

HABITAT II REPORT



**Housing Export Centre
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation**

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HABITAT II REPORT

INTRODUCTION

This is a summary report on Habitat II and Canada's involvement in this important international policy-making activity. The report covers:

- the objectives of Habitat II;
- Canada's domestic and international preparations for the event;
- the outcomes of Habitat II, from a Canadian perspective, including descriptions of associated activities (Habitat Trade Show and the Best Practices project);
- Canadian participation at the Conference including its main statements and accomplishments; and
- ongoing contacts and key references.

BACKGROUND - WHAT WAS HABITAT II ?

Habitat II, the Second United Nations' Conference on Human Settlements, was held in Istanbul, Turkey, June 3 -14, 1996.

The first United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat I) was hosted by Canada in 1976 in Vancouver. It produced the Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements which was directed to guiding global activities on human settlements for the next generation, and stressed the responsibility of the public sector in achieving housing and settlement objectives. The 1976 Habitat Conference also led to the formation of the UN Commission on Human Settlements (UN-CHS), consisting of 58 member states, which directs an operational arm, the UN Centre for Human Settlements (known as UNCHS Habitat), based in Nairobi.

One hundred and seventy-one states participated at the Habitat II Conference. The major product of Habitat II was the Habitat Agenda (the final report of the Conference, also sometimes known as the Global Plan of Action) which is expected to guide global human settlements efforts over the next 20 years. In addition, a shorter summary document, the Istanbul Declaration, was also adopted. Both of these documents were based on the "enabling" philosophy that governments are to provide the framework for people and communities to solve their own problems, as far as possible.

Overall Objectives and Themes

Habitat II had a myriad of important purposes. Its central focus was urban areas and cities, and it was characterised by Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the Secretary-General of the UN, as " the City Summit." Also, it was the concluding event in a series of major United Nations' "global conferences" (Rio de Janeiro - "environment", Vienna - "human rights", Copenhagen - "social development", Cairo - "population", Beijing - "women") which have made significant progress in redesigning international environmental, economic and social frameworks.

The overall objective of Habitat II was to explore how the world's cities, towns and villages could be made healthier and safer, as well as more equitable and sustainable. Habitat II sought to better understand urban challenges and translate these into opportunities, by examining realistic steps that could be taken at city, country and international levels to overcome the problems and enrich the potentials of urban life.

Specifically, Habitat II was directed to address two themes:

Sustainable human settlements development in an urbanising world

This theme recognised that the world is becoming increasingly urbanised, and that in order to build a sustainable future it is necessary to take into account the social relationships, economic development and environmental impact of our human settlements

Adequate shelter for all

This theme recognised the need to deal with over a billion people around the world who live in inadequate shelter, without piped water, electricity, roads, health facilities, and, in most cases, without security of tenure

At Habitat II special attention was directed to developing the important role in urban governance of civil society and other partners, such as local authorities, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and international institutions. For the first time, a rule was established by the UN General Assembly for the Conference that acknowledged the special and unique role of these partners within the UN system. It is particularly significant that local authorities were given this ground-breaking status as participants at Habitat II. An international assembly of local authorities and mayors, The World Assembly of Cities and Local Authorities (WACLA), was held at the Habitat II site immediately before the Conference, from May 30-31, 1996. In total, Habitat II saw a major effort by the United Nations' to be open to other stakeholders, and involve them in its formal processes.

HOW DID CANADA GET THERE ?

Canadian preparations for Habitat II began early in 1994, primarily within the federal government, then expanded in scope and grew in intensity until the actual event.

