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TRAINING AND RESEARCH FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

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Introduction:

The problems of planning and management of human settlements in Kenya have already been treated in detail by the previous speakers in their respective papers. We may therefore observe generally that these problems seem to be closely related to the rapid rate of population growth and the process of urbanisation in the country. There seems to be the danger that if decisive action is not taken, slums and squatter or shanty town settlements, overcrowding and deteriorating transport and sanitation services will be the rule rather than the exception. It is also possible to expect that although rapid urbanization is taking place there will still be more people living in the rural than in the urban areas of Kenya by the end of the century. These are thus likely to continue to be plagued by conditions of isolation, under-nourishment, inadequate housing, shortage of water and lack of all sorts of public services. There is thus an urgent need for finding new solutions and applying new and more realistic but relevant standards. To fulfill this, it has become even more urgent to study closely the actual situation and the wishes of the people concerned before introducing solutions. Thus we urgently require appropriate skills to ensure the effective and efficient planning and management of human settlements at their varied levels of operation.

We also need information about the working of the human settlements system so as to develop the relevant policy solutions to the identified human settlement problems.

This paper therefore attempts to briefly outline the efforts made towards the training of personnel for human settlements and the problems and limitations facing such national efforts. The intention is to underline possibilities and priorities in training in this field. The paper also looks at the development of research and the problems of making information available for decision making in the process of planning and management of human settlements.

It is however assumed that the acquisition of information and knowledge about the human settlements systems and the training of appropriate personnel for the planning and management of human settlements is significant in the achievement of the National goals for development.

#### TRAINING FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENT

The comprehensive management of human settlements encompasses the physical, social, economic, financial and administrative aspects of human settlements systems. Development problems of human settlements also tend to fall under these categories. The process of human settlements planning and management, however, includes goal formulation, policy making, programme enunciation, problem identification, programming and implementation of rational solutions,