intent but largely as a result of decisions made by a few groups and interests about a whole range of other issues — transportation, overseas links, access to raw materials and manufacturing sites, growth in national capitals, imperial connections and so forth.

The result has not, on the whole, offered satisfactory contexts for human living. Developed urban systems in the richest lands contain ghettos of poverty and abandonment. There are enclaves of affluence amidst the deepest deprivation in Third World cities. Ghost towns and villages haunt the countryside. Vast urban and suburban sprawls eat up farm land, consume energy in almost mindless mobility, show an astonishing mismatch of jobs and residence and contrive to pollute with varying degrees of severity all the surrounding life — support systems of air, soil and water.

After two centuries of this kind of urban growth, in which settlements are the "residuals" of other decisions and priorities, the result provides more warnings than examples. Yet in the next twenty-five years, world population may nearly double, urban dwellers increase threefold, more settlements be established than in the whole of human history and the biggest expansions — both in population and in the number of ten-million cities — take place in the areas least supplied with resources to cope with the explosion.

The core of the crisis is the profoundly unsatisfactory character of so much that goes on in the life of contemporary settlements, and the risk of nearly doubling the errors in no more than three decades.

Priority for Settlements

It is the task of HABITAT to dispel all feelings of apathy or fatality about these risks. It must be made clear that the human community can learn from its own mistakes and has the skills and means to do so. Better human settlements can become a central thrust of national and international policy. As the century draws to its close, humanity can give to the regeneration and creation of truly humane communities the kind of priority in political will, in general strategy, in economic policy, in resource use and practical action which, all too often in the past, has been largely dedicated to military preparedness.

We do not have to wait for the return of economic momentum among the wealthier nations, or economic development among the poorer, to pull up the cities in their wake. We do not have to plead that the improvement of settlements can only follow the creation of more wealth. On the contrary, the building or renewing of the world's settlements is an essential means of sound growth and development, with housing and physical and social infrastructure as lead sectors in an expansion which truly serves man's basic needs.

This dedication of the will of nations is all the more essential in that the problems of settlements — deprivation, mass migrations, poor shelter, lack of services, unemployment, waste, pollution — cannot be solved simply *within* settlements. They reflect the total ordering of the national territory and the economic and social order.

Where, as in many developing countries, the whole settlement pattern is inherited from the period of colonial control, it can leave vast coastal cities, which were once virtually extensions of European trade, largely unlinked with their still underdeveloped hinterlands. If half the people are crammed together in the capital city, it is only by opening up other regions that pressure can be taken off the centre. If over-farming is threatening an irreversible loss of cropland, immediate opportunities in other settlements are a precondition of ensuring future food supplies. If feudal systems of land tenure prevail, the land can be starved of resources while the wealth drains off to "parasite" cities. In such conditions, it is only by national policies, including the country's whole area and whole set of economic and social relationships, that valid settlements strategies can be evolved.

Balanced Development

This approach to the total settlements system also underlines the need to get away from rigid and misleading divisions between rural and urban regions, and to see a country's settlements as part of a continuum of national existence and movement in which the health and viability of the various parts are essential to the vigor and development of the whole. In particular, the target set for the growth of Third World agriculture in the Rome World Food Conference — five per cent a year — is clearly impossible to achieve without an end to the over-concentration of resources and skills in big cities (which tend to exercise most influence and political pressure). It requires a strong new emphasis on filling out the whole settlement system. Intermediate urban centres for marketing, cooperatives, services, and industries serving agriculture must be strengthened. Dispersed and desolate rural settlements need to be brought together. Such a policy offers some hope of lessening the pressures of large scale migrations out of agriculture directly into the biggest cities. It can also provide alternative settlement systems designed to achieve more balanced regional development.

Within settlements, the aim of "balanced development" is equally critical. The aim is the mix of social groups, occupations, enterprises, types of housing and common services that are still to be found in provincial cities and in the "urban villages" often embedded in developed world metropolises. What is inadmissible is the co-existence of abject, ghetto-like poverty in cities of largely middle-class standards, or the relegation of migrant workers to the status of a new sub-class, cut off by every barrier of deprivation from the society they serve.

