



Commonwealth Association of Planners

“REINVENTING PLANNING : A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE” : PLANNING AFRICA CONFERENCE : JOHANNESBURG : 14 APRIL 2008

Distinguished guests, colleagues,

Could I start by placing on record how honoured the Commonwealth Association of Planners, or CAP, is, for being given this opportunity to speak in the opening session of this the third Planning Africa Conference. I would like to take this opportunity of congratulating the South African Planning Institute for their continued commitment to convening the Planning Africa conferences which are important opportunities for the planners of Africa to come together to debate and discuss the role of planning and of the planning profession in addressing the critical challenges we face. It is no accident that the Commonwealth Association of Planners has chosen to use this event as the venue for its biennial business meeting, and consequently it is no accident that we have with us today the Heads or representatives of the planning profession from 26 countries, including from all regions of the Commonwealth.

When the then President of the Commonwealth Association of Planners, Cliff Hague, addressed the Planning Africa Conference in Cape Town in April 2006, he delivered a paper on the global trends in planning, outlining the preparatory work which was being done in repositioning planning prior to the third World Urban Forum in Vancouver in June 2006. Never could we have imagined then that the things which have happened since were going to happen or were even possible: particularly that we as planners and the work we do would receive the unprecedented recognition that has come our way since the World Urban Forum in Vancouver.

In my address to you today I will explore why this recognition has come our way, and will pose some critical questions which are crucial to answer if we are to have any hope of fulfilling the expectations which this recognition brings.

1. Why is Planning now being recognised on the global agenda?

What has happened to bring planning as a discipline to the fore? For years planning was seen as irrelevant. **But** such perceptions are changing rapidly in the face of the reformation of the global planning agenda, and the acknowledgement of planning and the role of planners as a fundamental part of governance for sustainable human settlement, at many different scales.

The first reason for planning being firmly on the international agenda, is the recognition of the need to ensure that urban growth and change is managed in sustainable ways. It is clear that there can be no sustainable development without

sustainable urbanisation, and there can be no sustainable urbanisation without planning. It is clear that the way in which our cities are growing is unsustainable.

Planning is like preventative medicine, whereas we have spent the last generation focussing on curative medicine. Too often, even in rich countries, the approach of governments to urban development is one of curative medicine which has meant that we have had social upheaval, the diseconomies of retro - fitting infrastructure, the avoidable costs of rehabilitating settlements after natural disasters and too - little too - late in environmental protection. Instead we should have been planning for sustainable new urban settlement and hazard mitigation, as planning means preventative medicine; it's about acting now so that our cities and rural areas are not allowed to degenerate to the extent that recovery becomes a prohibitive cost.

Secondly, and equally importantly, planning sets the context for the delivery of transnational strategic imperatives, such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). Strategic issues such as the protection of water supplies, the co-ordinated development of infrastructure in corridors of opportunity, and the protection of transnational conservation parks will remain broad policy until and unless they can be implemented, and this can only be achieved through the translation of these policies into spatially defined development priorities through the planning process .

Thirdly, there can no longer be any doubt that there are critical global challenges which require global collective action, as they will have global impacts which know no political boundaries. These issues must therefore be of concern to the profession, civil society and governments throughout the Commonwealth, as no country will be spared the impacts of these. They can however only be addressed through effective planning, and in partnership with the affected communities and stakeholders , in short through the reformed planning system which I will again outline later in my address .

2. What are these critical global challenges?

Urbanisation, poverty, and climate change are the most immediately obvious. They all affect all of us, albeit maybe in different ways and to different degrees, but all of them are sufficiently overwhelming that they require global collective action.

- Urbanisation : Every day another 65 000 people are living in urban areas within the Commonwealth. We can expect that on average, our urban areas will double in size over the next 10 – 15 years. Urban growth rates are between 3% and 6% a year in a third of Commonwealth countries.

What does this mean? Taking Africa as an example, and using UN projections, and assuming, on evidence from highly industrialised countries, that urbanisation stabilises at around 80%, then the urbanisation of Africa's projected 2020 population implies the development of another 43 cities the size of New York, or 58 cities the size of Lagos. The problem of urbanisation in countries such as India is equally daunting. On 10 October 2007, India had a population of 1 149 million people, of whom only 28% are urbanised. It is expected that by 2040 the percentage of the population which is urbanised will have grown to 50%. This means that currently 322m people in India are urbanised, but in the next 30 years

another 253m members of the current population will have become urbanised. These figures do not include natural population growth in the existing urban population.

