

RESOLUTION ON
THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SHELTER FOR THE HOMELESS

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Nineteenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 12 June, 1983,

Recalling the Lagos Plan of Action in particular Chapter IX (e) on Human Settlements,

Recalling also UN General Assembly Resolution 37/221 of 20 December 1982 on the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless,

Seriously concerned that, despite the efforts of international organizations and of Governments at the national and local levels, the living conditions of the majority of the people in rural and urban settlements, especially in Africa, continue to deteriorate in both relative and absolute terms,

Recognizing that special efforts need to be made by Member States and the international community in order to reverse this chronic deterioration in the shelter and living conditions suffered by the majority of the poor in the urban and rural settlements,

Convinced that an international year devoted to the problems of homeless people in urban and rural areas in the developing countries could be an appropriate occasion to focus the attention of the international community of those problems,

Further convinced that a special effort to address this fundamental issue will strengthen over-all national economic and social development, in furtherance of the goals and objectives of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Development of Africa:

1. **WELCOMES** the proclamation by the General Assembly of the Year 1987 as the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;

2. **ENDORSES** the decision that the activities before and during the year will have the objective and improving the shelter and neighbourhoods of as many of the poor and disadvantaged as possible by 1987 according to national priorities, and to demonstrate by the year 2000 through experience gained, how to improve the shelter and neighbourhoods all of the poor and disadvantaged;
3. **FURTHER WELCOMES** the contributions which the programmes for the International Year will make the implementation of Chapter IX (e) (Human Settlements) of the Lagos Plan of Action;
4. **REQUESTS** that special attention be given during the preparations for the International Year to securing renewed political and financial commitment by the international community to the provision of shelter for the homeless, particularly in Africa, as a matter of priority;
5. **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to cooperate with the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to ensure the full realization of the goals and objectives of the International Year within the African region;
6. **INVITES** Member States to collaborate with the OAU and UN Secretaries-General, the Executive Director of UNCHS (HABITAT) and other international organizations in support of the programmes and activities planned for the International Year within the African region;
7. **APPEALS** to all Governments, especially those of the developed countries, and others in a position to do so; to international financial institutions and to others in the public and private sectors to extend generous financial and other appropriate support to the programme for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless;
8. **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to make annual reports to the Council of Ministers on the implementation of this resolution.

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