

ECOSOC Resolution 2003/62

Coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and General Assembly resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 56/206 of 26 December 2001 and 57/275 of 20 December 2002,

Recalling also the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements,¹ the Habitat Agenda² and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,³ which focused on adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements,

Recalling further the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration⁴ of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by the year 2020, and the relevant decisions contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development,⁵ to halve, by the year 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water, as outlined in the Millennium Declaration, and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation,

Recalling that Governments have the primary responsibility for the sound and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and stressing that the international community should fully implement its commitments to support Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts, through the provision of requisite resources, capacity-building, transfer of technology and the creation of an international enabling environment,

Welcoming the progress made in the revitalization of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,

Commending those countries which have contributed to the Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General,⁶

Expressing concern at the relatively low level of non-earmarked contributions, leading to the continuing and growing imbalance between earmarked and non-earmarked contributions to the Foundation,

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

² *Ibid.*, annex I.

³ See General Assembly resolution S-25/2, annex.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 55/2.

⁵ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.I and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ E/2003/76.

Recognizing the need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the Foundation in the new millennium to ensure timely, effective and concrete results in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, particularly in developing countries,

Taking note of efforts by UN-Habitat to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,⁷

1. *Underlines* the commitments made by Governments to implement the Habitat Agenda,⁸ the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,⁹ and the development goal contained in the Millennium Declaration of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020;¹⁰

2. *Invites* Governments in a position to do so to increase their financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and invites international financial institutions, as appropriate, to assist developing countries in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020, while giving due consideration to marginalized groups;

3. *Welcomes* decision 19/18 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat endorsing the establishment of the Special Human Settlements Programme for the Palestinian people and the Technical Cooperation Trust Fund of five million dollars for an initial period of two years, and urges the international donor community and all financial institutions to support UN-Habitat in the immediate mobilization of financial resources for the establishment and operation of the programme and the fund;

4. *Invites* Governments to facilitate furthering of partnerships at the national and local levels, as appropriate, with civil society organizations, local authorities, women's groups, the business sector and other Habitat Agenda partners in implementing the Habitat Agenda and the relevant targets of the Millennium Declaration;

5. *Encourages* Governments to support and enable the participation of youth in the implementation of Habitat Agenda through

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

⁹ See General Assembly resolution S-25/2, annex.

¹⁰ General Assembly resolution 55/2.

social, cultural and economic activities at the city level and in other national and local activities;

6. *Encourages also* UN-Habitat to continue to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, including through promoting partnerships with local authorities, non-governmental organizations and private sector and other Habitat Agenda partners;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to strengthen the implementation of the Habitat Agenda Task Manager System to allow better monitoring and mutual enforcement of actions taken in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

8. *Calls for* increased cooperation between UN-Habitat and other members of the United Nations Development Group through existing coordination mechanisms such as the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework processes;

9. *Encourages* Governments to include issues pertaining to shelter and sustainable human settlements and urban poverty in their national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council at its substantive session of 2004 on the implementation of the present resolution.

*49th plenary meeting
25 July 2003*