Federal Preparations and Coordination

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) was the lead federal agency for domestic matters in Canada's preparations for Habitat II. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) was responsible for the international perspectives, and the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) lead the Canadian participation at the Conference. An interdepartmental committee (IDC) was established during 1994 to provide Canada's input to the Conference and guide a national consultation process. It included DFAIT, CMHC, CIDA, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND), Environment Canada (EC), Status of Women Canada (SWC), Health Canada (HC), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), and occasionally, other departments. As the lead domestic agency and Canada's

national housing agency, CMHC undertook a wide range of national and international preparatory activities for Habitat II, including:

- securing and providing information and support for domestic pre-conference preparations;
- providing financial support to the UN Centre for Human Settlements for its key pre-Habitat II project to develop indicators of sustainable urban development, and related events;
- supporting pre-Habitat meetings in Toronto (September 1995) and Vancouver (October 1995);
- supporting preparations by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Rooftops Canada, the Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA), Youth for Habitat II Canada!, and other organisations to facilitate their participation in Habitat II and its processes;
- interfacing with key stakeholders at the provincial and city level;
- in conjunction with Rooftops Canada, preparing and issuing a series of newsletters on Habitat II and Canadian preparations to a large mailing list of interested persons and organisations. This newsletter was entitled "People Towards Habitat II";
- supporting the UNCHS Best Practices initiative through assisting participation at the Dubai Conference in 1995, nomination and funding of a Canadian member of the Technical Advisory Committee, and Canadian promotion and logistics for the Best Practices competition;
- supporting the "Best Practices" international jury meeting in Toronto in March, 1996;
- producing, and conducting consultations on, Canada's National Report to Habitat II;
- leading Canada's participation at the Habitat II Trade Fair.

DFAIT, CIDA and IDRC also provided significant support for Habitat II.

Consultations

A major consultative process took place for Habitat II, extending over two years and involving stakeholders from across Canada. Three major stakeholder groups were consulted: federal departments through the IDC; provincial and municipal governments; and civil society generally (NGOs and community-based organisations, the private sector, industry associations, academics and interested individuals). Ultimately, there were over 400 governments, groups and individuals involved.

The various federal departments which were active in Habitat II, led by the IDC core group, worked together during this two-year period to develop, co-ordinate and consult on their respective contributions.

Given the shared interest in housing and urban matters, particular attention was devoted to ensuring that provincial, territorial and municipal governments were aware of the Habitat process, and obtaining their views. Provincial governments were consulted through the Intergovernmental Committee for Urban and Regional Research (ICURR). Consultation with municipalities occurred through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and there were considerable bilateral contacts between CMHC, CIDA, DFAIT and the various individual municipalities who became active in the Habitat process.

Consultations with civil society occurred primarily through individual, direct contacts with CMHC, through communications within the NGO community, through two formal consultation meetings organised by DFAIT and CMHC, and through a systematic consultation programme developed and delivered by CHRA under contract to CMHC. Under this arrangement CHRA informed and consulted with civil society about Habitat II, and consolidated Canadian NGOs' views on Habitat issues. This included contacting the major groups and individuals interested in Habitat II, publishing a special issue of the magazine Canadian Housing, holding a national consultation meeting in Vancouver on May 25, 1996, assisting some NGO representatives to attend the Istanbul Conference, and consolidating civil society's views into complete pre- and post- Conference reports. CIDA entered into a similar arrangement with the Canadian Urban Institute regarding consultations concerning the international development aspects of the Conference. Also, formal national consultation meetings were organised by DFAIT and CMHC in Ottawa before PrepCom III and the Habitat II Conference. This overall programme of information and consultations, nationally, was the Canadian equivalent of the national committees and plans of action produced in some countries in preparation for Habitat II..

National Report

Canada's National Report for Habitat II , which was released prior to the Conference, provided a summary description and assessment of Canada's housing system and current and anticipated housing trends. The report indicated that while Canada ranks among the best housed countries in the world, and this is because our housing conditions have improved substantially since the end of World War II, some Canadians continue to live in sub-standard housing. It identified many of the accomplishments in Canadian housing, and the challenges for the housing sector in the next generation. It also highlighted the efforts of various levels of government, community organisations and the private sector to achieve a more sustainable environment for Canadian cities and communities. On the international front, the report described the activities of Canadian agencies in developing countries in providing adequate housing and promoting good governance at the community level, and sustainable communities. Stakeholders were consulted on its approach and content, and their views were taken into account in its production.

