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EXTRACTS FROM INTERIM NATIONAL REPORTS ILLUSTRATING
MAJOR THEMES REQUIRING NATIONAL ACTION (Addendum)

Note by the Secretary-General

RAPPORTS NATIONAUX INTERIMAIRES : PASSAGES ILLUSTRANT LES GRANDS
THEMES DE L'ACTION A ENTREPRENDRE A L'ECHELON NATIONAL (Addendum)

Note du Secrétaire général

EXTRACTOS DE LOS INFORMES NACIONALES PROVISIONALES QUE ILUSTRAN
LOS TEMAS PRINCIPALES QUE REQUIEREN ADOPCION DE MEDIDAS EN EL
PLANO NACIONAL (Adición)

Nota del Secretario General

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EXTRACTS FROM INTERIM NATIONAL REPORTS ILLUSTRATING MAJOR
THEMES REQUIRING NATIONAL ACTION (Addendum)

Note by the Secretary-General

Introduction

1. As of 15 August 1975, 83 interim national reports had been received by the Habitat secretariat.
2. Document A/CONF.70/RPC/3 contained extracts from the interim national reports received prior to 1 June 1975, grouped according to the presentation of substantive items in document A/CONF.70/RPC/1.
3. The extracts presented below are grouped under the proposed agenda items and topics as introduced in document A/CONF.70/RPC/1. They are presented in their original language and the following document can therefore be considered a working document.

I. NATIONAL HUMAN SETTLEMENT POLICIES

The slum clearance in the central area did not commence in the Housing and Development Board's first five-year (1960-1965) housing programme because it was realized from the start that unless the prevailing housing shortage at the time was adequately relieved, any attempt to do so would aggravate the housing problems. Therefore it was with the successful completion of the 52,000 units in 1965 to meet the backlog that urban renewal had taken off the ground. The second five-year housing programme (1966-1970) provided 60,000 units to cope with the natural increase in population and for relocation of those affected by the urbanization programme.

(Singapore)

Up until now the Government has financed entire rented property complexes. The result has been the creation of separate housing areas for people with low incomes in which many social problems have come to a head. According to the plans there is in future to be a complete change-over to loans for individual apartments, so that a single house will contain apartments built with State aid both to rent and to buy.

(Finland)

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With some modifications the First National Housing Programme continued to be in force, however, and the intentions of the FNHP were not fully implemented until replaced by the Second National Housing Programme in 1968. Under this Second Programme, the Government made a firm commitment to implement low-cost housing on a large-scale with the majority (71 per cent) of projected housing units to be built through self-help. Government hereby also introduced the policy of resettling squatters from their spontaneous settlements onto these proposed site and service schemes. More encouragement was given for private home ownership, as well as encouragement for private employers to participate in the public housing programme by offering loans to local authorities for constructing housing for their employees. Shortly after the issue of this latest housing programme, a further policy statement was made recommending that all future residential areas should consist of an integration of high, medium and low-cost housing. While Government directed local authorities to concentrate chiefly on very low-cost housing and site and service schemes, local authorities in general exhibited a great deal of inertia in getting these schemes started, showing distinct preferences for higher standards in plot services, plot size and dwelling unit construction.

The major feature of the SNHP Housing Programme, however, and a significant departure from previous policy was the allocation of funds for the upgrading of spontaneous urban settlements, albeit to a very high level of servicing. Although the allocation was small, Government was now committed to the assistance of the poorest and most underprivileged of the urban dwellers.

(Zambia)

During the First Five-Year Development Plan period (1963-1967), squatter housing problem gained more emphasis; certain basic principles were defined for the uninhabitable squatter formations, for the removal of the uninhabitable squatter units only, after allocating new quarters for the inhabitants, and for providing infrastructure and other public services to improve these areas in an effort to integrate them into the urban fabric. The Squatter Housing Law is an important development in articulating these principles. Legislated in 1966, this law was the products of those policies, basic framework of which conformed to the principles set forth by both the First and Second Plans. Among the rehabilitation, clearance and prevention programmes, priority was given to the last one. The short-term measures under this programme were conceived as "prohibiting the construction of new squatter units after the enforcement date of the law" a penal measure - and as "increasing the supply of low-cost dwellings by State support" - a constructive measure. In the long term, the aim would be getting to the root of the problem of squatter settlements and preventing the migrating population from forming unproductive agglomerations. To expect any success out of the implementation of this law, parallel measures ought to be included in other legislation that formed the framework for policies of industrialization, employment, interregional balance, etc. It was wrong to evaluate squatter housing merely as a problem of shelter, thus it would be equally wrong to expect the solution to be achieved by a single law.

(Turkey)

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Lamentablemente no ha existido una planificación integral que contemple los efectos que produjo en otros sectores la apertura de las nuevas vías; así por ejemplo, se ha dado el monopolio del transporte que ha puesto al minifundio en desventaja y, ha sido un hecho notorio la concentración en pocas manos de la propiedad en las áreas por donde pasan las carreteras modernas. Por otro lado, la construcción de caminos vecinales se ha desarrollado en forma desordenada, debido a que el proceso colonizador también fue desordenado. Generalmente el camino vecinal se construía después del asentamiento de los colonos o al desarrollo de la red vial primaria. Esta política ha variado a partir de 1974.

(Costa Rica)

The Development Plan particularly stresses the integration of different infrastructure systems, not only in the organizational sense, but also in respect of combined routes which would provide most economic service for the whole country. The newly created infrastructure belts shall be considered as axes of economic development.

(Poland)

Rural production: The overriding objective is to raise rural production and to promote those economic activities which are carried out in rural areas. This will not only help to expand the national exports but will enable raising of rural incomes. Appropriate measures are being taken to raise production through higher crop production, credit and marketing facilities, expansion of serage, supporting research and extension field services, land planning, livestock production, forestry, fisheries, etc.

(Uganda)

The quality of human settlements both in the urban and rural areas provides one of the most visible indicators of the level of development in any country. It is also a reflection of past and contemporary physical planning effort in the country. One of the main weaknesses of Nigeria's planning effort hitherto has been its heavy emphasis on economic, and particularly, sectoral and financial planning almost to the total neglect of physical planning. The effect of this process is now becoming increasingly visible in the form of disorderly spatial and environmental development despite the rapidly increasing level of economic activity and rising incomes which the country has achieved in recent years.

In particular, inadequate attention to physical planning in the successive national development plans has resulted in outmoded human settlement structures providing little satisfaction either from the point of view of efficiency or aesthetics, with adverse effect on the quality of life for citizens. Few Nigerian towns or villages can be regarded as a model of good planning. Although some new settlements are beginning to exhibit some semblance of planning, the typical town

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or city in the country still consists largely of old residential areas which have simply "grown" on their own with little attempt at any systematic layout. The development of physical facilities such as housing, electricity, water supply, roads, parking facilities, sewerage and other essential infrastructural facilities have generally lagged behind population growth and physical expansion and have consequently come under severe pressure in the face of the rapid urban growth of recent years.

(Nigeria)

It has come to be recognized that pursuing economic growth alone does not necessarily go with the improvement of the nation's welfare, and thus the national consciousness has changed from "economic growth priority" to "national welfare priority". The measures of our country now place more emphasis on achieving a clean and safe environment and comfortable living surroundings by means of the protection of the natural environment, pollution control, improvement of sewerage, and so forth, and, at the same time, improvement of social security has been carried out for the stabilization of the people's standard of living. The Basic Economic and Social Plan (1973-1977) which came into operation in 1973, is intended to realize a vigorous welfare society.

