



World Habitat Day 2001 Roundtable on “Cities Without Slums”

**Monday, 1 October 2001, 10h30 - 12h30
International Environment House, Room 3**

Over one billion people live without adequate shelter and basic services in slums and squatter settlements around the world. With over half of humanity now living in cities and towns, the challenge of the urban millennium is to improve the living environment of the poor.

Earlier this year, at the Special Session of the General Assembly known as Istanbul + 5, governments issued a Declaration on Cities and other Human Settlements. Amongst the many pledges, national and city governments resolved to promote the upgrading of slums and squatter settlements in their countries by enabling the poor to help themselves.

Urban poverty is a cross-cutting issue of immediate relevance to experts in health, employment, development, environment, emergency relief, human rights and other sectors. This World Habitat Day roundtable will examine how governments, local authorities, community groups and NGOs, the UN, and the private sector can work together to build a world of “Cities without Slums”.

Programme

- 10:00 Coffee
- 10:30 Welcome and opening address by Sylvie Lacroux, Head, Geneva Office, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS)/Habitat
- 10:40 Introduction by the moderator, Freek Spinnewijn, Secretary-General, European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA)
- 10:50 Panel of experts:
 - Isabelle Milbert, Professor, Graduate Institute of Development Studies (IUED), representing the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
 - Representative of the International Union of Local Authorities (IULA)
 - Representative of the World Health Organization (WHO)
- 11:30 Discussion with panelists and participants
- 12:25 Wrap-up by moderator
- 12:30 End