Preparatory Committee Meetings

As is normal for UN global conferences, there were three Preparatory Committee Meetings (PrepComs) held in advance of Habitat II. Each of these dealt with substantive and procedural matters relating to the Conference. The first was held in Geneva in April, 1994 and produced the overall plan for the Conference. The second PrepCom, in Nairobi in April/May 1995, developed the initial draft of the Statement of Principles and Commitments, and the Global Plan of Action, within The Habitat Agenda. This text was discussed and debated throughout the world for the next year, culminating in the adoption of the final document at Habitat II. Two intersessional, Informal Drafting Group meetings were held between PrepCom II and PrepCom III, and these dealt primarily with the text on Strategies for Implementation . PrepCom III occurred in New York in February, 1996 and involved detailed substantive negotiation of the text of the Habitat Agenda, particularly its housing and human settlements components. Canada was represented at all of the formal meetings by national delegations which included representatives of all levels of

government and non-governmental organisations. Parallel meetings of NGOs occurred during each PrepCom.

Canadian Priorities and Objectives for Habitat II

Canada's approach and priorities for Habitat II were based on extensive consultations with stakeholders and focused on the following major themes:

- *Housing and shelter:* ensuring that the Conference considered a wide range of issues, including the environment and housing affordability.
- *Good governance:* keeping in mind the boundaries established by Canada's Constitution, the principle of decentralisation was supported, so that local services are delivered by the lowest level of government that can most effectively deliver these services. Transparency, accountability and public participation were recognised as central elements of local good governance.
- *Sustainable development:* Canada encouraged the co-ordination and integration of economic, social and environmental policies at all levels, including in international development policies.
- *Recent UN world summits and conferences:* Canada worked to ensure that the progress relevant to human settlement issues which had been achieved at previous major summits and conferences, was reflected in the Habitat Agenda.
- *Gender, youth and special groups perspective:* Canada's objective was to integrate these perspectives throughout the Habitat Agenda and to ensure that the needs and concerns of indigenous people and persons with disabilities were taken into account.

A draft paper outlining Canada's priorities and objectives for Habitat II was widely distributed and served as a basis for discussion at the national consultation meeting before PrepCom III, and the final version of the priorities paper was considered at the national consultation in Ottawa before the Conference itself.

WHAT HAPPENED AT THE HABITAT II CONFERENCE ?

Habitat II was a huge international event, attracting thousands of registrants and participants from across the globe to an array of important activities in both the formal Conference and in parallel events organised by NGOs or governmental organisations. Attendance included over 3 000 government delegates, approximately 600 representatives of local authorities, over 2 000 accredited NGO representatives, some 2 000 journalists as well as representatives of trade unions, intergovernmental organisations and other interested groups. The principal events were the Habitat II Conference, the Partners' Forums, the NGO Forum, the Best Practices Project, and the Habitat II Trade Fair. The primary outcomes were the two key documents produced by the Conference, The Habitat Agenda and The Istanbul Declaration. The parallel NGO Forum '96 registered 8 500 NGO participants and held over 1 700 NGO meetings and events.

The "Habitat Agenda and the Global Plan of Action"

The main work of the Habitat II Conference was carried out in Committee I, where the participating nations and nearly 2 500 accredited non-governmental observers considered the final text of The Habitat Agenda, with its component Global Plan of Action, and the summary statement entitled The Istanbul Declaration. Working Groups were organised and assigned various sections of the draft text, and the detailed examination and negotiations of the final text largely occurred in these subcommittees.

