(d) To identify, through the programmatic approach, emerging environmental problems and to propose solutions;

(e) To manage a separate environment fund as an integral part of the programmatic process;

(f) To advocate and articulate the interdependence of environment and development;

(g) To respond to the environmental problems of both developed and developing countries;

(h) To respond to the environmental problems of human settlements, which are an integral part of the human environment;

3. Decides to maintain at this stage the present arrangements, without prejudice to any decision the General Assembly might take as regards the restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations system.

101st plenary meeting
16 December 1976

31/113. Specific measures to meet the need for a decent living environment for the most vulnerable groups of society

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, in its recommendations A.4, B.3, B.12, C.4, C.14, C.15 and E.4, called for specific measures to be taken to meet the need for a decent living environment for the most vulnerable groups of society,28

Considering that human settlement policies are inseparable from the goals of the social and economic sectors, and that consequently solutions to the problems of such settlements must be conceived as an integral part of the development process of individual nations and the world community,

1. Requests Member States and the Secretary-General, when planning the implementation of the aforementioned recommendations adopted at Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, to bear in mind the measures that protect the decent living environment of the most vulnerable social groups, such as children, youth, the elderly and the handicapped, so that they may live in an environment which is equally accessible to all individuals;

2. Further requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its thirty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the measures taken and the results obtained.

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31/114. Collaboration between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations with regard to world-wide intercommunal co-operation

The General Assembly,

Recalling the results of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements,

Aware of the importance and global nature of the phenomenon of urbanization,

Noting that uncontrolled urbanization is one of the causes of the deterioration in living conditions in human settlements,

Stressing the need for harmonization of intergovernmental action and intercommunal action with regard to human settlements,

Recognizing the role that the competent non-governmental organizations can play in solving the problems facing local communities,

Noting that non-governmental organizations such as the United Towns Organization and the International Union of Local Authorities, which are in consultative status, in category I, with the Economic and Social Council, have offered their collaboration with the United Nations in the field of human settlements,

Recalling its resolution 2861 (XXVI) of 20 December 1971 concerning world-wide intercommunal co-operation, which stressed the role played in that sphere by the United Towns Organization,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1738 (LIV) of 4 May 1973 on international co-operation between municipalities,

1. Invites the Secretary-General to ensure that the international bodies responsible for implementing the relevant recommendations of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements:

(a) Study the specific possibilities and effective conditions for collaboration between the United Nations and the non-governmental organizations concerned;

(b) Draw up with those organizations programmes of collaboration;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its sixty-fifth session on the evolution of those programmes.

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The General Assembly,

Noting resolution 5 of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements on post-Conference use of audio-visual material,24

Expressing its appreciation for the support and assistance in preparing the audio-visual material for the Conference provided by national and international organizations, particularly the United Nations Environment Programme,

Convinced that the audio-visual and related material prepared for the Conference constitutes an information resource of continuing value for the effective implementation of recommendations for national action, programmes for international co-operation and the realization of goals in the field of human settlements established by the Conference,

Recognizing that prompt and effective utilization of the information resource created for the Conference is


24 Ibid., chap. III.