

### PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN HEALTH

Final discussions on the health chapter erupted in heated debate over two paragraphs on contraception. After a long debate, compromise language was adopted which included taking into account cultural considerations. Overall the chapter has been improved bringing targets into line with those adopted in other fora and setting them as goals to be considered for implementation by countries with adaptation to each country in terms of phasing, priorities and availability of resources. The activities section on vulnerable groups still misses the mark with respect to women. Negotiations on this chapter were extremely useful in raising the profile of the issue of health within UNCED and in building north/south cooperation. The chapter was adopted with virtually no brackets.

### HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Discussions on the Human Settlements chapter received a relative ease of consensus from developed and developing countries in both plenary and contact groups. The agreed upon issues included expanding the text of the document to apply to all countries, and increasing the emphasis on both the role of local authorities and improving the capacity of local governments. Other underlying issues which were strengthened throughout the document were the need for increased participation of the private sector, NGOs, women, youth and indigenous people in the planning, development and implementation of human settlements initiatives, and the need for increased coordination among relevant UN agencies and international organizations. Countries were also asked to develop priorities among the eight program areas in accordance with their national plans and objectives.

A recommendation to establish mechanisms with the assistance, where appropriate, of relevant international agencies to mobilize resources for local initiatives for improvements in environmental quality was also added to the text.

### INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IN DECISION- MAKING

This document is bracketless, with exception of the financing and institutional questions, to be resolved in Rio. Canada was very active and maintained a spirit of compromise throughout the negotiations. All key Canadian proposals were accepted and modifications to the rest of the text were generally consistent with current Canadian