The final Habitat Agenda, the full title of which is "The Habitat Agenda: Goals and Principles, Commitments and Global Plan of Action" is an eighty-two page, 238 paragraph document, while the summary statement "The Istanbul Declaration", is 15 paragraphs. Some of the main topics addressed by The Habitat Agenda are:

Housing/Shelter

One of the two conference themes, adequate shelter for all, proved to be a subject area in which there was substantial agreement among all conference delegates. Good progress had been made at PrepCom III in negotiating a text that was broadly acceptable, and this facilitated agreement on the final text at Istanbul. This text is reflective of Canadian policies and priorities. It recognises the important role of markets and the private sector in providing affordable housing. It seeks, as a fundamental objective, to enable markets to perform efficiently within a context of social and environmental sustainability. It provides for the use of market-based incentives to encourage the private sector where appropriate. For people living in poverty, the Agenda recognises the need to increase affordability by providing housing assistance. It also recommends the decentralisation of shelter policies and administration to subnational and local levels. Another Canadian priority addressed in the document is the need to develop innovative, efficient, competitive housing finance systems. In addition, the Agenda takes a comprehensive approach to shelter policy and recognises the social, environmental and health impacts of housing - viewpoints which are also consistent with Canadian priorities.

Right to Adequate Housing

One of the most important agreements reached at Habitat II was reaffirmation of the right to adequate housing as a human right recognised in international law. The "progressive realisation of the right to adequate housing" involves, among other things, legal protection from discrimination in housing, legal security of tenure, and equal access to land. There was disagreement among countries about housing rights during PrepCom III, and at Habitat II Canada's proposal served as the basis for negotiating the final text.

Habitat II adds to the body of binding and non-binding legal instruments which together constitute the right to housing in international law. This is an evolving subject. Legal opinions vary about whether it exists as a separate right or as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living or some other right. Like other social, economic and cultural rights, the right to housing imposes on governments only an obligation to take steps towards its realisation to the maximum of their available resources.

Urban Governance

Local authorities (urban municipalities) are the level of government which is closest to the people, and have a critical role to play to achieve sustainable urban development. The Habitat Agenda recommends strengthening them as well as their national and international associations, and broadening their scope within overall parameters of accountability, visibility, effectiveness and participation in civil society.

Sustainable Human Settlements

Sustainable development incorporates economic and social development and environmental protection. The Habitat Agenda contains provisions concerning sustainable human settlements which are among the best ever achieved. As a result of Canadian initiative, it contains a number of the central, cross-cutting principles for making settlements more sustainable, specifically: the precautionary approach; the polluter pays principle; the pollution prevention principle; and the ecosystems approach.

Capacity Building and Institutional Development

Civil society should be empowered to play an effective role in the planning and management of shelter and human settlements. Meeting this challenge requires effective decentralisation, measures to strengthen local authorities and their associations, promoting community consultative mechanisms, improving planning and management in urban areas (particularly in metropolitan areas), creating public-private partnerships, and using the best of information technology to exchange and improve urban practices.

Other Topics

Canada successfully introduced new sections in the Habitat Agenda on gender equality, indigenous people, youth, persons with disabilities and population issues. Canada also played a leading role in securing agreements on other important issues including promotion and protection of human rights, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, environmental protection, the strengthening and improvement of shelter delivery systems, and capacity building and enablement approaches.

Habitat II's Special Committee - "The Partners' Forum"

Committee II of the Habitat II Conference, also known as the "Partners' Forum" or the "Partners' Hearings", was a new and highly successful innovation. The aim of the Committee was to involve, in the creation of the Habitat Agenda, those key partners who would be essential to work with governments in order to achieve it. In the Committee sessions, representatives of major UN partners, including local authorities, NGOs, CBOs, foundations, trade unions, business, professionals, researchers and parliamentarians made presentations about their visions of human settlements, their mission statements, and their strategies for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda.