(Japan)

The fact that the comprehensive fulfilment of the population needs was recognized as the final goal of national economy has essentially influenced the part played by physical planning in the whole system of national economy planning. The physical planning organization and its methods of operation have successively developed for nearly 50 years. In the post-war period it was incorporated into the general planning system. However, it is still being continuously improved and adjusted to the new tasks, connected with the quick development of the country.

(Poland)

La tarea de planificación de los asentamientos humanos en las próximas décadas será grande y para ello debemos contar con los recursos humanos necesarios; éstos deben comenzar a formarse inmediatamente. Por otra parte los programas de investigación son tan y quizás más importantes que los programas de formación de planificadores. Un programa de investigación en asentamientos humanos nos podrá aclarar mejor nuestra situación; así como el tipo de soluciones que serían mejores dentro de ese contexto.

(El Salvador)

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Dentro deste enfoque dado pelo II PND (Plano Nacional de Desenvolvimento) ao fenômeno urbano, existe uma clara diferença entre uma Política Urbanística tradicional - onde apenas determinados aspectos de natureza física da cidade são manipulados - e uma verdadeira Política Urbana - onde os elementos sócio-econômicos e físicos são manipulados casualmente, de forma correlacionada. Para isso, é necessário um conhecimento e um planejamento estrutural capazes de identificar os pontos mais importantes das relações existentes entre os diferentes elementos do sistema urbano. Em consequência, uma Política de Desenvolvimento Urbano deve integrar os aspectos físicos, econômicos, políticos e sociais do desenvolvimento urbano, não só fugindo de uma abordagem meramente setorial (de transporte, de habitação, etc.), mas integrando - as de forma a responder às exigências e aos objetivos fixados pela Política Nacional de Desenvolvimento.

(Brazil)

The main objective of urban development in the USSR is the creation of most favourable conditions for the people's life, work and rest. The state planning and the absence of private property in land, industrial enterprises, transport facilities, public buildings and apartment houses provide vast possibilities for the planning and construction of towns, creating the basis for purposeful development of the whole system of human settlements in accordance with the socio-economic tasks which are set and in conformity with the solution of a most complex problem of rational siting the country's productive forces.

(USSR)

Town planning policy in the Byelorussian SSR is aimed at creation of a network of human settlements comprising urban and rural settlements united by common economic, scientific, technical and social ties, as well as by common systems of transportation, services and facilities, cultural background, etc.

(Byelorussian SSR)

In Sweden, human settlement policies are executed in several different ways, for instance by giving guidelines for the development of the urban structure, by influencing municipal planning and by creating development incentives in stagnating areas.

In general, these policies are based on the principle that it is not sufficient only to react to the consequences of "spontaneous" development. Public institutions must have the ability and adequate instruments to guide and manage social development in accordance with current political objectives.

(Sweden)

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The estimated annual growth of population in Ethiopia is about 2.5 per cent and that of the urban population is about 6.6 per cent. Natural increase of population and the yearly in-migration from the rural areas (estimated at 4.1 per cent) are the main causes of such an increase in the urban population. This exodus of population from the rural to urban areas, in particular to the capital city Addis Ababa, in search of employment, medical and other facilities has made the problem of shelter one of the most difficult to solve. Thus appropriate planning and development of human settlements is essential to control the growth of slums and over-crowding and the resultant deterioration of the environment.

Concern for human settlements could concentrate on managing urbanization, but it has proved ineffective when measures were not taken to correct the urban/rural income disparity and the narrowness of the domestic market which has resulted from the low purchasing power of the bulk of the population. The Government has issued new policies for land usage, and the first step towards comprehensive rural development is under way. Agricultural improvement will lead to investment of social capital in rural areas. Improvement in rural housing and growing opportunity for a higher standard of living is expected to result.

While this report is not concerned with rural development it has been concluded that rural and urban development are inseparable. The presence of settlement problems is in the towns, but their origins lie in the innumerable villages and scattered family groups which accommodate 90 per cent of Ethiopia's people, at a very low economic level and without access to basic social infrastructure such as schools, clinics and water supply.

(Ethiopia)

The problem of arresting the growth of metropolitan cities is being tackled by improving and developing the region around the metropolis and by dispersal of industry to other areas. Accordingly, the National Capital Region Plan for the area around Delhi and similar regional plans around the cities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras have been drawn up and are being taken up for implementation. These plans contemplate developing growth centres within the region in order to interrupt the flow of migration from the rural areas direct to the metropolitan city. The strategy would be to develop the economic and social base of growth centres. The development of three towns around Delhi, viz., Meerut, Gurgaon and Alwar has just been taken up. Location of large-scale industries in Delhi has been prohibited. Such industries are now being established in the newly identified growth centres within the region. Faridabad near Delhi has thus developed into an industrial complex.

The nine cities with over 1 million population are growing at a faster rate than other cities. Soon other cities would be added to this category. The problems cannot be solved by any rigid means in a democratic society. What is needed is to strengthen the economic base of small- and medium-sized towns so that they could be centres of attraction to the migrant population seeking better avenues of employment

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and social facilities. This can be achieved by taking up provision of physical and social infrastructure in small and medium towns and fostering development. The Fifth Five-Year Plan has introduced the Integrated Urban Development Programme in order to achieve this objective. Already city development plans identifying the physical limits of growth of cities and towns on a long-term perspective, and taking up schemes for land acquisition, development and disposal of land for residential, commercial, industrial and other institutional purposes are being drawn up. Such programmes have been taken up for implementation in Ludhiana, Bhopal and Indore cities. This will have to be effectively spread to all cities and towns with growth potential.

(India)

Debido a la dualidad marcada entre la población urbana de la Región Metropolitana y la población esencialmente rural en el resto del país, los objetivos fundamentales de esta política son los de superar la marginalidad y aumentar la productividad en las áreas rurales, al mismo tiempo que reorganizar el espacio de una manera más funcional para reducir los costos de prestaciones de servicios sociales y asistencia técnica. Esto significa la selección de áreas geográficas determinadas en base a su potencial agrícola, al análisis de las condiciones y características de su población campesina, la concentración y coordinación de todos los insumos y medidas necesarias para lograr el desarrollo integrado y planificado de dichas áreas a un nivel de sub-regional dentro de un marco de planificación regional, así como también la de los distritos de máximo niveles de pobreza.

(Panama)

Une des causes majeures de l'exode rural est la tension entre les deux types d'activités qui concourent au développement de l'économie ivoirienne : le secteur traditionnel, qui s'ouvre progressivement au marché national, et le secteur moderne généralement orienté vers les marchés extérieurs.

Il est renforcé par le sentiment des ruraux que le travail est à la fois mieux rémunéré et plus stable dans les villes, et par l'attrait que celles-ci exercent sur les paysans, qui les considèrent comme les seuls lieux où il est possible de bénéficier des avantages de la vie moderne.

En Côte d'Ivoire comme dans la plupart des pays en voie de développement, la ville représente souvent un phénomène entièrement nouveau qui s'est brutalement imposé à des sociétés essentiellement paysannes. Dans ses types de sociétés, les relations économiques et sociales se développaient à l'intérieur d'une sphère étroite où les rapports de parenté dans un sens large sous-tendaient la plus grande part de la vie sociale, où les liens avec la terre étaient d'ordre quasi-religieux, où le respect porté à toute tradition ralentissait l'action des forces de changements social et culturel. La ville constitue donc un cadre de vie radicalement en contraste avec le milieu traditionnel.

