

the progress of the World Decade for Cultural Development.

*100th plenary meeting
8 December 1986*

41/188. Sessions of the Economic and Social Council and of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme in 1987

The General Assembly,

Having decided to convene the seventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development at Geneva from 9 to 31 July 1987,

Recognizing the resulting need for appropriate adjustments in the dates and programmes of work of other principal and/or subsidiary bodies of the United Nations,

1. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council, at its organizational session for 1987, to suspend, on an exceptional basis, rule 2 of its rules of procedure to enable its second regular session of 1987 to be held from 23 June to 9 July at Geneva, and to convene a resumed second regular session, not exceeding three days, in September in New York;

2. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme, at its organizational session, to reschedule its annual session for 1987, which should be held from 26 May to 19 June in New York, and the session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, which should be held between 18 and 22 May 1987.

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41/189. Tenth session of the Commission on Human Settlements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/162 of 19 December 1977, by which it made institutional arrangements for international co-operation in the field of human settlements, including the establishment of the Commission on Human Settlements and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), to provide institutional focus to the activities of the United Nations system in that field, as recommended by Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, held at Vancouver, Canada, from 31 May to 11 June 1976,⁴⁴

Noting with utmost concern that, although some progress has been achieved in that field in the past decade, the living conditions of the majority of people in urban and rural slums and squatter settlements, especially in developing countries, continue nevertheless to deteriorate in both relative and absolute terms,

Recalling the important initiative taken by Member States to reverse that negative trend through the proclamation by the Assembly, in its resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982, of the year 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, with the aim of securing renewed political commitment by the international community to the improvement of the shelter and neighbourhoods of the poor and disadvantaged,

Taking note with appreciation of the fact that over one hundred and thirty countries have responded positively to the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless by establishing national focal points for the Year and that over three hundred and sixty projects for improving the shelter and neighbourhoods of the poor and disadvantaged have been officially designated around the world in the context of the Year,

Recalling that, in its resolution 37/221, it designated the Commission on Human Settlements, in the framework of its regular sessions, to act as the United Nations intergovernmental body responsible for organizing the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, and noting that 1987 will mark not only the observance of the Year but also the tenth anniversary of the establishment of the Commission,

Convinced that the tenth session of the Commission, commemorating its tenth anniversary and coinciding with the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, provides therefore a timely and unique opportunity for the international community to assess the results of the efforts of the past decade, including the results of the many programmes and projects around the world identified as demonstration projects for the Year and, on the basis of such assessment, decide on new directions and approaches for national policies and strategies that will bring closer the objective of shelter for all by the year 2000,

Recognizing that universal participation by States in the commemorative session of the Commission will greatly enhance the significance and usefulness of the deliberations and conclusions of that session,

1. *Appeals* to all Member States of the United Nations or members of the specialized agencies, including the International Atomic Energy Agency, to participate at the highest possible level in the tenth session of the Commission on Human Settlements, commemorating its tenth anniversary, in order to highlight the significance of that session and the critical importance of the programme of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

2. *Decides* that for the duration of the tenth session no distinction shall be drawn in the application of the rules of procedure between States members of the Commission and other participating States and for that purpose suspends for the duration of the session the operation of rule 56 of the Commission's rules of procedure.

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41/190. International Year of Shelter for the Homeless

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982, in which it proclaimed the year 1987 International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,

Noting with satisfaction that more than one hundred and thirty countries and many key United Nations agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations are taking part in the programme for the Year and have designated more than three hundred and sixty projects for it,

Noting also that a large number of States have participated in the regional and subregional meetings for the Year, many at the ministerial level, which have resulted in constructive recommendations and commitments for renewed national action,

⁴⁴ See *Report of Habitat: United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver, 31 May-11 June 1976* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.76.IV.7 and corrigendum), chaps. II and III.