

HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

SUMMARY

The discussion on human settlements was clearly a priority for delegations and one of growing importance for both developing and developed countries alike. The chairman's summary of the discussion is annexed to this report. The plenary adopted a decision making human settlements a separate chapter in Agenda 21 as well as recommending that the issue be integrated into key sector programmes, in particular but not limited to, atmosphere, land, coastal areas and fresh water. Underlying issues with respect to this area centre on the need not to forget rural human settlements, the role of UNCHS (Habitat) in coordinating international activities and the need to link the many activities occurring at the local level such as the World Cities and their Environment Congress which was held in Toronto in August and the 3rd Summit Conference of Major Cities of the World being held in Montreal from October 15 to 17. CIDA and CMHC may want to follow up with the UNCED Secretariat to ensure that the recommendations of these two conferences are integrated into the Agenda 21 draft being prepared for discussion at the Fourth Prepcom.

Documentation

A/CONF.151/PC 43	Human Settlements
A/CONF.151/PC/CRP.12	Human Settlements - Coordinator's Draft Text
A/CONF.151/PC/L.44	Decision adopted on Human Settlements

PREPCOM DISCUSSION

Canadian objectives were the following:

- To establish a direct link from international policy and programme recommendations to the local level of initiatives and action;
- To strengthen the issue of urban environment in UNCED and to incorporate into Agenda 21 specific recommendations related to the role of urban communities;
- To support the principle of partnership of public, private and community sectors in the development of strategies to integrate the needs of communities within international policy and programme recommendations;
- To highlight the economic and social roles of women in the urban environment