In addition, many of these partners held their own forums and assemblies in parallel with Habitat II. The World Assembly of Cities and Local Authorities (WACLA) was a particularly important meeting, in which over 500 local government leaders from 95 countries met and produced the

WACLA Declaration, calling for intergovernmental working partnerships to implement the Habitat Agenda. Canadian municipalities were prominent among the world's local authorities in presenting the views of local government. Mayor Bourque of the City of Montréal and Chairman Tonks of Metropolitan Toronto were the leading Canadians in this respect, and the International Division of FCM was seen as a key actor in maintaining the cohesion of purpose between northern cities and those from developing countries.

The Best Practices Initiative

The Best Practices project was initiated by UNCHS as part of the process leading to Habitat II in order to showcase and make widely available the world's best policies, programmes and other initiatives aimed at improving the development and management of human settlements. After the original call for this international competition went out from UNCHS in Nairobi, an International Conference on Best Practices was held in Dubai, November 11-22, 1995 and attracted over 900 delegates from 95 countries. The governments of Dubai and Tokyo put up prizes to be awarded to the world's best practices. Worldwide, 600 submissions were contributed and these are now available on a CD-ROM data base or on the Internet, to allow anyone to access them and make use of these excellent ideas. The project resulted in three events at Istanbul, and became one of the main accomplishments of Habitat II. These events were: the Best Practices Exhibition which featured over one hundred exhibits; the announcement of the 12 winning "Best Practices"; and the release of the "Best Practices Database" in the form of a CD-ROM and an Internet Site.

Canada had a significant role in this key Habitat II project. There was considerable Canadian interest in Best Practices, and 15 submissions resulted. The Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the municipalities of Metropolitan Toronto and Hamilton-Wentworth attended the Dubai Conference. A Canadian delegate was part of the international Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which assessed all of the submissions during the Spring of 1996. Seven of the Canadian submissions were classified among the Best Practices (100 were selected), and two Canadian projects were proposed among forty-three which the TAC recommended for judging to determine the world's best.

The meeting of the international "Best Practices" jury, comprising distinguished experts from nine countries, was held in Toronto, March 28-29, 1996, under the co-sponsorship of CMHC and Metro Toronto. The jury selected twelve award-winning "best practices", including Metro Toronto's "Changing Communities: Innovative Responses" programme. As the Toronto region has been identified by the United Nations as "the world's most ethnically-diverse city", it is a tribute to the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto that this project, which provides culturally and linguistically appropriate services with efficiency and accountability, earned recognition as one of the world's twelve best urban practices.

Canada's Statements

During the course of Habitat II, in addition to the interventions by Canadian negotiators and delegates at sub-committee and committee sessions, Canada made three formal statements. On June 5, Parliamentary Secretary John Harvard stated Canada's goals for the Conference in an

Opening Statement at the Plenary Session. On June 10, M.P. Jean Augustine made a Canadian statement at a special Plenary Session to commemorate the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples. Canada's "National Statement" to the Conference's High Level Segment was delivered by the Minister Responsible for CMHC, the Honourable Diane Marleau, on June 13, 1996. This statement was focussed on housing policy and human settlements, and it also conveyed Canada's commitments in many areas of concern at Habitat II.

Habitat II Trade Fair

As part of Habitat II, Canada was one of about 40 countries which participated in a trade show, "Good Ideas for Better Cities", held at Istanbul's World Trade Centre from June 3-10, 1996. CMHC and DFAIT organised a Canadian booth in which ten firms as well as CMHC and the Province of Quebec had exhibits. CMHC delivered a seminar on Canadian housing technologies, products and services, which was considered useful by the Canadian exhibitors and attracted considerable interest. The main objectives of DFAIT/CMHC participation were: to showcase Canadian housing systems/technologies, products and services; to facilitate trade deals, partnerships and joint ventures between the Canadian exhibitors and their Turkish counterparts; and to assist Canadian exhibitors in promoting their technologies. The show attracted interest from the Turkish construction industry and representatives of developing countries who were attending Habitat II. Post-show interviews with exhibitors found they were satisfied with the results obtained and had fully achieved their objectives.