In the developing world's settlements, the sheer scale of movement and growth — with cities receiving as many as 200,000 migrants each year — make it clear that if shelter and community are to be provided and improved over the next three decades, every encouragement must be given to the citizens themselves to arrange, build and diversify their communities. For millenia, the building of settlements has had no other base. The adapting of traditional initiative to new urban conditions is dauntingly difficult. But in fact it happens. Settlements of 30,000 have been built by migrants overnight, of a million in a couple of years. Many of them begin, in a remarkably short time, to show signs of upgrading and consolidation. Extra rooms are built, trees and gardens planted, small businesses open, the "informal sector" begins to produce the goods the poor need at prices the poor can pay. Only when the bulldozers move in and the whole effort has to be rebegun, are hope and vitality quenched.

The settlements built in this way do not conform to standards of "excellence" borrowed from the norms of developed, industrialized societies. Nor are they the final stage of urban development. But a first step is to admit their legitimacy, provide them with security of tenure and begin the search for ways in which, without extinguishing local initiative, the processes of upgrading, of widening opportunity and of building connections with the more formal city can be set in motion.

Imperatives for Governments

But these aims of building for and with people, of creating genuine communities, of ending extreme imbalances of wealth and opportunity at the national, regional and local level, all imply concrete policies and specific approaches on the part of the public authorities. There can be no plan, no strategy, no clear intention at any level of government unless a number of preconditions are observed.

The regulation of land use must be a public responsibility. Private ownership of land must not confer the right to secure development gains brought about solely by the needs of the community. Any "unearned increment" created by changes in land use or by the growth, work and needs of settlements must return to the community which created the value in the first place.

The means of securing these essential instruments of control over land use and unearned increment will vary from country to country. But the principle is universally valid. Moreover, it is the only guarantee that a kind of permanent inflation will not be built into the massive city-building of the next three decades. We recall the 200 per cent increase in land prices in London between 1972 and 1975, and the fortyfold increase in land values in Tokyo since 1950. Developing cities such as Mexico or Sao Paulo have experienced even faster rates of inflation. Yet, if developing countries do not secure control of urban land use and land values for their incoming millions, they will be unable to provide basic security of tenure. Essential municipal services for the mass of their citizens will be beyond their means. And they can have little hope of ending the segregation of social groups according to income and privilege.

Such failures of policy would be a crippling blow to all hope of upgrading existing settlements and planning new ones on a national scale. Citizens can do much for themselves. Local building materials are available. Governments can assist by encouraging the production of the scarcer goods. But services have to be provided by the public authorities. These include the layout of public transport to link settlement areas with employment, the provision of water and sanitary services, health centres and schools (which can be given multiple use as community service centres and meeting places) and the provision of staffing, school materials, medicines and so forth.

Of all these, clean water perhaps deserves the highest priority. It not only ends the dreadful toll of gastric disease, but by ensuring the survival of young children, it offers the most direct incentive to parents to begin to stabilize family size.

But this infrastructure is costly. If the city loses command of its land use patterns, of all incremental values and of future rentals or resales, the task of financing essential infrastructure becomes nearly impossible.

Gains from conservation

One of the most hopeful developments in recent urban experience is the realization, in many developed cities, of the degree to which municipal services can be made to pay their way — and even make a profit — if new techniques of energy and resource conservation are established as the basis of the urban system. In transport, the requirement that the automobile should pay its full costs of pollution, wasted space and general disruption and killing, coupled with the steady rise in gasoline prices, may come just in time to return passengers and needed revenue to public transport. Developing cities can, from the beginning, avoid the expensive commitment to the single commuter in the four-seater car and the six-lane traffic block.

In municipal wastes, the recovery of single cell protein from bio-industry promises to be the basis of a revolution in animal feed, thus to release precious grain to the poorest children. Some cities have been turning sewage into compost and animal foodstuffs for half a century. Now with new processes, metal and organic wastes can be separated, the latter used for fertilizer or fuel, the former resold for recycling which requires infinitely less energy in reprocessing.

These discoveries, which are leading states in North America to set up their own agencies for resource recovery, are not only a model for developing country systems. They underline the fantastic waste of resources and energy upon which traditional development techniques have been based. Sober estimates recently put the percentage of energy sold and then wasted in the United States as high as 50 per cent. Water use in many developing cities is similarly wasteful. These are errors and extravagances which all countries — developed and developing alike — can and should avoid.

The Nuclear Option

These developments lead to a further conclusion. It concerns what is by all odds the most fateful decision confronting human settlements — whether or not to take the plunge into the nuclear economy based upon the breeder reactor. The most pressing argument put forward is that with the imminent using up of fossil fuels — oil and gas within a few decades, coal in a couple of centuries — the world's only hope of maintaining "civilized standards" lies with the nuclear option. But this argument completely ignores the fact of massive and totally unnecessary waste in all Western technologies — from farming to metallurgy to aviation. It also ignores the beginnings of a real breakthrough in research and technology to such safe "income energies" as the direct use of solar power, a development which, as it goes forward, would not only remove the risk of deadly indestructible poisons turning up over 25,000 years to imperil future generations. It would also influence settlement patterns in quite new ways.

