



American Model United Nations

Economic and Social Council

ECOSOC/II/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Economic and Environmental Questions: Human Settlements

SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Council

SUBMITTED BY: India, Belize, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Cuba, Nicaragua, Thailand

The Economic and Social Council

- 1 *Guided by the pursuit of economic, environmental, and social sustainability,*
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- 3 *Viewing with appreciation the work done by UN Habitat in addressing the issues of*
- 4 *sustainable development, and confident that the UN Habitat and Habitat Agenda are adequate*
- 5 *foundations to build efforts upon,*
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- 7 *Noting with approval City Alliance, a joint initiative with the World Bank to promote*
- 8 *effective urban housing,*
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- 10 *Acknowledging the 1976 Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements and its emphasis*
- 11 *on state sovereignty in the pursuit of shelter for all,*
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- 13 *Acknowledging also the 1996 Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements, which identified*
- 14 *major impediments to universal shelter, and emphasized the need to intensify global efforts to*
- 15 *provide shelter for all,*
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- 17 *Concerned that further preventative measures are needed against uncontrolled*
- 18 *urbanization and unsustainable development,*
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- 20 *Deeply convinced that more focus on rural development would promote sustainable*
- 21 *cities,*
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- 23 *Fully aware of the occurrence of recent devastating natural disasters, and their adverse*
- 24 *effects on the economic and social development,*
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- 26 *Recognizing the ability of micro finance to provide direct humanitarian relief in*
- 27 *both urban and rural developing communities,*
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- 29 *Drawing special attention to the need for long term strategies and preventative measures*
- 30 *to build damage resistant sustainable housing,*
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- 32 *Drawing attention to the role of rapid population growth in exacerbating already dire*
- 33 *living conditions in a significant portion of the world's human settlements,*

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1. *Endorses* currently successful programs which incorporate the following aspects:
 - (a) Community involvement in labor, maintenance and stability,
 - (b) Micro financed loans given in small increments with interest rates favorable to recipient countries,
 - (c) Transparent government oversight and mediation of all aspects,
 - (d) Enable the construction of sanitation to ensure prosperity and health,
 - (e) Accessible databases compiled to assist future expansion;
2. *Draws attention to* the flexibility inherent in the above recommended programs;
3. *Further recommends* an expansion of UN Habitat's role as an advisory and oversight body;
4. *Accordingly calls for* individual country analyses, conducted by UN Habitat, to recommend programs which incorporate the aforementioned aspects and aid in the implementation thereof, with goals of good governance;
5. *Respecting* the sovereignty of all member nations, and appreciating the right of states to disregard UN Habitat recommendations, emphasizes that these recommendation and implementation services must be requested of UN Habitat by member nations;
6. *Recommends* that member states avail themselves of the resources offered by the UN Population Fund as UN Habitat deems appropriate;
7. *Affirms* the potential of the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) to encourage responsible family planning and thus ameliorate rapid population growth;
8. *Strongly recommends* the World Bank and IMF reassess the Structural Adjustment Programs, focusing more on furthering assistance to government in providing shelter for the poor by emphasizing social development;
9. *Requests* the IMF use debt relief as an incentive for countries who have implemented and have made considerable progress in achieving the Habitat Agenda.

Passed, Yes: 20 / No: 15 / Abstain: 9