The Habitat Way or The Habitat Process

These broad phrases refer to some of the underling approaches which were advocated at Habitat II and now form parts of the Habitat Agenda. They include the overarching pursuit of sustainable development in human settlements; the promotion of enabling environments (democratisation, a flexible legislative framework, efficient markets), and the encouragement of partnership, dialogue and sharing of responsibility among the various governments and key partners in urban civil society, including the private sector. This new paradigm of action is consistent with the current trend toward political decentralisation, empowerment and accountability of local communities in dealing with global problems affecting human settlements (environmental protection, poverty reduction, economic recovery, management of urbanisation).

WHAT CANADIANS WERE INVOLVED IN HABITAT II ?

Canada's Official Delegation

Canada's official delegation to Habitat II was led by the Honourable Diane Marleau, and included both governmental and non-governmental representatives. During the first week of the Conference, Minister Marleau was represented by her Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. John Harvard, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg-St. James. The Minister participated with other Ministers and Heads of State at the High Level Segment of the Conference during the second week. Federal delegates included Members of Parliament Jean Augustine (Toronto-Lakeshore) and Judy

Bethel (Edmonton East), as well as officials from DFAIT, CMHC, CIDA and Status of Women Canada (SWC). Canada's provinces were represented by delegates from Québec, while the municipal sector was represented by Montréal, Metropolitan Toronto and Richmond Hill, as well as by FCM officials. Many groups from civil society were represented on the delegation - national and international housing organisations, urban affairs and planning specialists, and interested aboriginal, youth, womens', and disabled peoples' groups.

The delegation maintained an office close to the Conference site and adjoining the location of the NGO Forum. Each morning the delegation met to discuss the progress achieved the previous day, outline plans for Canadian participation in the events of the coming day, co-ordinate activities and allow all delegates to meet and discuss concerns and accomplishments. The Canadian Delegation was cited as being very co-operative with both Canadian and international NGOs.

NGO Participation

Approximately one hundred Canadians, representing over 40 NGO groups, attended Habitat II and the associated Habitat Forums and other events. The largest group was about 40 young people, primarily belonging to Youth for Habitat II Canada!. Rooftops Canada was a highly visible and influential NGO group in the international community involved in housing and human settlements, holding positions on the NGO organising group and the Habitat International Coalition (HIC). CHRA played an important role among domestic NGOs at the conference, including organising a petition to the Minister which sought the inclusion of particular commitments in the Canadian National Statement at the Conference's High Level Segment.

Youth for Habitat II Canada! was a particularly notable NGO group. This organisation of young people from across Canada formed because of an enthusiastic interest in Habitat II. They performed consciousness-raising and fund-raising projects in many cities, held a national pre-Habitat II "Youth Forum" in Hamilton in May, had approximately 40 representatives at Istanbul, participated in the NGO forums and other Habitat II activities, set up their own "youth cafe" in Istanbul, and are publishing a complete post-Habitat report.

There was extensive interaction between the NGO community and the Official Delegation. NGOs frequently passed views and information to the Canadian negotiators about coming events and the positions of various delegations. In addition to the morning meeting of the Official Delegation, with its NGO participants, another daily briefing was held at midday to inform all NGOs of developments and plans of interest to Canada, and to allow a general exchange. Minister Marleau held special meetings with NGOs and youth NGOs to learn of their views and experiences at Habitat II. Canadian NGOs were very active at the Conference, the forums, dialogues and other panels and parallel events associated with Habitat II.

WHAT WERE THE OUTCOMES OF THE CONFERENCE ?

Overall, Habitat II was a success and Canada was a strong contributor to this accomplishment. The Habitat Agenda will guide housing and urban affairs for years to come. The Habitat process has shifted the paradigm from Habitat I which relied on governments to provide assisted housing and improvements to human settlements, to acceptance of the need for broad-based partnerships among governments, local authorities and civil society to achieve Habitat goals. Habitat II expressed this new vision in a tangible way by offering, for the first time in UN history, a specific forum to allow direct dialogue between participating states and representatives of local authorities and civil society. The Conference's re-affirmation of "the right to adequate housing" in international law was also seen as a significant accomplishment. The housing and urban planning measures in the Plan of Action affirm Canadian policy.

