

to include specific references to settlements issues in their preparations and inputs in both working group sectoral and plenary cross-sectoral issues. Canada also suggests that the Secretariat develop mechanisms to ensure that the final Agenda 21 incorporate human settlements/urban issues not only as a distinctive component in the Agenda but ensure that it is integrated and strengthened in other relevant sections.

Relative to each of the program areas identified in the document, Canada would like to see an increased emphasis on capacity building through human resource development; the development of programs which establish linkages between cities; increased opportunities for information sharing, exchange of ideas, and technology transfer; the development and implementation of quality of life indicators which reflect environmental, economic and social needs; support and development of partnerships among governments and among the private sector, the public sector and the community; and finally a strengthening of the institutional linkages among UN agencies in the development of these programs.

Over the next three months, two major international events focusing on the role of cities and sustainable development will be held in Canada - the World Cities and their Environment Congress being held in Toronto as I speak (August 25-28) and the 3rd Summit Conference of Major Cities of the World being held in Montreal October 15 -17,