These directions . . . towards decentralization and smaller scales of technology could well have the kind of humanizing tendency which some of the large-scale, highly technological inventions of the past (particularly in building operations) have signally failed to exhibit. Given these new opportunities for safe energy, the inconceivable scale of nuclear risks already present in nuclear weapons need not be reinforced by widespread "peaceful" uses. There is time for much more careful assessment of the dangers inherent in the nuclear economy. The margins permitted by ending mankind's present profligate use of energy make it perfectly feasible to declare a moratorium on nuclear power systems and to devote the needed research and resources to the development of other environmentally safe and economically attractive forms of "income energy".

Institutional Implications

If human and creative settlements are to become a central thrust of national planning, a number of political and institutional changes will be required at the national level:

(a) The first has been mentioned, but it must be repeated — the commitment of the whole government to the acceptance of civilized human settlements as a first priority of public policy. But this decision has institutional implications. There is need, preferably in the Prime Minister's or the President's office, for a department or ministry for settlements. The sectoral division of all government systems between transport, health, housing industry, trade and so forth means that at no point can the impact of the policies they generate for the community they are supposed to serve be properly measured. At some critical point of policy-making the threads must be drawn together and the primacy established of turning settlements into humane and genuine communities.

(b) It has to be remembered that settlements form a system and that lines of authority and responsibility from the centre to the regions and to the local authorities are frequently too weak or incoherent to carry the full thrust of a national commitment. Responsibilities, financing, coordination need to be reshaped to fit the new urgency.

(c) In large urban systems where, all too often, a separation of work and residence, of city services and city-derived income has occurred, forms of metropolitan government are required to see that the burdens and gains of urban life are carried by all those who make use of the total system.

(d) Plans involving the whole national space will, of course, in part be maintained by traditional instruments of national and local government. But the failures of the past and the need to underline a greater sense of community in the future suggest the need for greater citizen participation in the decision-making process. Easier access to the bureaucracy, formal procedures of inquiry (and protest), ombudsmen, public interest research and law — all these are new and vital instruments to ensure that the planning process remains the servant of the citizen and not his straightjacket. In developing countries, the organization of rural people into effective cooperative groups, the ability of the new migrants to control the direction and development of their settlements, are preconditions of genuine citizenship.

(e) At present, research institutions and most forms of technical training are geared neither to the new perspectives in technology nor to the primacy of the citizens' interests and needs in human settlements. New academic institutions and types of research as well as new and appropriate methods of collecting and organizing data are required to underpin the new effort in settlements policy. In this context, national inventories of types of land, natural eco-systems, mineral reserves, pressures and movements of population and other basic forms of information are often out of date or non-existent.

The International Dimension

A new determination to make settlements the central thrust of humane and civilizing forms of development has a vital international dimension. Part of it is negative:

- (a) All agencies involved in the transfer of resources, skills and technology must show a wholly new respect for the cultural variety, the local range of opportunities and the different styles and values of life of the people they came to assist. The urban order of the developed world does not display so wide a range of virtues that it is an overwhelming duty to spread them further until it can be said of every sky-scrapered, smog-ridden, polluted metropolis that "when you've seen one, you've seen them all".
- (b) Nowhere is this modesty more urgent than in the devising of master plans for cities which will in any case be built in the main by the people themselves, or in the passing on of wholly inappropriate technologies geared to costly capital and cutting out all labour-intensivity.

But there is a positive task as well. The division of the world's wealth between the 20 per cent of its people who live in developed countries and own 75 per cent of the world's wealth and the overwhelming majority of the poor, has not changed much in the last two decades. If this relationship remains unchanged over another three, with the poor nearly doubling in numbers and the rich in income, it will become an uncontrollable source of despair and violence.

There is no evidence in history that rich elites, entrenched in their wealth and unwilling to create the institutions and policies of wider sharing, will not be swept away by the growing revolt of the still oppressed. In Europe, at a comparable stage of technological development, the "Hungry Forties" led to the Year of Revolutions. Can we be sure that the "Hungry Eighties" will not confront the world with comparable disruption? If so, why suppose that the frontiers which protect fertile land and "protein sanctuaries" will prove any less vulnerable than the ancient frontiers of Nineveh or Rome?