Habitat II provided a review of the progress in urban settlements since 1976, recognised changing global environmental, economic and social imperatives, and provided the international community with key urban dimensions of a framework to address sustainable development and house the world's population.

WHO ARE ONGOING CONTACTS, AND WHAT DOCUMENTS CAN BE CONSULTED FOR MORE INFORMATION ?

The primary ongoing contact for information about Habitat II is UNCHS, which can be reached through the following addresses:

UNCHS (Habitat)
P.O. Box 30030
NAIROBI, Kenya

Tel: 2542 624328
FACS: 2542 624266
E-mail: habitat@unchs.org
Internet: <http://www.habitat.org>

UNCHS North American Information Office
Suite DC2-0943
2, UN Plaza
NEW YORK, New York, U.S.A. 10017

Tel: (212) 963-4200
FACS: (212) 963-8721
E-mail: patel.unchs@un.org
Internet: <http://www.undp.org/un/habitat>

The contact concerning the Canadian Delegation to Habitat II, and Canada's participation at the Conference is:

Environment Division (AGE)
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT)
Lester B. Pearson Building
125 Sussex Drive
OTTAWA, Ontario
K1A 0G2

Tel: (613) 996-2110
FACS: (613) 944-0064
E-mail: carmel.whelton@extott15.x400.gc.ca
Internet: <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/eng/foreignp/envIRON>

The contact in relation to substantive matters concerning domestic aspects of Habitat II is:

Housing Export Centre
Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
700 Montreal Road
OTTAWA, Ontario
K1A 0P7

Tel: (613) 748-2461
FACS: (613) 748-2302
E-mail: pspurrr@cmhc.e-mail.com
Internet: <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca>

The contact for ongoing Canadian activity on international aspects of Habitat II is:

Policy, Strategic Planning and Operations Division
Canadian Partnership Branch
Canadian International Development Agency
200, Promenade du Portage
HULL (Québec)
K1A 0G4

Tel: (819) 997-1542
FACS: (819) 997-0602
E-mail: isabelle_hentic@acdi-cida.gc.ca
Internet: <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca>

Other Canadian contacts who were quite involved with Habitat II include:

Canadian Housing and Renewal Association (CHRA)

401 - 251 Laurier Avenue West	Tel:	(613) 594-3007
OTTAWA, Ontario K1P 5J6	FACS:	(613) 594-9596
Attention: Sharon Chisholm	E-mail:	chra@web.net
Executive Director	Internet:	www.web.net/~chra

Canadian Urban Institute (CUI)

6th Floor - 30 St. Patrick Street	Tel:	(416) 598-4653
TORONTO, Ontario M5T 3A3	FACS:	(416) 598-5145
Attention: Tibor Frank	E-mail:	cui@compuserve.com
Director, International	Internet:	www.interlog.com/~cui

Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

24 Clarence Street	Tel:	(613) 241-8484
OTTAWA, Ontario K1N 5P3	FACS:	(613) 241-7117
Attention: Jacques Jobin	E-mail:	jjobin@atreide.net
Director, International	Internet:	www.fcm.ca

Femmes et ville
 City of Montréal
 7400, boulevard Saint-Michel
 MONTRÉAL (Québec) H2A 2Z8
 Attention: Anne Michaud
 Member - Huairou Commission

Tel: (514) 872-6156
 FACS: (514) 872-7447

GROOTS Canada
 164 Munro Street
 TORONTO, Ontario M4M 2B9
 Attention: Joyce Brown

Tel: (416) 465-8073
 FACS: (416) 465-8073
 E-mail: 104177.3101@compuserve.com

Rooftops Canada Foundation
 207 - 2 Berkeley Street
 TORONTO, Ontario M5A 2W3
 Attention: Barry Pinsky
 Executive Director