(Ivory Coast)

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The range of employment opportunities is the basic factor in a regional balance strategy. Our experience shows that it is necessary to build up high quality labour markets in all parts of the country if there is to be a true regional balance. During the 1960s the lack of such balance led to extensive migration to the metropolitan regions. It should be observed in this context that a high concentration of qualified jobs to a few regions can lead to an undesirable social segregation between regions. In Sweden, the majority of newcomers (the young) to the labour market have received a specialized education and thus a specialized occupational profile, and this specialization is matched by the employment structure of the different industries. This has led to the conclusion that a regional structure that will work in the future must be highly diversified within each region.

(Sweden)

The size and catchment of the centre depends on the development of the area around it and the size and population of that area; centres are therefore evaluated in terms of these catchment areas and the variety of services they offer.

If we considered centres in Kuwait in terms of their size they would rank in the following hierarchical order:

The first-class centre of Kuwait City. This is the major centre in the State where 40 per cent of all government employment and one third of all the jobs in the State are located, as the majority of jobs are government jobs. These centres offer the widest range of specialized and varied services in the State.

The second-class centres are the District Centres such as Salmiya and Hawalli centres, one fifth of the size of Kuwait Centre, in terms of total employment and one third its size in terms of retail employment. The aim of these district centres is to ease the pressure of the city centres and reduce the need for long trips to the centre and in so doing reduce the traffic as well.

The third-class centres known as Township Centres are also proposed to be developed. These will function as are the neighbourhood centres formed at present, in the form of local shops and services that will serve a wider catchment area of say three or four neighbourhoods (to cover a radius of roughly 5 km).

The fourth class of centres are the neighbourhood centres which have been established and planned to service the local needs of the neighbourhood. These centres by reason of their small size do not provide a wide variety or range of goods and services. Some neighbourhood centres offer more varied services than others so that we find these attracting people from outside neighbourhoods. In addition, some of the facilities and services found in the neighbourhood centres such as health and educational services, have played an important role in meeting the neighbourhood needs and thus decreasing the pressure on the city and distant centres.

As for the highly specialized shopping trips or other services, the majority turn to the City Centre to satisfy their needs.

(Kuwait)

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As a result of the relative neglect of physical planning in Nigeria, however, effective comprehensive physical planning organizations have been slow to develop. Traditionally, the Government since the colonial time has had its Ministry of Works with responsibilities for public works like roads, water works, public buildings, public land acquisition and similar undertakings. The function of over-all lay-out of settlements and control of land-use were not usually part of the responsibilities of the Ministry of Works. This remained the pattern even after independence when the new regional governments established their own Ministries of Works. Responsibility for town and country planning therefore fall on the local authorities who had neither the staff nor the funds to be effective. The town planning authorities confined themselves mainly to the regulation of buildings and did little to create a systematic framework for development e.g. through the preparation of "master plans". This was the case until the creation of new States in the late 1960s when the State government authorities began to establish new physical planning organizations whose jurisdictions cover particular towns or "regions".

(Nigeria)

In a bid to reduce the imminent and massive unemployment about to occur in urban areas as a result of the large numbers of school leavers coming on to the labour market, to stimulate a genuine and widespread interest in rural development, as well as to make real steps forward in agricultural production, Zambia has this year embarked upon its most ambitious rural and human development programme yet: the Rural Reconstruction Programme. Recruits for the programme are required to undergo a two-month course of intensive military training and political education under the Zambia National Service (ZNS) in resettlement training centres, during which time they will also be deployed on a concentrated programme of agricultural production. Upon completion of training, the recruits will continue with supervised production for a period of three years on land settlement schemes and if mature enough, would be allowed to form legal co-operatives during this time. The ZNS intends to supervise the co-operatives for a further period of five years after which they would be allowed to operate independently. It is hoped that the intake of recruits will gradually increase to an average of 10,600 every two months, and the Government plans to have five resettlement centres established in each of Zambia's 53 rural districts by the end of 1976. Every centre is to contain 800 young farmers, thus creating 212,000 new farming units over a two-year period.

(Zambia)

The Egyptian rural areas are still plagued by problems deriving from a state of backwardness, which is a characteristic of most of the rural areas in developing nations. The latter devote the major part of their limited resources to economic development in a race against time to increase production and secure economic development. This is usually done at the expense of services and, generally, at the expense of those available in rural areas.

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Efforts are exerted by the Government to increase agricultural production: drainage, irrigation and water storage projects; to improve main roads and public conveyance means; and to promote education, health and other services, but they are still below what is required to fulfil the objectives aspired at for rural development.

(Egypt)

Si le problème du logement a pris une ampleur particulièrement aiguë en ville, où il s'est manifesté par des signes extérieurs voyants, comme les bidonvilles, il n'en est pas moins vrai qu'il existe en milieu rural, car toute distinction entre milieu urbain et milieu rural n'est en fait qu'une simplification parfois trop schématique de la réalité, tant les interactions, entre ces deux milieux sont étroites et variées.

Ainsi, il ne fait pas de doute que les politiques visant à résoudre le problème de l'habitat rural sont en même temps une contribution apportée à celui de l'habitat urbain, dans la mesure où l'exode rural est en partie motivé par la recherche de conditions de vie meilleures (parmi lesquelles le logement) que le rural espère pouvoir trouver en ville.

(Morocco)

As the growth rate of employment in the "formal" urban sector is presently growing only very slowly, the pressure on the urban labour market caused by the addition of the school leavers and the increased number of women participating will be very severe. While the so-called "informal" urban employment sector appears to have been able to cope with the number of migrants from the rural areas up to the present time, it is not clear whether it will be able to continue to do so in the future.

While no comprehensive income data is available, a recent household budget survey found mean monthly household incomes of K29 (\$US 53.50) for rural areas, K98 (\$US 147.00) for small urban centres, and K120 (\$US 180.00) for large urban areas in households of the same size, indicating the extent of the large and widening income differential between rural and urban populations. Some part of the difference is likely to be due to the low income level commonly found to be associated with subsistence agriculture. Nevertheless, it may be stated that the higher urban income levels are and will remain to be a major cause of rural migration in spite of increasing urban unemployment.

(Zambia)

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The projected distribution of population into rural and urban settlements has serious implications for the economy. The rural economy which is land based may further suffer because of decreasing man-land ratio. This may further accelerate migration from rural to urban areas. The resultant increase in urban population will lead to higher densities and result in lower per capita availability of resources - both natural and man-made - and generate serious problems of public health, disposal of large quantities of human and industrial wastes. On the other hand, if the increase in population is contained in small- and medium-sized urban settlements, the further fragmentation of land in the rural areas will be checked thus arresting fall in productivity. A realistic alternative would be creation of non-agrarian job opportunities through establishment of growth centres, market towns and service towns in the rural areas. This will need provision of additional basic services and amenities to people distributed in rural and small urban settlements dispersed all over the country.

(India)

Le volume des complexes actuels de logements, la volonté d'accroître le bien-être, l'opportunité de généraliser l'information, de même que les exigences toujours plus grandes des habitants vis-à-vis de leur environnement immédiat et des équipements collectifs, rendent nécessaire une approche intégrale et plus scientifique de la problématique de l'équipement.

Dans ce cadre doit être situé le développement des "grilles d'équipements" c'est-à-dire des schémas de normes directrices quantitatives et qualitatives pour la réalisation optimale des différents équipements collectifs, considérés dans leurs rapports réciproques et desservant un niveau bien déterminé d'entités de logements.

