



G-77/IFCC-XI/14

**ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL FOLLOW-UP
AND COORDINATION COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION
AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (IFCC-XI)
Havana, Cuba, 21-23 March 2005**

**BACKGROUND NOTE ON UN-HABITAT'S ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT
ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

**OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 77
NEW YORK**

Eleventh session of the Intergovernmental Follow-up and Coordination Committee on Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries (IFCC-XI) , 21-23 March, Havana (Cuba)

UN-HABITAT Inputs

UN-HABITAT has supported economic cooperation among developing countries through several efforts:

Technical Co-operation

- The 2005 African Ministers Conference on Housing and Urban Development (AMCHUD) which took place in Durban South Africa and hosted by the government through the Department of Housing of the Republic of South Africa. The conference was a joint undertaking by UN-HABITAT, the African Union and the Government of South Africa. The outcome was the Durban Declaration establishing the AMCHUD and the Enhanced Framework of Implementation and related outputs.
- At the sub-regional level, several Ministers and delegations from West African countries (Benin, Niger, Chad and Senegal) attended the launch of the Global Campaigns on Secure Tenure and Urban Governance in Burkina Faso in October 2004.
- The West African Ministers of housing and urban development with the support of UN-HABITAT decided to start discussion with the West African Economic Community to mainstream issues of slum, housing and urban development in the agenda of the organisation.
- A strong Cameroon delegation led by the Minister of Housing visited Mali, Tunisia and Senegal and develop relations and joint cooperation and assistance in the field of housing delivery.

Shelter

- Under the "Three cities Programme" involving Durban, Mumbai and Manilla, UN-HABITAT has sponsored exchanges between these cities to ensure cross-fertilization between urban poor communities in term of community mobilisation strategies, negotiation practices for access to land, community based savings, frameworks and tools for city wide slum upgrading.
- Under the "Cities without Slums" sub-regional initiative, UN-HABITAT has organised a field study tour in Durban involving participants (city authorities and community leaders) from Addis and Arusha to expose them to long term participatory processes in slum upgrading.

- During this month of March 2005, under the same "Cities without Slums" sub-regional initiative, a workshop will be organised in cooperation with our NGO partner SDI (Slum Dwellers International) in Arusha on community based savings with participants from India, South Africa, Kenya, Uganda, Lesotho, Tanzania.
- Jointly with ESCWA the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure is promoting exchanges among Arab countries, building capacities in view of a regional launch of the Campaign,
- Law and Land Tenure Reviews in Latin America and Southern Africa: consultants for the country level research are local organisations such as legal aid centres, FIDA, Fedevivienda or local universities. They were brought together in a workshop and exchanged information on the situation in their countries and on how they could help each other and link up more. Also the consultants from one region are very interested in seeing the outcome of the research in the other region, as a learning experience.
- Women's Land Link Africa: the regional joint initiative coordinated by COHRE to which UN-HABITAT is a partner. Within this Initiative exchanges between grassroots women's groups from Kenya, Rwanda and Zimbabwe (within each country) and between groups from Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda, Zimbabwe, South Africa. The exchanges are about women's security of tenure: how do grassroots women deal with the tenure system they operate in, what strategies do they use to deal with their situations.

Urban Management

- UN-HABITAT's Urban Management Programme has fully functional networks of regional anchor institutions specifically ANUMI (Africa network of Urban Management Institutions) , NENA (Near East and North Africa) Urban Forum, URCAP (Urban Resource Centre for Asia Pacific), and the Latin America and Caribbean consortium of anchor institutions. These networks which meet frequently to share experiences, there are other notable exchanges including:
 - City Community Challenge Funds - Zambia and Uganda
 - Slum upgrading - Visit of Ethiopia officials to Mumbai, India
 - Participatory Budgeting - Visit of Colombo city council to Brazil