But the answer need not be fear, anger and entrenched greed. It can be a revolution not by violence but by design. We can begin, generously, imaginatively and openly, to build the common services of the City of Man — the better sharing of income, the basic installations of decent city life, the housing, the health, the sanitation, the opportunities for employment, the rural works of afforestation and irrigation — services which can build up mutual respect and tolerance between classes and races who have lived for too long in relationships of subservience and exploitation.

If HABITAT can set in motion that long revolution, it would mark the first step away from a possible world of coming violence. According to a recent calculation published by the World Bank, some of the basic needs of infrastructure in the Third World's settlements — transport, housing, health sources, sanitation, water (above all, water) — could be hastened and even fully established over the next decade if the affluent nations would contribute some \$30 billions a year in capital assistance. When one reflects that this is merely a tenth of what is spent each year on so-called defense and security, the hope must surely be that the world's peoples can come to recognize their real and ancient enemies — disease and ignorance and homelessness and premature death — and be prepared to give as readily and steadily to the means of life as they do today to the weapons of destruction.

Appendix I

If the task of building the City of Man according to its true dimensions of civilization could be recognized at HABITAT as the real underpinning of human survival, such a decision, registered in concrete commitments to basic human needs, could be the first step away from the fear and uncertainty that besets our planet. It would be only a first step, of course. But, however long a journey, there always has to be a first step. Let it be taken at HABITAT. And let Vancouver be remembered as a city where a new hope was born.

[This Declaration was signed by all Symposium participants, listed below.]

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Soedjatmoko | • Illtyd Harrington |
| • Maurice Strong Co-chairmen | • Otto Koenigsberger |
| • Barbara Ward — Rapporteur | • Alexander Kwapong |
| • Henrik Beer | • Aprodicio Laquian |
| • R.R. Bergh | • Akin Mabogunje |
| • Lester Brown | • Margaret Mead |
| • Charles Correa | • Jack Munday |
| • R. Buckminster Fuller | • Panayis Psomopoulos |
| • Juliusz Corynski | • Jose Rios |
| • Jean Gottmann | • James Rouse |
| • Laila Shukry El-Hamamsy | • Eduardo Terrazas |
| • Jorge Hardoy | • Jun Ui |



The weekend before the Habitat Conference opened, the International Institute for Environment and Development convened a small group of experts from around the world to discuss the major human settlements problems and solutions which the Conference had to deal with. The results of their discussion were set out in the Declaration of the Vancouver Symposium. In this

photograph are three of the principal participants. From left to right are Mr. Enrique Peñalosa, UN Secretary-General for the Habitat Conference; Mr. Maurice Strong, former Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme; and Baroness Jackson of Lodsworth (Barbara Ward), the President of the International Institute for Environment and Development and author of the Habitat book "The Home of Man".

The participants in the Conference of Mayors of the World's Major Cities gathered in Milan, April 15-17, 1976, at the initiative of the Mayor of Milan, Mr. A. Aniasi, after having discussed the reports, decided that it was their duty to inform the HABITAT Conference in Vancouver of the main concerns of those in charge of Local Governments.

1. The powers of Local Authorities concerning the administration of everyday municipal services and the management of the local resources and revenues must be recognized without reservation by the higher levels of government and adequate legal measures must be established.

2. This delegation of authority is absolutely necessary in order to enable the population to participate in the choices concerning its future.

3. The Local Authority must have at their disposal financial resources in order to guarantee the services required by the people and to put into practice the decisions concerning the development of the town. This implies an equitable distribution of the public resources between the higher levels and the Local Authority. It is necessary to grant to the municipal authority the possibility of directly collecting taxes in such a way as to secure to them the revenues which represent the fundamental base of effective autonomy.

4. It is with deep regret that the Conference must acknowledge that there are still some countries where people are oppressed for racial, religious or political reasons and thus deprived of their more elementary civil rights. The Local Authority must guarantee the security of the citizens and the integrity of their goods. Consequently the Local Authorities, within their powers, must oppose any measure on racial, religious and of arbitrary division of urban territories or any other grounds which in extreme cases might lead to the removal of persons or groups belonging to the urban community and any measure of depriving them of rights and good homes. In other words: they should oppose themselves to any arbitrary measure and to infringements of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

5. The Local Authority must work for the development of the town within the frame of its historical, traditional and ecological values for the purposes of improving the quality of life.

6. The Local Authority must guarantee the optimum mobility of persons in the town and the urban area, while facilitating the transportation and giving precedence to public transit.