La nécessité de semblables systèmes intégrés de normes peut être démontrée notamment par des arguments sociologiques, économiques et urbanistiques.

a) "Habiter" ne signifie pas seulement être soi-même dans un milieu familial (habitation), mais également être avec d'autres et s'extérioriser (l'environnement de l'habitat).

En partant de cette considération sociologique, il est clair que les responsables de la politique du logement ne doivent pas seulement veiller à ce que les habitants aient un toit au-dessus de leur tête, mais également à ce qu'ils puissent disposer d'un ensemble d'équipements urbains leur permettant de donner un enseignement à leurs enfants, de faire leurs achats, de se rencontrer, de se détendre, de faire du sport.

De la composition et de la conception des équipements de quartier dépendra le fait qu'un groupe de logements se développera en un ensemble viable ou se dégradera en un assemblage de cellules de logements isolés.

Les expériences de villes nouvelles (grands ensembles - new towns) ont suffisamment démontré que la réussite de ces unités nouvelles de logements, dépend en première instance d'un équipement urbain adéquat.

L'absence d'un assortiment équilibré d'équipements commerciaux, éducatifs, récréatifs, sanitaires et autres, peut faire dégénérer certaines villes en complexes de verre et de béton, ternes, désolés et sans âme.

Cette situation a pour effet d'empêcher les contacts entre les habitants, de freiner la naissance d'une vie sociale animée, d'engendrer la morosité chez les femmes au foyer et même de fournir un terrain propice à la criminalité.

Le fait que beaucoup de nos faubourgs, situés à la périphérie de grands conglomérats urbains, sont devenus des "villes-dortoirs" doit également être attribué à l'absence d'un ensemble cohérent d'équipements.

b) La disponibilité de normes valables d'équipement est également importante du point de vue économique.

En effet, même l'équipement des plus petites entités entraîne des frais élevés qui doivent être supportés directement ou indirectement par les contribuables.

Une planification efficiente des équipements collectifs aidera à utiliser efficacement les deniers publics dans l'intérêt de la collectivité.

c) La question de l'équipement des quartiers est, par sa nature, surtout importante du point de vue urbanistique.

Les options prises en la matière comportent souvent une intervention importante dans le tissu urbain existant.

L'implantation d'équipements doit tenir compte des constructions existantes et des sites.

Ces équipements nouveaux ont des conséquences pour plusieurs générations : les auteurs de projets doivent donc tenir compte des futurs développements éventuels des entités d'habitations, considérées en elles-mêmes ou en relation avec l'environnement.

Ils doivent par conséquent prévoir des installations flexibles et polyvalentes.

(Belgium)

La répartition des établissements humains, en référence à une bonne politique de l'environnement construit et naturel, doit procéder aujourd'hui, non plus de l'improvisation, mais d'une réflexion guidée sans cesse par la recherche constante de l'équilibre entre les nécessités et les besoins socio-économiques, d'une part, les possibilités et les données géographiques, d'autre part. C'est une évidence qui n'a pas toujours été respectée, même et peut-être surtout dans les pays développés au XIXe siècle et pendant la première moitié du XXe siècle.

La France a, il y a une trentaine d'années, conçu et progressivement mis en oeuvre une politique d'aménagement de son territoire propre à mieux orienter les activités humaines : elle est, en Europe, assez originale, par l'ampleur des moyens développés et par la spécificité du cadre géographique qui est le sien ; en ce qui la concerne, après une stabilité sur près d'un siècle, la France devait faire face à la nécessité d'un développement urbain et industriel indispensable pour accueillir une population nouvelle et lui offrir les emplois auxquels elle pouvait prétendre, mais également à la nécessité d'organiser la répartition de l'espace rural et urbain pour éviter la désertification de l'un et une trop grande densification de l'autre.

Les pouvoirs publics ont été ainsi conduits à définir les pôles d'attraction essentiels : décentralisation industrielle, développement des métropoles d'équilibre, des villes moyennes, des villes nouvelles, maintien de l'exploitation familiale rurale ou montagnarde, aménagement des zones de faible densité.

Au fil des années, cette constante recherche de l'équilibre a conduit à aborder les problèmes fonciers, à redéfinir les règles de construction et d'urbanisme, à imaginer, tour à tour, et selon les besoins, des mesures de dissuasion pour arrêter le développement excessif de certains secteurs ou zones et des incitations fiscales ou financières, par exemple pour attirer des industries vers des secteurs ou des régions déshérités ou pour maintenir en place des exploitants agricoles sur des terres économiquement faibles, mais écologiquement indispensables à l'équilibre général (c'est le cas notamment des mesures récentes prises en faveur de l'agriculture de montagne).

En dehors des nécessités socio-économiques pures, la politique d'aménagement du territoire a pris également en compte la réparation des conséquences du développement économique un peu anarchique de la fin du XIXème siècle et du début du XXème siècle, mais surtout a intégré la défense et la promotion de l'environnement dans les processus d'examen et de décision des nouveaux projets qu'il s'agisse des mesures de lutte contre les pollutions ou d'amélioration du cadre de vie notamment dans le milieu urbain. Elle s'appuie également sur une volonté de décentralisation administrative dans un pays qui, de tradition, a été jusqu'ici très centralisé à Paris ; la croissance des régions en 1974 peut être un élément intéressant pour la politique territoriale de demain.

(France)

La population des centres urbains augmente, non seulement parce que le taux naturel net d'augmentation y est plus élevé qu'en campagne, mais surtout en raison de la persistance de l'exode rural.

En effet, durant ces dernières années, le mouvement de migration vers les centres urbains a nettement tendance à prendre le pas sur le mouvement naturel. Pour mieux situer l'ampleur du phénomène, le cas de KINSHASA, capitale du pays, est généralement mis en exergue. Plus de 50 p. 100 de l'accroissement annuel de la population de Kinshasa provient des régions limitrophes, et la ville a enregistré pendant 12 ans un taux de croissance moyen de 11,8 p. 100.

Si ce mouvement puise ses forces principales dans les événements politiques d'avant 1965 et dans les conditions de vie relativement inférieures de la campagne par rapport à celles de la ville, il est incontestable qu'il s'est accéléré par suite de la centralisation à Kinshasa, particulièrement, des entreprises industrielles, des équipements administratifs, culturels, sanitaires et autres, et des perspectives d'emplois et de salaires plus élevés.

(Zaire)

II. MINIMUM NEEDS AND STANDARDS

A "performance approach" to construction is being encouraged. Low-cost techniques in house construction are being promoted. Under the social housing programmes and the financing schemes of the Housing and Urban Development Corporation, ceiling limits have been prescribed for the cost and plinth area of houses to be constructed. Loans from the Housing and Urban Development Corporation are given at differential rates of interest varying from 5 per cent for economically weaker sections to 11.5 per cent for high income groups. The National Building Code has incorporated the minimum technical specifications required for safety and economy in construction. Local authorities are required to adopt these specifications while approving building plans. In scrutinizing building plans emphasis is placed on functional utility and aesthetics rather than on luxury. This approach would result in some discipline and economy in the use of land and building materials.

(India)

Housing policy measures were considered to be among the most urgent social reforms as early as the 1930s. Every family in different income brackets should be given the same chance of maintaining a home with the appropriate equipment and spatial standards which also satisfied individual requirements in respect of design and environmental factors. For many years housing policy was aimed at "building away" the housing shortage and solving housing problems in quantitative terms.

