



American Model United Nations
Second Committee

GA 2nd/I/6

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Implementation of the Outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (ONU-Habitat)

SUBMITTED TO: The Second Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Ecuador, Colombia, Nicaragua, Mexico, Venezuela, Ghana

The Second Committee

1 *Noting with concern* that the Habitat II approach to the implementation of
2 sustainable human settlements, adequate shelter for all and the improvement of 100
3 million slum-dwellers lives as set forth in resolution 56/206, is inadequate in dealing with
4 the complex nature of 21st century urbanization,

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6 *Believing* that the strengthening of UN-Habitat through already existing regional
7 blocs requires a comprehensive approach that integrates the various economic, social,
8 political, and environmental dimensions that contributes to urban swelling,

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10 *Bearing in mind* that an estimated one billion people are expected to migrate to
11 urban centers over the next fifty years and that ninety-five percent of this urban growth
12 will occur in developing countries,

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14 *Reaffirming* all states' right to national sovereignty,

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16 *Recalling* that the increase in international and internal migration from rural to
17 urban areas is directly related to socio-economic inequalities, military conflict, systematic
18 human rights abuses, environmental degradation, rural poverty and underdevelopment,

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20 *Further recalling* the UN-Habitat's assessment that internal rural to urban
21 migration flows have placed enormous pressure on urban infrastructure and services
22 already under severe stress,

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24 *Fully aware* of the insufficient transportation systems taking place in developing
25 countries affecting the stability of economies.

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27 *Deeply concerned* that the accelerated urbanization of developing states that lack

sufficient resources to decrease urban poverty, reduce scarcity of housing and improve access to basic services, decrease unemployment and underemployment, ethnic tension, crime and social disintegration, land degradation, and pollution, will create the unsafe and unhealthy living conditions of its cities swelling populations,

Noting that the least developed countries often cannot appropriately service their debts and that Structural Adjustment Programs often exacerbate debt problems,

Recognizing that the capacity to implement and strengthen UN-Habitat and Habitat II is directly tied to the financial and technological capacity of states,

Deeply disturbed that debt servicing obligations, by draining national revenues, have reduced the capacity of developing states to implement Habitat II:

1. *Calls for* policies that provide financial, technical and educational support towards agricultural development and rural poverty reduction as ways to stem the migration of rural populations to overcrowded urban areas;

2. *Emphasizes* increased transfer of information through regional sharing and training on conservative practices in order to create environmentally sensitive development strategies as to ensure environmental sustainability;

3. *Believes* that the immediate living conditions of urban dwellers can be improved by:

- a. Providing all people access to clean drinking water and basic sanitation,
- b. Extending healthcare services to all including disadvantaged populations in both rural and urban slum and non-slum areas,
- c. Providing all citizens with access to free and equal primary education,
- d. Promoting equal access to employment opportunities regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or national identity;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States to respect other states' sovereignty;

5. *Urges* all Member States to consider the ramifications to the impoverished masses due to Structural Adjustment Programs and to increase debt relief as a means of further promoting sustainable development;

6. *Urges* the expansion of transportation development within developing countries which results in better access to employment, higher living standards, and economic growth;

7. *Appeals* to all governments, Non Governmental Organizations and International Financial Institutions to increase their commitments to greater financial and material support to the efforts of UN-Habitat;

8. *Urges* the reassessment of external debts of the poorest and least developed

74 countries of the world;

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76 9. *Endorses* the expansion of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative

77 (HIPC) and the Multilateral Debt Reduction Initiative (MDRI) to include more indebted

78 countries.

Passed, Yes: 45 / No: 22 / Abstain: 24