

development. More frankly, it is at the local level that environment and development issues will be dealt with and where the recommendations from Agenda 21 will most effectively be implemented.

The document PC 43 outlines very comprehensively the complex linkages of human settlements and sustainable development, the important role of cities, and the concept of urbanization which reflects the essential interrelationships between cities and rural communities. It also very aptly describes linkages between human settlements and issues of environment and development as well as highlighting the crucial opportunities for coordination and development of seven program areas for consideration by the preparatory committee for Agenda 21.

Canada strongly supports the recommendations of these program areas for Agenda 21 as outlined by the document. In addition, however, it is equally important that recommendations from the working groups dealing with sectoral issues incorporate a settlements and specifically an urban perspective. Some sectoral issues within UNCED such as freshwater and waste management are already doing this by incorporating urban issues directly in their work. However, we believe that this needs to be strengthened in other relevant sections such as technology transfer, poverty, population, health and education. In this respect, Canada urges national governments