How are we preparing the receiving environment to accommodate the population which will be coming to the urban areas, and how are we preparing the economic foundations to let them participate in the urban economy? It is perhaps useful to remind ourselves that the theme for UN Habitat day on 2 October 2006 was “Cities: magnets of hope”, and that these magnets too know no national boundaries. We must also remind ourselves that we are talking here of urban settlements of all types and sizes, and not just metropolitan conurbations.

- Urbanisation of poverty: Work by Homeless International, under the auspices of ComHabitat, has shown that urban poverty has been underestimated, and evidence shows that the urban dimension has been inadequately addressed in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers. New slum formation is outstripping slum upgrading, with significant implications for health, youth and gender issues. Around 327 million people in the Commonwealth are waking up today in a slum. Their numbers are increasing day by day. Their life expectancy is dramatically less than their compatriots who live in better conditions. It is anticipated that the number of slum dwellers in the world will double from 1 billion to 2 billion over the next 30 years. Anecdotal evidence suggests that even in countries as wealthy as Dubai there are people living in unacceptable conditions with as many as 10 people to a room not uncommon for some sections of the community.
- Climate change: The issue of climate change can no longer be ignored, as global warming and the likely impacts of higher energy costs are rapidly becoming areas of grave concern for governments throughout the Commonwealth. Importantly too, the poor are disproportionately vulnerable to the local impacts of climate change because they typically live in the most hazardous locations. We need to ask if we are creating spatially sustainable new settlements and cities and if we are considering what the likely impacts of climate change are going to be on existing urban settlement in our local context?

According to the BBC News website, the Australian of the year 2007, environmentalist Tim Flannery, once predicted that Perth in Western Australia could become the world's first ghost metropolis, its population forced to abandon the city due to lack of water. In the Pacific small island states, rising sea levels are causing great alarm. The same website has reported that “Kiribati has asked its neighbours across the South Pacific to take in environmental refugees if the worst should happen and communities are inundated. The signs are not good, and storm surges and unusually high tides have destroyed some homes and contaminated farm land and supplies of drinking water”. We need to also ask what the likely impacts of sea level rise will be on Bangladesh, and what in turn are the implications for the planning of Kolkata? Similarly, what are the

implications of climate change and changing agricultural practice on in – migration to cities such as Nairobi and Johannesburg? The list of such questions is endless.

Climate change is likely to speed up the rates of urbanisation within some Commonwealth countries, as we see more and more environmental refugees. The UN predicts that there could be 150 million climate change refugees within the next 50 years. What does this mean for the countries of the Commonwealth?

These challenges are however also inextricably intertwined as this quote from the Executive Director of UN Habitat demonstrates:

“The (Global Report on Human Settlements 2007) further shows that the greatest increase in the incidence of disasters in recent decades has occurred in Africa and Asia, and the increasing vulnerability of cities to disasters is partly a result of the expansion of slum settlements into marginal land prone to flooding, land slides and pollution. Another significant finding of the report is that of the 211 million people affected by natural disasters annually from 1991 to 2000, 98 per cent were living in developing countries. This is not surprising given the large numbers of people living in unplanned and un-serviced urban slums”

The Commonwealth Association of Planners calls on the profession throughout the Commonwealth to fundamentally rethink policies and approaches to managing urbanisation before it is too late. In the press release for World Town Planning Day on 8 November 2007, CAP stated the following:

“We have ten, maybe fifteen years, to get on to a new track. After that the slum problem, environmental damage and urban insecurity will become so entrenched that they will dominate international relations for the rest of the century.”

3. What are the planners of the Commonwealth and our partners doing about this?

3.1 Reinventing Planning

Most of you will be familiar with the outcomes of the World Urban Forum III held in Vancouver in June 2006 where the relevance and role of planners was acknowledged. The official UN Habitat report on WUF III lists planning as one of four headline issues, and states the following: "The Forum stressed the important role of planners as agents of change and underlined the importance of sustainability as the backbone of new forms of planning."

Three things prompted this response:

The first was the presentation of the “Reinventing Planning” paper, which questions the fundamental purpose of planning today. This paper was presented by Cliff Hague at the third Planning Africa conference and I will not repeat what he said. It is important only to record that this paper identified six areas where New Urban

Planning can make a difference and sets out ten principles for “New Urban Planning”. This thinking is premised on the fundamental principles of integration, financial alignment, community participation and sustainability which are familiar to all of us working in South Africa where the cornerstone of post – apartheid planning is the IDP, and where these principles are firmly embedded in the way in which our system of planning operates. An extract of this paper, containing a full outline of these ten key principles of “New Urban Planning” is attached. CAP is currently working with UN Habitat in drafting Reinventing Planning II which looks at these principles in practise, examines the challenges opportunities and constraints facing us, and looks at ways in which planning can be made more relevant. This is being done in preparation for the World Urban Forum in Nanjing, and the draft Reinventing Planning II paper will be the subject of the CAP special session which I will talk more about in a minute.

