
Quebec City, May 15 to September 18, 1976.

In December 1974 application was made by the Department of External Affairs to the International Bureau of Exhibitions, Paris, to register the event as a Special Category World Exhibition. The application was subject to ratification at the April 1975 meeting of the Bureau. It will then be the responsibility of the Canadian Government to ensure that the exhibition is staged in accordance with the 1928 convention relating to international exhibitions, to which Canada is a signatory.

Habitat—UN Conference on Human Settlements

The United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, to take place in Vancouver, B.C., from May 31 to June 11, 1976, grew out of the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm. The environmental problems of human settlements emphasized the need for more centralized planning and an increased interest in international co-operation. In order to enable both developed and developing nations to find solutions to their growing collective and individual problems in human settlements, Canada proposed at Stockholm a "Conference-Exposition" to deal specifically with the quality of the environment in human settlements.

The proposal was approved, and Canada's offer to act as host to the event was accepted by the 27th UN General Assembly in 1972. A "Host Secretariat" has been established in Ottawa within the Department. Executive responsibility for the national hosting arrangements rests with this secretariat, which has a management organization covering installations, communications, conferences services, design development and public affairs. Canadian Host Secretariat liaison staffs have been established in the UN Secretariat in New York and Vancouver. A Canadian Participation Secretariat of the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs is responsible for

the Canadian end of the arrangements. Most of the preparations for "Habitat" at the Federal Government level are being handled by these two specially created secretariats. There are also an Interdepartmental Task Force, a Host Committee based in Vancouver, a Canadian National Committee, and a Federal-Provincial Preparatory Committee.

Enrique Penalosa, a former Minister of Agriculture of Colombia now with the Inter-American Development Bank, was appointed secretary-general of the conference and visited Vancouver in September. Work is proceeding there for the provision in the downtown area of full conference facilities, a project presentation centre, a visitors' centre, and a media centre to provide facilities for world-wide coverage.

Several national and international non-governmental organizations are planning parallel activities called "Habitat Forum". These are expected to take place principally at the University of British Columbia. Special transportation and communication facilities will link activities there with the downtown area.

It is anticipated that from the developed and developing countries alike "Habitat" will bring together world experts and major national and international figures to review the growing collective and individual problems of human settlements and try to formulate solutions for them.