

The Department of External Affairs announces the visit to Canada of Mr. Enrique Penalosa, Secretary-General of HABITAT: The United Nations Conference on Human Settlements which will be held in Vancouver in June, 1976.

The population of the world is expected to reach 6.5 billion within the next three decades. This growth will bring problems in many areas, but the problems in human settlements will be compounded by the rapid urbanization which is occurring in all nations. The effect on urban areas will be almost explosive, and governments must plan now if they are to cope successfully with the physical and social problems which will arise. There is general agreement that nations should share their experiences as they seek solutions.

At the Stockholm Conference on the Environment HABITAT was conceived as a Conference where such national solutions could be presented, discussed and compared, to the benefit of all. The organization of this Conference with its orientation towards the interchange of experience on practical and realizable projects will call for great efforts from the Secretary-General and his staff. Canada, as host nation, will be cooperating fully with the Secretariat to ensure the success of the Conference.

To carry out the host responsibilities of the Government of Canada, a Host Secretariat has been established within the Department of External Affairs. Executive responsibility for the national hosting arrangements rests with this Secretariat, which has a management organization covering installations, communications, conference services,