Tel: (416) 366-1445
 FACS: (416) 366-3876
 E-mail: rooftops@web.net

Status of Women Canada
 700 - 360 Albert Street
 OTTAWA, Ontario K1A 1C3
 Attention: Duy Ai Kien

Tel: (613) 947-0935
 FACS: (613) 943-2386
 E-mail: kienda@scw-cfc.gc.ca

Youth for Habitat II Canada!
 c/o Canadian Environmental Network
 300 - 954 Wellington Street
 OTTAWA, Ontario K1Y 2X5
 Attention: Marie Seggar
 or Kara Lefebvre

Tel: (613) 728-9810
 FACS: (613) 563-7236
 E-mail: CENYOUTH@web.net

Following are the key documents related to various aspects of Habitat II, and the addresses where each document can be obtained:

The Habitat Agenda: Goals and Principles, Commitments and Global Plan of Action

This is the principal outcome of Habitat II. It is available on-line at <http://www.undp.org/un/habitat/agenda>. Limited copies are available in printed form at the above contact address for CMHC.

The Istanbul Declaration

This is the summary statement based on the Habitat Agenda, and is also available at <http://www.undp.org/un/habitat/agenda>. Limited copies are available in printed form at the above contact address for CMHC.

The Earth Negotiations Bulletin

This series includes day-by-day accounts of the main developments at the Habitat II Conference and associated lead-up events. It is available on-line at <http://www.mbnet.mb.ca/linkages/habitat>.

The Best Practices Data Base

The complete data base is on-line at <http://www.bestpractices.org> or can be purchased on a CD-ROM from:

The Together Foundation Tel: (212) 628-1939
55 East 75th Street FACS: (212) 628-4265
NEW YORK, New York E-mail: together@together.org
U.S.A. 10021 Internet:

<http://www.together.net/habitat>

Habitat II - Canadian National Report

This was Canada's primary input report to the Habitat II process, and includes statements concerning key challenges facing Canadian housing. It is available, in printed form only, at the above contact address for CMHC's International Relations Division.

Habitat II Report

This document is available in printed or electronic form at the above contact address for CMHC.

CIDA's: Activity Report and Follow-Up of "The City Summit";

CIDA and "The City Summit"; and

CIDA and International Urban Cooperation: Options for The City Summit

These are available in printed form at the above contact addresses for CIDA.

Canadian Priorities and Objectives for Habitat II

This is available in printed or electronic form at the above contact addresses for DFAIT.

Key Achievements of the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements

This is available in printed or electronic forms, at the above contact addresses for DFAIT.

CHRA's Habitat II - Canadian NGO's Post-Conference Report

This is available in printed form at the above contact addresses for CHRA.

DOCUMENTS

- 1 - Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. **Best Practices Report (unpublished)**. Ottawa: CMHC International Relations Division, 1996.
- 2 - CMHC. **Canada's Address at the special Plenary Session to Commemorate the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples**. Ottawa: CMHC, 1996.
- 3 - CMHC. **Canada's National Report to Habitat II**. Ottawa: CMHC, 1996.
- 4 - CMHC. **Canada's National Statement to Habitat II**. Ottawa: CMHC, 1996.
- 5 - CMHC. **Canada's Opening Statement at Habitat II**. Ottawa: CMHC, 1996.
- 6 - Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. **Canadian Priorities and Objectives for Habitat II**. Ottawa: the Department, 1996.
- 7 - DFAIT. **Habitat II Agenda and Global Plan of Action - Key Achievements**. Ottawa: the Department, 1996.
- 8 - United Nations Centre for Human Settlements. **The Habitat Agenda: Goals and Principles, Commitments and Global Plan of Action**. New York: United Nations, 1996.
- 9 - UNCHS. **The Istanbul Declaration**. New York: United Nations, 1996.