(Sweden)

Para desarrollarse normalmente y convertirse en un elemento útil a la sociedad, el hombre tiene que vivir en un ambiente adecuado, saludable, higiénico, con un mínimo de comodidades materiales que le aseguren la salud física y mental. Por eso la vivienda, al igual que la alimentación es un derecho imprescindible del ser humano. Tradicionalmente, la provisión de la vivienda ha sido responsabilidad inmediata del jefe de familia.

(Dominican Republic)

En relación con la tipología de los grandes conjuntos de viviendas, cabe señalar que en España se ha tendido a la construcción de grandes conjuntos exclusivamente residenciales con características típicas de ciudad dormitorio. Estos conjuntos han seguido en muchos casos las ideas de Le Corbusier y se han mostrado poco aptos para ser funcionales en un medio distinto de aquél para el que fueron concebidos. La imitación de conjuntos residenciales de otros países con clima e idiosincrasia totalmente diferentes a la nuestra ha hecho que sólo se hayan alcanzado en estos casos resultados mediocres.

Sólo últimamente se ha abordado la realización de auténticas nuevas ciudades totalmente autónomas, pero su puesta en uso no se ha llevado a cabo todavía y por tanto se desconoce su resultado.

(Spain)

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Provision of protected water supply is a minimum need for all settlements. In 1974, while 85 per cent of the urban population had piped water supply, nearly 116,000 villages with a population of 61 million did not have the most elementary water-supply system. As regards sewerage, only 38 per cent of the urban population, chiefly in the metropolitan cities have such facilities. The majority of medium and small towns have no sewerage system. In rural areas, the implementation of sewerage and drainage schemes has just been taken up. The problem of solid waste disposal has also been receiving attention only recently.

(India)

The National Programme of Minimum Needs initiated recently aims at increasing social consumption by the poorer sections of society. The programme takes into account not only the broader considerations of assuring a minimum in terms of the over-all quality of life, but also the role played by various facilities in supporting the process of economic development itself. Emphasis is, therefore, concentrated on programmes relating to primary education, rural health, nutrition, drinking water, provision of house-sites, slum improvement, rural roads and rural electrification. Minimum norms were evolved after a detailed exercise to assess the disparities between different areas and also the possible accomplishments in a span of five years within the limitations imposed by organizational, material and man-power resources.

The important feature of this programme is that it envisages the various schemes as integral parts of a package of facilities. For example, villages where primary health centres or schools are located would also be provided with water supply arrangements, electricity and link roads. Public resources are to be allocated only for those items which cannot be procured through local initiative and participation. It has also been laid down that notwithstanding the constraint of resources, this programme would be implemented by all states.

Simultaneously, the other sectoral programmes especially those relating to agriculture, irrigation, power, transport and communications are expected to bring about improvement in the level of production and services available in the rural areas. The land reform measures seek to confer ownership rights on tenants. The social status of the individual cultivator and his initiative and interest in increased productivity are being enhanced by additional inputs in the field of agriculture. The "Whole Village Development Programme" under the Fifth Five-Year Plan is built around village community as a whole and aims at:

- (a) Consolidation of holdings;
- (b) Over-all land development for maximizing water utilization and moisture conservation in dry areas;
- (c) Maximizing irrigation support subject to per acre maximum limit of investment based on the need to repay by extra production;
- (d) Cropping programme for the village for the optimum use of irrigation and for ensuring better drainage.

(India)

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Housing construction started off with the reconstruction of war-damaged areas. In the course of socialist renewal of cities and their centres, a gradual transition took place to the construction of new, self-contained housing areas complete with schools, nursery schools, crèches and other services. Whereas in 1950 only six places per 1,000 children of the relevant age group were available in crèches and 281 in nursery schools, the respective figures for 1974 were 420 places in crèches and 800 in nursery schools. This has provided for substantial prerequisites for equality of women in employment.

(German Democratic Republic)

III. RESOURCES FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

Structuring of settlements must be such that it will be conducive to intensification of production and to development of research as a productive force, to reinforcement of socialist relations in production, and effective utilization of regional resources, especially of social productive capacity. Only under such conditions will settlement structure help to provide better conditions of growth for:

- (a) Large factories and industrial groups and research centres in big and in bigger medium cities;
- (b) Industrialized units of agricultural production, primarily in or close to suitable small towns and larger villages;
- (c) Efficient transport, post and telecommunication, facilities and networks, water and power supplies, all with low capital and operation costs and high output.

(German Democratic Republic)

The role of housing in the social sector as an investment in human beings is now being recognized in Liberia. In addition to the social purposes, housing is an important economic development tool, especially in developing countries. Housing provides direct employment to workers in site construction, public works and utilities. In production of building materials, and transport, workmen are employed. There are a host of other industries which depend on the building materials and construction industries. The multiplier effect of investment in housing therefore is substantial. Considering its social and economic aspects, housing is integrated into the development framework of the country and funds are allotted every year for this important activity, to ensure continuity of work for persons engaged in the building industry and in the economic production of local building materials. As a starting point, the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs determines annually the amount of resources which ought to be allocated for housing and community facilities in Liberia.

(Liberia)

Among its efficient undertakings so far is the set of proposals the Agency is planning to relate to the organizations responsible for the execution in terms of transportation modes. This can be viewed as a step in the creation of a future model that would maximize the country's interests. The choice is going to be towards a mass-transportation system, not dependent on petroleum or coal but using the hydroelectric potential in Turkey as the source of energy for railroad transportation, a safer, faster, more convenient, less costly model. Investment

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plans and programmes should be in the supporting direction of this policy, giving priority to new railroad construction where necessary, improving the present system, revising the energy policy accordingly in addition to the other measures of similar nature.

(Turkey)

The water resources situation of the German Democratic Republic is under the strong pressure of excessive utilization of flowing water, the rate of reuse being twice to three times that of comparable industrialized countries. The water of some rivers is used up to five times in dry periods. About 43 per cent of all localities had sewage treatment plants in 1971; the figure had gone up to 46 per cent in 1974. The amount of inadequately purified industrial waste water discharged into rivers, lakes and canals was reduced by 8 per cent in the same period.

(German Democratic Republic)

Government has recently initiated a series of decentralized industrial development projects such as a heavy vehicle assembly plant in Kasama and a battery factory in Mansa in order to stimulate non-agricultural employment in the rural sector. Projects such as these are not always profitable over the short term, and have therefore been highly controversial. But this policy is consistent with Government's aim of redirecting investment capital away from the urban sector and the existing line of rail as much as possible. It should be noted in this context that another "line-of-rail" is currently being established with the construction of the new Tan-Zam Railway to Dar es Salaam. Besides being an important communication and transportation channel to the sea, this railway will almost certainly provide Zambia with a major new locus for investment, development and employment.

(Zambia)

The municipalities are responsible for such public services as electricity and water supply, sewerage, sanitation, streets and roads. Recent years have seen a rise in municipal investments in local public transport and domestic heating supply.

Services such as electricity and water supply and sewerage are quite often provided through the medium of public utilities or by municipal companies and foundations. These enterprises are financed on a non-profit basis by the collection of charges.

(Sweden)

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The second condition is the development of technical and social infrastructure in every region, proportionally to its population. This means that irrespective of the industrialization level in any region the housing construction must correspond with the housing needs. Further on the economic, social and cultural services must be proportionally developed, both at the local level in small commune centres, and at the higher level in the different grades of urban centres. The inhabitants of even the larger towns must be provided with the possibilities of daily and week-end recreation in the open green spaces, irrespective of the opportunities for holiday recreation.