7. The Local Authority must make sure that in cities social and economical balance be maintained by making acceptable living conditions available to all classes of the population regardless of age and income level.

8. The participants in the Conference of Milan take the opportunity of this declaration to stress once more that all the efforts carried out to improve the living conditions of citizens would remain without effect unless governments live up to declarations to which they have subscribed concerning the preservation of peace and the solution of conflicts by means of negotiation. The effective application of peaceful cooperation could give the possibility of allocating to urban development, and consequently to the well-being of citizens, the considerable sums of money expended in military budgets.

9. The Conference of Mayors has recognized the situation of deprivation, and therefore the inability to achieve progress, of many local authorities in the developing countries. The solidarity that must characterize the relations between local authorities all over the world can considerably assist in creating a greater awareness of these problems among the population of the industrialized countries and bring to the deprived local authorities the means to enable them to offer to their inhabitants conditions for a better life. With a view towards making the relations between local authorities and the United Nations more effective the Milan Conference recommends that:

A. Within the central UN organ dealing with human settlement issues a local government Directorate be created which would:

- strengthen and support local and regional government functions in the field of human settlements
- coordinate the activities concerning local and regional matters of the UN human settlements organ with those of other departments and sections of the UN Secretariat in such sectors as public administration and finance, community development, transport, social work and regional development
- maintain contact with the international local government associations which act on their behalf.

B. A committee of local government representatives be created to advise the UN human settlements organs on human settlements issues of concern to local and regional governments.

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Appendix K

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Appendix M **Chronology of Major Canadian and International Events leading up to HABITAT**

1971

Canada successfully advocates with other countries to include "Human Settlements" as one of six main subjects for the agenda of the United Nations Conference on Human Environment, to be held in June 1972 at Stockholm.

1972

June

The UN Conference on Human Environment in Stockholm. A Canadian delegate, the Honourable Victor Goldbloom, successfully proposes that the United Nations sponsor a Conference on Human Settlements, and offers that Canada act as host.

July

Formation of the Interdepartmental Task Force (IDTF) with the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs as lead agency. The Task Force is charged with co-ordinating the many Federal activities and programmes which bear on the Conference preparations. Twenty-six Federal departments and agencies are represented on the IDTF.

1973

May

The Federal-Provincial Preparatory Committee (FPPC) formed. The Minister of State for Urban Affairs asks Provincial Premiers and Territorial Commissioners to name a Minister responsible for HABITAT and a Senior Official as member of the Committee. The FPPC advises upon and co-ordinates all joint Federal-Provincial activities associated with the preparations and topics for the HABITAT Conference.

Experts from 22 countries meet in Vancouver to discuss the main themes for HABITAT. *Human Settlements: Crisis and Opportunity* by Barbara Ward is issued as the official report of the meeting.

September

The formation of two groups to share the Federal responsibility for HABITAT: the Canadian Participation Secretariat (CPS), created within the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs (MSUA), with responsibilities for Canada's participation in the Conference, and the Canadian Host Secretariat within External Affairs with hosting responsibilities.

December

The UN General Assembly decides that the Conference will be held from 31 May - 11 June 1976 in Vancouver, and establishes a Preparatory Committee with representatives from 56 countries to advise the Secretary-General of the Conference on the agenda and international preparations for the Conference.

1974

May

Appointment of UN Secretary-General for HABITAT, Mr. Enrique Peñalosa, and convening of informal consultation of the UN Preparatory Committee at New York. Preliminary discussions on proposed topics for the Conference, and official endorsement of the name HABITAT.

The Canadian National Committee (CNC) was formed by the Minister of State for Urban Affairs to obtain and advise on the views of the Canadian public concerning human settlement issues and to foster a public awareness and interest in HABITAT. Subsequent CNC work included the November 1974 meeting on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and 16 public meetings held across Canada. Sixteen members were appointed to the Committee to represent all Canadian regions as well as different subject areas.

November

The NGO Conference on Human Settlements is convened in Ottawa by the CNC. And a direct follow-up to this Conference, the Canadian Non-Governmental Organization Participation Group (CNGOPG) is formed. An Ottawa-based Secretariat of the CNGOPG is set up to provide liaison between the NGO community and the Canadian HABITAT Secretariat.

1975

January

The First Session of the HABITAT Preparatory Committee convened in New York.

March

Mr. Danson undertakes policy mission to France, Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom to discuss bilateral concerns and national and international preparations for HABITAT with counterpart Ministers and senior advisers.