The second thing which happened in Vancouver was the signing of the Vancouver Declaration by representatives of about 17 national planning bodies, committing themselves to promoting New Urban Planning and to addressing the most critical issues of the day, namely rapid urbanisation, the urbanisation of poverty and climate change.

The third thing was the launch of the “Making Planning Work” publication which sets out to show what can be done to grow skills and capacity, and which highlights good practice around the world.

The situation we find ourselves in therefore can be summed up with this quote from “Making Planning Work”;

“If we look beyond the confines of traditional professional boundaries and state institutions, beyond attempts to micro–manage land use and the discredited top – down, technocratic master plans from a previous age, then we can discern new approaches to planning and managing urban development. These put sustainable development and poverty reduction at the core. They recognise the multiplicity of actors and the limits of state power, engage with the private sector and civil society. We call these approaches “planning” not because they are uniquely the work of professional planners, but because the integrative vision of the founders of “town planning”, encapsulated by Patrick Geddes as “Folk, Work, Place”, best expresses today’s imperatives”
(Making Planning Work, page 10)

3.2 Response of planners in the Commonwealth

The profession has responded by establishing the Global Planners Network, with the signatories to the Vancouver Declaration undertaking to promote the reformation of the global planning agenda. In addition, there has been an exceptional response from planners at grassroots through the Commonwealth, with events planned in almost every region of CAP between April 2007 and April 2008. CAP, with the valuable support of the Commonwealth Foundation, has supported planning workshops or conferences in New Zealand, the Pacific Islands, Australia, the Caribbean, specifically Barbados, Canada, the Great Lakes area of East Africa, Cameroon, and is holding a CAP business meeting in conjunction with the Third Planning Africa conference here

in Johannesburg. In addition, CAP has paid a visit to India to discuss issues of mutual concern with the Institute of Town Planners, India and with the Chairman of the Commonwealth Consultative Group on Human Settlements (CCGHS) Minister Kumari Selja.

CAP is a global association of national institutes within the countries of the Commonwealth, such as the Barbados Town and Country Planning Society, the Planning Institute of Australia, and the Kenyan Institute of Planners.

Its primary function is to provide a global network of linkages, including

- those with global partners such as UN Habitat, the Commonwealth Secretariat and Commonwealth Foundation,
- multi-lateral linkages, such as between the small island countries of the Caribbean and those of the Pacific,
- and bi-lateral linkages, of which the Australia / Sri Lanka post - tsunami work is a fine example,

but importantly it is also a conduit for two-way communication, namely

- the dissemination of information to a profession which now has a global identity and profile, plus,
- providing a voice for the profession throughout the Commonwealth, to our global partners, and at global events such as CHOGM and WUF IV.

CAP has clearly played a critical role in mobilising the profession throughout the Commonwealth, has become a catalyst for promoting the reformation of the global planning agenda, and has significantly strengthened the Commonwealth – wide networks amongst planners, thereby facilitating the exchange of ideas and the promotion of good practice in addressing the critical challenges we face. It is pleasing to note that two Commonwealth projects – one from the Caribbean and one from Africa - which represent good practice in addressing integrated planning and responding to climate change and which were identified by CAP, have been short – listed for inclusion in the UN Habitat 2009 Global Report on Human Settlements, and if selected will be featured at the World Urban Forum in Nanjing.

In addition, CAP played a significant role during the Commonwealth People's Forum held in Uganda during the CHOGM meeting in November last year. The Kampala Civil Society Statement was prepared by the CPF and it is pleasing to report that Human Settlements appears in that statement as the second issue after the MDGs. In the statement a call is made for the presentation of a State of the Commonwealth Cities Report on a biennial basis at every CHOGM. CAP has been working closely with both the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Commonwealth Foundation in developing this programme further. The latest indications are that CAP stands to receive substantial funding for this programme.

Capacity building also been recognised as crucial within the commonwealth. The size of the challenges we face is daunting, and the pool of skills available to address these complex and intertwined issues is very small. The population of the Commonwealth is approximately 2 billion, and the number of planners in the Commonwealth is about 30 000 to 35 000. This means that each planner in the Commonwealth is on average responsible for the future livelihoods of 70 000 people. The spread of skills is also unbalanced, with the estimates for some Commonwealth countries put as high as one

planner per 320 000 population. Capacity is a multi-faceted issue and includes matters such as the training and mentoring of new planners, updating the skills of already qualified planners, optimising planning governance, planning education accreditation and distance learning. CAP is working closely with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Commonwealth Foundation to develop a programme to address this issue. It is important to note that the Royal Town Planning Institute has developed a Diagnostic Tool for capacity building which CAP is supporting and which will be an important informant to this programme. The RTPI is present at the CAP stand in the exhibition area at this conference and you are encouraged to make your contribution by visiting the CAP stand and by completing the questionnaire.