(Poland)

Il faut noter en définitive que le système adopté dans les zones à équipement différé, tant en milieu urbain qu'en milieu rural, se base sur l'auto-construction. En effet l'expérience passée a montré l'intérêt du recours à ce système qui est considéré comme un moyen de mobilisation des énergies vacantes et d'intéressement des populations à la recherche d'un logement.

(Morocco)

En el nuevo Plan de Desarrollo 1975-1979 se da énfasis a un programa de caminos rurales que propende al desarrollo agrícola de una extensa región en el norte del país. Una mejor infraestructura de transporte permitiría el mejor mercadeo de los productos agrícolas de las áreas de influencia de las respectivas carreteras y permitiría, además, que los servicios de asistencia técnica agrícola y bancaria lleguen a estas regiones, cuyos pobladores demandarán mejor atención de los sectores sociales: educación, salud y desarrollo urbano, y que por último se traducirá en un incentivo para lograr el afincamiento de los pobladores del lugar y aún la migración de pobladores de otras regiones, en espera de mayores probabilidades de bienestar personal.

(Guatemala)

Pour financer les opérations que ce soit au niveau de l'infrastructure ou de la construction, on doit recourir à des emprunts. Et là encore se fait sentir leur lourdeur : crédits trop chers et à très court terme avec apport relativement important demandés aux candidats constructeurs. Par ailleurs, ces crédits dépendent pour l'essentiel de l'étranger (prêt auprès d'organismes extérieurs) : pour lancer l'opération dite des 67 hectares, à Tananarive, on a dû recourir à un prêt auprès de la C.C.C.E. sur un taux de 3,5 p. 100 sur 15 ans.

Le système de crédit intérieur n'est pas adapté. Le taux de prêt consenti par les banques est élevé. Pendant longtemps la Banque Nationale Malgache (B.N.M.) n'a consenti que des prêts à court terme (6 p. 100 pour 10 ans).

La répercussion directe de ces difficultés financières de l'Etat et des promoteurs est qu'un pourcentage très faible de la population est touché par le peu de logements que déjà l'on peut offrir. En effet, le loyer est trop cher par rapport aux revenus d'une grande partie de la population. Les masses les plus pauvres se réfugient dans les logements de fortune et insalubres en bordure des grands ensembles et parfois même au défi de toute sécurité sur les flancs des digues de protection contre les crues comme à Tananarive.

(Madagascar)

Son muchos los ejemplos de proyectos masivos, donde el empleo del "diseño tipo" y de la "producción en serie" ha creado "Asentamientos Humanos" inadaptados y aún contrarios al modo de vida de la familia y de la sociedad local o ajenos a las condiciones ecológicas locales.

Este primer estándar exige, en consecuencia, la adaptación de la tecnología tanto a la cultura del habitante, por ser la condición esencial de la "habitabilidad" de los futuros proyectos, como a los requerimientos y posibilidades ecológicas locales o regionales.

(Chile)

Le problème de l'eau est certainement celui qui se pose avec le plus d'acuité dans les centres urbains et dans les villages.

Les ressources en eau sont insuffisantes ou mal réparties et les qualités bactériologiques douteuses. De nombreux centres urbains comportent un réseau d'eau alimenté par des forages. Ainsi la capitale reçoit 13 000 m³ d'eau par jour pour 280 000 habitants. Les autres agglomérations tirent du sol un peu plus de 7 000 m³ par jour pour près de 70 000 habitants. Trois villes reçoivent leurs eaux de barrages qui fournissent 5 500 m³ par jour à environ 70 000 habitants également. Dans toutes ces agglomérations, l'appoint est obtenu avec des eaux de puits.

Dans les zones rurales, les populations ont recours aux puits, mares, marigots, ruisseaux, rivières, trous d'eau et barrages pour leur approvisionnement en eau. Ces sources sont toutes exposées aux agents de pollution. La situation requiert des solutions urgentes.

(Togo)

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IV. LAND AS A RESOURCE

In large city areas, such basic problems as the limited supply of land, water, energy and other resources and the deteriorating quality of the environment have become problems. To cope with the situation, the Government is to study, from a broader point of view, the basic direction of the development hereafter of large city regions, formulate a plan for the development of large city regions and examine an over-all policy concerning most desirable way of relocation of factories and offices now located in large city areas, control of excessive concentration of population and industry, planned dispersal of population and industry and improvement of the urban environment.

(Japan)

La spéculation qui existe en matière de terrains constitue un goulot d'étranglement à la réalisation de prévisions du plan en ce sens qu'elle entraîne un ralentissement et un renchérissement de l'urbanisation.

L'intervention de l'Etat s'impose donc dans le domaine. Elle doit être menée de façon à mettre à la disposition de l'habitat des terrains à un prix raisonnable et ce après viabilisation et aménagement. ... jusqu'à dernièrement, on a constaté un gaspillage de terrains dû à une consommation abusive notamment dans les zones suburbaines. Les lotisseurs disposaient à leur guise de leurs terrains en fonction de leurs propres intérêts uniquement tout en respectant au demeurant certaines règles techniques élémentaires.

(Tunisia)

Problems relating to the migration from rural to urban areas as a consequence of the "rural push" occupy a considerable weight amongst the issues of an unsound urbanization caused by inadequate industrialization and structural changes that have taken place in agriculture. The technology and income level in developed countries are such that the migrants are more easily assimilated into the urban structure. However, in Turkey where the urbanization process is not supported by industrialization, the large volume of urban in-migration, limited job availability and other such factors create certain resettlement problems. Since land prices decrease with increasing distance from the centre, the new settlement areas (squatter housing), concentrating in the relatively less expensive lands on the outskirts of cities create additional demand for services such as health, education, transportation, electricity, water and sewage facilities. This development leads to a drift from the planned direction of urban growth and also to higher costs in the provision of public services. The population settled in the squatter areas cause changes in the socio-economic structure as well as physical form of the city. For instance, speculative transactions are stimulated and certain legal problems emerge. This point will be explained in detail in the housing policies section of this report.

(Turkey)

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The housing needs of the 60 per cent of the urban population who cannot even afford standard housing (120,000 people) would best be satisfied through self-help housing. The key to this problem is available land and, beyond this, a site and service scheme. In addition provision of building materials at reasonable prices would encourage self-help building.

(Liberia)

The most successful of the early settlements was that at Sodo in Sidamo Administrative Region, created on the initiative of the local administrator. Over 700 farm families were settled on 5 ha plots in the savanna zone 1200-1600 m above sea level at Abela and Dele. Services were provided by regular field personnel. The IBRD-assisted Wollamo Agricultural Development Unit (WADU) has now absorbed this settlement and substantial capital inputs are programmed together with an extension of settlement to 1,750 more farm families.

Settlers are selected by an appropriate committee. Applicants should be between 16 and 45 years old, physically fit, without right to land elsewhere. Extension service along with training and cattle inoculation services are provided. Farmers' wives, throughout the project area, are taught nutrition, child care, hygiene, home improvement, vegetable gardening, making of cheap clothing for children, poultry-keeping and literacy.

(Ethiopia)

L'attribution d'une parcelle dans un lotissement viabilisé doit procéder du souci de savoir si les nouveaux bénéficiaires sont ou non en mesure d'effectuer les mises en valeur correspondantes et de respecter les clauses particulières des cahiers de charges et dans le délai imparti. Cette remarque n'est valable que dans les lotissements d'auto-constructions où seuls les attributaires sont tenus de consentir des efforts personnels pour investir sur leur parcelle au risque d'être déchu de tous les droits.

