

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)

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Santiago, Chile, 1994

545(XXV) HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN LATIN AMERICA
AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 43/181 and 46/163 on the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 47/180 convening the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), to be held in 1996,

Noting with satisfaction the renewal in Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, of the commitments contained in the Global Strategy for Shelter,

Taking into consideration the numerous resolutions of the Commission on Human Settlements, particularly those emanating from its twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth sessions, on the coordination and complementation of regional activities within the United Nations system in the field of economic and social development,

Taking into account the request of the Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean, contained in the Cartagena Declaration of 2 December 1993, that the secretariat include the issue of regional human settlements policies in its agenda, in view of their direct relationship to economic development strategies,

Bearing in mind that the Latin American and Caribbean Governments attach high political priority to the housing and urban development sector as an instrument of development, in the context of their overall reforms and the modernization of their economies,

Recognizing that the management of human settlements is inseparable from equitable social development, integrated into an environmentally sustainable economic process,

Recognizing also that, to meet the region's requirements in this area, policies to rationalize the use of available resources and to establish extensive financing mechanisms must be designed and implemented,

1. Calls on member Governments to increase their support for the construction sector in order to provide urban goods and services in a context of greater social equity;
2. Proposes using the operational capacity of the secretariat to coordinate country initiatives in the areas of integration, strengthening and modernization of the human settlements sector;
3. Requests that the Meetings of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector of Latin America and the Caribbean be included in the ECLAC calendar of intergovernmental conferences;

4. Instructs the secretariat to work with countries in obtaining and organizing technical, institutional and financial resources to support any regional initiatives that may arise from agreements entered into by ministers and authorities of the economic sector and the housing and urban development sector in Latin America and the Caribbean.