

on human settlements, and that steps should be taken to ensure their continued and active use after the Conference. The resolution to be tabled will propose the establishment of a UN audio-visual information centre to serve these purposes.

On the institutional question, as has been the case for previous conferences, the institutional follow-up to Habitat should reasonably be the subject of a separate resolution. There was detailed and thorough discussion at Vancouver on the question of global and regional mechanisms and institutions for human settlements. These discussions yielded a draft resolution which provides in our view an excellent framework for a decision at this session of the General Assembly on the two remaining questions in Section X of the draft, the questions of institutional link and location of the unit. It is important that a decision be taken on these two questions at this session.

The momentum of Habitat must be maintained. It should not be allowed to slow. This resolution provides a way for the UN to respond to these human problems. A decision is also needed to demonstrate to those living in human settlements around the world that we are able and willing to respond quickly and effectively to their needs and concerns. Too often in the past, we have been accused as nations of failing to unite and to respond effectively to urgent needs. In the view of my Government, there is a need now for a strong and representative intergovernmental committee at the global level, served by a small but effective secretariat, and improved intergovernmental and secretariate arrangements at the regional level.

During this session we must demonstrate to those millions of men, women and children whose lives will be dramatically affected by this resolution that we, as a world community, are both able and willing, to respond to their needs, their concerns, their pleas for help. There is nothing lonelier, there is nothing to fire bitterness more or to encourage withdrawal from the common community of man than an ignored call for help. On behalf of those who make this call, I urge you, to act on this resolution and its spirit.

In conclusion, I can only stress once again the importance of the work initiated at Habitat. Human settlements contain not only the problems of the world, often reflected through the magnifying effects of concentrated population, but also the solutions to these problems.