February

UN HABITAT Secretariat convenes meeting of international consultants and experts at London, England to review long-range proposals for human settlements research.

May

Regional audio-visual workshops for HABITAT film producers held for Latin America and the Caribbean at Mexico City, for Africa at Addis Ababa, for Asia and the Middle East at Bangkok.

UN HABITAT Secretariat convenes meeting of scientists and experts at Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia to establish an intellectual basis for a new interdisciplinary science of human settlements.

June to July

Four regional Preparatory Conferences are convened to discuss substantive questions at the expert and official level. They took place in Teheran (14-15 June), Cairo (21-26 June), Caracas (29 June - 4 July), and Geneva (30 June - 1 July). The reports of these Conferences were used by the UN Secretariat in drafting policy papers for HABITAT.

Appendix M

August

The First Session of the HABITAT Preparatory Committee resumes in New York.

September

Meeting of two ad hoc inter-governmental working groups held at Geneva to discuss preliminary drafts of the proposed Declaration of Principles and post-HABITAT arrangements for international cooperation in the field of human settlements.

Regional audio-visual workshop for HABITAT producers in Europe held at Geneva.

September to November

A Youth Dimension Programme is initiated by the CPS to inform school-age Canadians about HABITAT issues. An estimated 150,000 educators, school trustees and provincial education authorities received information materials.

During this period the CNC sponsored 16 public meetings across Canada. Over 200 organizations and individuals presented written briefs or statements on human settlements issues.

Also during this period 14 symposia were held across Canada. Guest speakers focussed on such human settlements issues as land use, housing and rural-to-urban migration.

Federal responsibilities are consolidated by Order-in-Council into a single Canadian HABITAT Secretariat (CHS) headed by a Commissioner-General in Vancouver. The host and participation functions are retained and supplemented by a centralized information programme.

December

The United Nations and Canada sign an official Host Agreement for the Conference.

A national Canadian NGO Conference on Human Settlements held in Ottawa. More than 200 representatives from 150 non-governmental organizations attend.

1976

January

The Second Session of the UN Preparatory Committee held at New York. The Conference preparations are reviewed in detail, as are the major reports to be submitted to it: the Provisional Rules of Procedure, the draft Declaration of Principles and the Recommendations for International Cooperation.

The report of the Canadian National Committee *HABITAT and Canadians*, is submitted to the Honourable Barney Danson, Minister of State for Urban Affairs.

February 29

World HABITAT Day.

Mr. Danson undertakes special policy mission to France, Senegal, Kenya, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel to discuss national and international issues preparations for HABITAT with counterpart Ministers and their senior advisers.

CHS Commissioner-General undertakes similar mission to Philippines and Australia.

March

Mr. Danson delivers major address on HABITAT to joint meeting of the American Institute of Planners and American Society of Planning Officials at Washington. Also has bilateral discussions with Senior American officials and the head of the World Bank, Mr. Robert McNamara.

April

First meeting of the Canadian Delegation convened in Ottawa to review United Nations policy papers for the HABITAT Conference and to discuss Canadian positions.

May

The Canadian National Report on Human Settlements is issued.

Third Session of the UN Preparatory Committee for HABITAT held at Vancouver for final discussions and review of the preparations and schedule for the Conference.

27 May to 11 June

Habitat Forum, a gathering of non-governmental organizations and individuals interested in human settlements issues, meets at Vancouver.

29 May

Second meeting of the Canadian HABITAT Delegation held in Vancouver.

31 May to 11 June

United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT) held at Vancouver.

Appendix N Abbreviations used in the Report

ACSOH	Association in Canada Serving Organizations for Human Settlements
CHS	Canadian HABITAT Secretariat
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CMHC	Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation
CNC	Canadian National Committee for HABITAT
CNGOPG	Canadian NGO Participation Group
CPS	Canadian Participation Secretariat for HABITAT
DEA	Department of External Affairs
ECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
ECLA	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council of the United Nations
ECWA	United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia
ESA	Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
FPPC	Federal-Provincial Preparatory Committee for HABITAT
HOT	HABITAT Observation Team
IDTF	Interdepartmental Task Force for HABITAT
MSUA	Ministry of State for Urban Affairs
NFB	National Film Board
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
UBC	University of British Columbia
UN	United Nations
UNAC	United Nations Association in Canada
UN/CHBP	Centre for Housing, Building and Planning of the United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNOPI	United Nations Office of Public Information
WEO	Caucus of Western European and Other Countries