Dans ces parcelles dont la surface moyenne avoisine 500 à 600 m², l'habitat se construit, se transforme, évolue et prend une structure définitive.

(Central African Republic)

The Master Plan not only regulates land use but also restricts its use and thus helps to curb land speculation by:

(a) Increasing the supply of certain types of land, which is in very short supply, by the judicious rezoning of other types of land;

(b) Designating large areas of land ripe for development as sites for new towns in the short term;

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(c) Designating other large areas of relatively undeveloped land in potentially strategic locations as sites of future new towns in the long term;

(d) Levying development charge on planning applications which are approved on an alteration to the Master Plan. This serves to cream off part of the enhanced value of the properties accruing to the land owners as a result of rezoning for the benefits of the community;

(e) Preventing unnecessary fragmentation of land through the provisions of the Planning Act;

(f) Restricting the validity of planning permission to a two-year period only.

(Singapore)

The land reform proclamation has abolished all forms of tenancy, thus reducing tenant replacement by mechanized farming techniques. The proclamation requires personal cultivation of the land holding by the settler and his family, and residence on the holding. Prohibition of any assignment or transfer of land rights is explicit and subdivision of land holdings among heirs is not allowed. Each farm family has the right to upwards of 10 ha, while Farmers Associations can collectively organize, allocate and cultivate a minimum of 800 ha. These associations which are presently being formed will be able to receive agricultural extension services, organize co-operatives and institute such social services as health, education and housing facilities and age and disability benefits for members of the group. Existing settlement schemes will now need to be reorganized to comply with the land reform proclamation.

(Ethiopia)

A system of heavier land taxes is employed to check speculative land acquisition. The corporate tax is levied on the profits from the transfer of land and a special land ownership tax is levied for the acquisition and ownership of land exceeding a certain acreage.

(Japan)

Los asentamientos humanos deberían localizarse en la medida de lo posible, en las zonas de los ecosistemas que no constituyan zonas de gran riqueza biológica y terrenos aptos para producción agrícola: principio de la economía de las tierras fértiles.

(Uruguay)

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The land policies of the New Society are addressed to the goals of optimizing the wealth derived from land resources and maximizing the welfare of the community from the utilization of land. To attain this, certain fundamental objectives must first be attempted:

1. Widespread distribution of ownership, occupancy and land use rights among citizens.
2. Maximization of productive efficiency in the use of land resources through orderly and equitable operating arrangements.
3. Enhancement of the quality of human life and betterment of the welfare of the community through arrangements that offer economic opportunities, security and stability to land users.
4. Promotion of ecological balance, environmental protection and conservation of land resource.

(Philippines)

From the beginning of the planned period, the continuing lack of spatial dimension in the development plans, in other words, the lack of organic link between economic and social investment decisions and the settlement pattern, has been largely responsible for the ineffectiveness of the policies adopted to overcome land-related urbanization problems. This has created negative effects on the national settlement and land use patterns resulting in undesirable urban growth.

"LAND" is a key factor in shaping physical planning and has direct relationship with industrialization, development, hence urbanization and human life per se. In this section the above-mentioned relations will be analysed in terms of common and specific problems originated by urban, semi-urban and rural land policies, and measures in effect and the organizational set-up will be examined.

(Turkey)

The rational and careful approach to land use in the process of national economy development has become an essential factor of Soviet urban development.

The present-day level of technology allows to realize big projects to improve unsuitable land, using on a wide scale filling methods to make dikes, dams and water reservoirs.

(USSR)

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In parallel with the reclamation works, the hilly areas which supply the earth fill are levelled for public housing development, as in the case of Toa Payoh and Telok Blangah New Towns, or industrial development as in the case of Jurong. In the case of Bedok the levelled land is used for housing, industries and reservoir. Future reclamation works are likely to rely more and more on materials dredged from the sea-bed.

(Singapore)

The development of infrastructure in cities attracts population leading to unplanned exploitation of urban land. Speculation in land values and haphazard construction are the twin manifestations of unplanned exploitation. Land use control measures under the Master Plans have been prescribed in many cities. However, there has not been strict enforcement of the plans except in Delhi. Realizing this, in the new city development programmes under the Fifth Five-Year Plan, emphasis has been laid on enforcement.

(India)

The Land Acquisition Act enables the Government to acquire any land based on the market value minus any increase in land values which occurred during the last seven years due to the development activities of the Government. The Act has been amended recently to peg values to property prevailing at November 1973 regardless of the high inflationary market prices after that date. If prices subsequently dip below November 1973 prices, there are provisions in the Land Acquisition Act which empowers the Collector to pay compensation at the lesser figure.

(Singapore)

La complexité du problème foncier comme dans tout problème d'urbanisme et d'habitat handicape toutes les actions. A Madagascar, elle découle à la fois de la notion même de propriété et de la législation foncière en place : En effet, la notion de propriété assez accusée dans certaines régions du plateau central, légitimée par la législation foncière d'importation et avivée par la suite par la spéculation, n'a fait que compliquer le problème foncier urbain en particulier. La procédure d'expropriation ou d'acquisition de terrains, même à l'amiable est très lourde. La mise en place des lotissements projetés et des plateaux d'habitat ainsi que de l'infrastructure (voiries et réseaux divers) s'en est trouvé freinée sinon arrêtée, faute de terrain disponible ou de l'insuffisance des acquisitions du fait de l'augmentation incessante du coût de terrain par l'effet des plus-values et de la spéculation entraînée par l'existence du peu d'investissements fait par l'Etat ou les Collectivités.

(Madagascar)

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V. HUMAN SETTLEMENT INSTITUTIONS

In 1962 an Amiri Decree transferred the whole responsibilities of low income houses to the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, which was entrusted with the task of organizing and distributing low income houses. Till 1973 the following Ministries and public agencies were responsible for housing:

- Kuwait Municipality was responsible for allocation of housing sites.
- Ministry of Public Works was responsible for the construction of houses.
- Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs was responsible for the distribution of houses.
- The Savings and Credit Bank was responsible for the construction of houses and allocation of loans.
- The Ministry of Finance - Housing Department was responsible for housing non-Kuwaiti government employees.

In July 1974 the Public Agency for Housing was established. It has been entrusted with the task of building houses and formulating a housing policy.

In February 1975 the Ministry of Housing was established. Its responsibilities were:

- Formulating a housing policy in accordance with the Five Year Development Plan.
- Preparing designs for government financed units and sites.
- Implementation and supervision of housing schemes.
- Distribution and renting of government houses to eligible parties.

(Kuwait)

When Singapore obtained independence in 1959, the ruling Government accorded top priority to the provision of low-cost housing for the population. A new housing authority, the Housing and Development Board, was established in 1960 with the following functions under the portfolio of the Minister for Law and National Development:

1. To prepare and execute proposals, plans and projects for:
 - the erection, conversion, improvement and extension of any building for sale, lease, rental or other purposes;
 - the clearance and redevelopment of slum and urban areas;

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- the development or redevelopment of areas designated by the Minister;
 - the development of rural or agricultural areas for the resettlement of persons displaced by operations of the Board or other resettlement projects approved by the Minister;
2. To manage all lands, houses and buildings or other property vested in or belonging to the Board.

