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UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI
HOUSING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT UNIT

P.O. BOX 30197 NAIROBI KENYA TELEPHONE 27441 EXT. 212 TELEGRAMS VARSITY

H O U S I N G T E R M I N O L O G Y

Working Paper - Second Edition

Acc-no. 83/795

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Housing Research and Development Unit
Director - T.S. Chana
P.O. Box 30197 Nairobi, tel: 27441 ext. 212.

With the growth of the stock of terms within the field of Housing and Planning it becomes increasingly important to define these terms as a means of precise communication.

The following glossary of some 300 terms related to Housing and Planning has been compiled over the past ten years and was first published in June 1971 in an attempt to demonstrate the need for a precise vocabulary within this field.

The definition of a vocabulary being beyond the scope and capacity of the HRDU we have done what was within our means: to compile relevant terms and definitions from Kenyan and foreign literature in the English Language as an interim glossary for temporary use in Kenya.

A selection of more comprehensive glossaries compiled by international organizations is presented in the bibliography on page iii.

The terms and definitions are presented in the order of sources as listed on page iv. The sources are numbered in the random order in which they were discovered.

An index on pages v-vii lists the terms alphabetically with references to source numbers (before the full-stop) and sub-numbers (after the full-stop).

Several terms are defined more than once. The inclusion of a term in this glossary does not specifically imply the recommendation of the HRDU.

Nairobi 3.10.1978
Per Houlberg

- a Tentative draft for an international glossary initiated at the 1968 Moscow Conference on the Planning and Construction of New Towns and presented at the Interregional Seminar on Physical Planning for Urban Regional and National Development, Bucharest, 1969. The draft has since been referred to the United Nations.
- b South Adriatic Regional Project. INTERNATIONAL VOCABULARY OF PHYSICAL PLANNING TERMS. Yugoslavia 1967. Translations into six languages.
- c Centre for Housing Building and Planning, INTERNATIONAL GLOSSARY OF PHYSICAL PLANNING (preliminary draft). United Nations, July 1971. Also containing a bibliography of dictionaries, this publication has received support from two major listed here under a and b.
- d Charles Abrams, THE LANGUAGE OF CITIES. Equinox Books, New York, 1971.
- e Horacio Caminos, Reinhard Goethert, URBANIZATION PRIMER FOR DESIGN OF SITE AND SERVICE PROJECTS. World Bank Urban Projects Departments, USA, October 1976. The glossary to this publication has two main sources; Webster's Third New International Dictionary, and definitions from the files of the Urban Settlement Design Programme (USDP).

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