(Singapore)

The most significant steps taken in respect to housing is the re-establishment of the Ministry of Public Works into the Ministry of Public Works and Housing. Within the framework of national objectives and plans the Ministry will (a) establish a firm and realistic housing policy, taking into account population forecasts, land regulation, design and supply of building components from indigenous raw materials, and the administrative, financial and organizational arrangements; (b) develop national housing programmes and determine the volume and proportion of various kinds of housing construction; (c) undertake research and act as co-ordinator for all physical, technical and economic factors that are essential for planning and implementation of housing development activities; (d) avail facilities in building materials and professional services to encourage self-help housing; and (e) encourage sound rural and urban housing and community development related to industries and settlements connected by efficient transport facility. Already work on building regulations, standardization of building materials and contractors and consultants registration statutes is in progress.

(Ethiopia)

En la esfera urbana, la nueva concepción del asentamiento humano surge necesariamente de la participación masiva en su realización y de la evaluación de los méritos sociales en su distribución: el poderoso Movimiento de Microbrigadistas que actualmente trabaja en la construcción de viviendas y edificaciones sociales a lo largo del país. Estas brigadas están compuestas por obreros de diversos sectores de trabajo que construyen viviendas para sus respectivos colectivos. Sus compañeros han pasado a realizar a su vez con plus trabajo, la tarea productiva específica que les correspondía en sus antiguos puestos de trabajo.

(Cuba)

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A nivel sectorial, se recomienda que los gobiernos impulsen los programas para solucionar la vivienda de las clases más desposeídas, con base en la creación o adecuación de las instituciones que permitan un financiamiento en el que participen el sector público, las empresas privadas o públicas y los trabajadores. Estos organismos deben contribuir a la investigación de los problemas de los asentamientos humanos y al diseño, construcción y mantenimiento de las unidades habitacionales.

(Mexico)

En vue de solutionner le problème foncier, l'Etat Tunisien a créé par la loi du 14 avril 1973 trois établissements publics :

- l'agence foncière d'habitation
- l'agence foncière industrielle
- l'agence foncière touristique.

Chacun de ces trois organismes est doté de moyens juridiques, techniques et financiers assez suffisants pour lui permettre, dans le cadre de ses attributions de s'acquérir des terrains à vocation soit d'habitation soit d'industrialisation soit enfin de tourisme, de les aménager de les viabiliser et de les céder aux promoteurs et aux constructeurs.

Ces instruments sont appelés à modérer le marché du foncier et à assurer une urbanisation rationnelle et des viabilités de bonne qualité.

(Tunisia)

In 1962, a new rural health plan was evolved, taking into account the experience gained over the previous years. It consisted of a "Rural Health Unit", to service 5,000 persons only, and called to memory the Rural Health Centre, without the in-patient section. Its staff was composed of a doctor, an assistant laboratory technician, a hygiene commissioner and two assistant obstetricians.

The main duties of the Rural Health Unit were the following:

- curative care and the preparation of health cards for the inhabitants;
- preventive care;
- health services for children and mothers and school medicine.

The underlying principles of the Rural Health Units are the following:

- that the unit shall service a single village or human settlement with a population not exceeding 5,000, as long as they are not located further than 3 kilometres away from the unit;

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- that services shall be provided at the level of a general practitioner;
- that the unit shall reinforce the services provided by health centres and see to the transfer of the more serious cases to medical centres.

The Rural Health Units currently number 1,800.

This is a general picture of public utilities and services in rural areas. It wishes to convey some of the attempts made to develop those areas, but we believe that we can achieve optimal results if our approach relies on:

- plans and studies carried out on scientific bases, and
- sufficient financial appropriations to develop rural public utilities and services.

(Egypt)

The Town and Country Planning legislations in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu provide for delineating these States into regions and preparing regional plans for development. However, integration of spatial plans with economic development plans has to be institutionalized. For this purpose, a model legislation has now been proposed with a State Town and Country Planning Board consisting of the Minister in charge of Town and Country Planning as its chairman, the vice-chairman of the State Economic Planning Board as its vice-chairman, and all other high level functionaries and experts connected with physical and economic planning as its members. This Board will oversee the work of the next two lower tiers of Regional and Area Planning and Development Authorities and advise the State on the manner of integrating economic development with spatial planning.

(India)

The city, in Egypt, is the human settlement where affairs are managed and administered by a Town Council, while the village is managed and administered by a Village Council.

Towns and Village Councils are established by government decrees.

This situation is in the process of being rectified on the basis of regional plans so that the "function" of each human settlement can be determined, its development needs assessed and, consequently, the size of its population. We can then avoid overcrowding in a few big cities which have attracted, and will always attract, the excess population.

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In the following paragraphs, we will expatiate on some of the physical problems, both in urban and rural areas under three headings:

- Main physical problems in urban areas;
- Problems of human settlements in rural areas; and
- The housing problem in urban and rural areas.

(Egypt)

The recent reorganization of administration has far-reaching implications for urban development in Uganda. The reorganization involved creation of 20 additional districts and their headquarters, and the creation of Provinces which constitute an additional tier (i.e. between central and district) in the administrative hierarchy. It is important to note that in Uganda all sizable towns have received initial growth impetus from their role as administrative centres, frequently as district headquarters. That being the case, reorganization of administration is a first step towards decentralization of urban growth. The decentralization, depending on the particular problem, may provide the short- and/or long-run solution to several problems lying at the heart of the present pattern of urban growth and its environment effects.

(Uganda)

The lack of planning machinery at the regional level is also felt by those preparing the individual urban development plans in that there is no developmental context in which to operate. Cities, municipalities and townships therefore are not cast into any functional role in the development process, and are projected to continue performing the functions they have always carried out, growing merely because of the natural increase in population and continued immigration from the rural areas. The lack of a regional planning framework is most keenly felt in the Copperbelt Province where five of Zambia's eight major urban areas are clustered together, but where the development plans for the individual urban areas are being prepared in isolation and without reference to an over-all urban development strategy. Naturally, an urban development strategy cannot be formulated in the absence of a regional development strategy. Such a regional development strategy is now being considered in the preparation of Zambia's Third National Development Plan, and it is to be hoped that a national urban development strategy will follow close behind.

(Zambia)

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One of the principles underlying the reform taking place in state administration is the realization of democracy in administration. Efforts are thus made to bring decisions as close as possible to the people directly affected by them, while the various opinions of influence in society have a chance to affect the decisions made. One means is the delegation of authority from the central administration level to the district and local administration level. The committee set up to reform administration at the intermediate level proposed that the provincial administration be remodelled on the basis of provincial councils democratically elected.

Plans affecting the entire country are made at the central administration level. At municipal level the same plans are made in more detail to suit local conditions. At the final stage the municipal councils, elected by public poll, approve the plans made. The drawing up of these plans is often supervised by the district administration level, and often the plans are ratified either by the district administration or by the central administration. A planning process such as this makes allowance for both the various needs of the municipalities and the needs of the whole country.

(Finland)

Por otra parte, es preciso incrementar la capacidad de administración en todas las esferas relacionadas con los asentamientos humanos, presentando atención y apoyo en los planos nacional e internacional, a los programas que tengan esa finalidad. Se recomienda avocarse a la capacitación en dos niveles: a) un programa internacional relativo a cuestiones relacionadas con los asentamientos humanos y, b) programas regionales y nacionales específicamente diseñados y adaptados a las condiciones de cada país. Aunque estos dos niveles deben completarse, es prioritaria la capacitación a niveles nacional y regional.

(Mexico)