Crucially also, CAP yesterday adopted its Women in Planning strategy which is intended to enable CAP to serve as an advocate for gender equity within the planning profession and in planning practice in the Commonwealth.

3.3 Response of our global partners

The response from our global partners has been unprecedented. In April last year four events of significance took place in Nairobi:

- The first was the 21st Governing Council of UN Habitat which had the theme *Sustainable Urbanisation : Local Action for Urban Poverty Reduction with an emphasis on finance and planning*, and it must be noted that there was unquestioning support at this meeting for the role of planning;
- The second was the adoption at GC 21 of the Draft Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan of UN Habitat for 2008 – 2013 which had as one of the five strategic focus areas “Urban Planning, management and governance”.
- The third event was the Plenary Dialogue session at GC 21 which agreed the following critical outcomes:
 1. Sustainable planning systems and frameworks with a clear purpose relevant to the 21st Century are needed;
 2. Funding, which includes linking planning to investment; promoting Public - Private Partnerships; and ensuring that planning mandates are properly funded, is crucial;
 3. Planning must be socially inclusive especially regarding gender, youth and the poor, and participation must be central to the planning process;
 4. Economic, social and environmental sustainability must be paramount and is summed up in the slogan “*No sustainable development without sustainable urbanisation; no sustainable urbanisation without effective planning*”;
 5. The capacitation of planning and of local authority administration is crucial.
- The fourth event of significance was the adoption by CCGHS of the ComHabitat Strategic Plan at the Inter – Ministerial CCGHS meeting in Nairobi at which CAP was asked to deliver a keynote paper on “Leadership for new approaches to urban planning and development”.

Since then, CAP has worked with the Société Française des Urbanistes, the Ordre National des Urbanistes du Cameroun and the South African Planning Institute to build new linkages into francophone Africa, which of course includes the Commonwealth country of Cameroon, and it is noteworthy that M Theophile Moyo president of the ONUC is here today. This has significantly advanced the extension of the Global Planners Network, with the concomitant benefit of further spreading the messages regarding relevant planning in the 21st Century.

4. What do the planners of the Commonwealth need to do?

Political leadership and planners now need to translate the positive developments of the past two years into a lasting impact on the management of urban change. At the World Urban Forum there was a clear consensus that the challenges of urbanisation across the globe cannot be ignored, and that urban planning is critical for the management of urban change. In short, you cannot have sustainable development without planning. The role of planners as a fundamental part of governance for sustainable human settlement is now acknowledged on the international agenda.

The challenge is to build on this positive development, and to present compelling evidence, particularly at the World Urban Forum IV in Nanjing that those responsible for planning throughout the Commonwealth have engaged and have responded, in concert with our partners from around the world. In a special session on Tuesday afternoon CAP members will showcase the work being done in the different countries of the Commonwealth, and will workshop issues and messages from the planners of the Commonwealth to the World Urban Forum in China in November this year. The theme of the special session is "Lessons, challenges and responses from Reinventing Planning post - Vancouver". This is an important opportunity for us to respond to Reinventing Planning I and to formulate global messages about planning, current international trends in planning, and where planning needs to go from here. I must record our gratitude to SAPI for kindly accommodating our request to host this special session during the Planning Africa Conference. I urge as many of you as possible to use this opportunity to make your voice heard.

How can we transform leadership to address all of this? There are clear directions for this to occur in a collaborative manner between government, planners and the other relevant Habitat professionals.

Central to this transformation is the rolling out of publications such as the "Making Planning Work" book, which sets out practical examples of what can be done. There is evidence of good practice in many Commonwealth countries, which we can share, learn from, and improve upon - always in a manner relevant to our own local context.

In the recent World Town Planning Day press release, CAP had this to say: "Urban growth is going to be huge in this generation. It will create great wealth that can lift people out of poverty. However, we have to get the cities right, and that needs smart planning. We need a quantum leap in management capacity: more trained people with better skills, and planning legislation that is fit for purpose in today's world. This is something that CAP is working on, together with our member institutes, our Commonwealth partners and also UN Habitat."

We need to now build and strengthen the professions within the Commonwealth, to spread the message about the reformation of the global planning agenda, and to empower planners and our colleagues in the built environment professions to translate the global to the local in order to confront issues appropriate to their own context. The Commonwealth structures can help to spread the word, remind government and the professions of the challenges, facilitate connections, debate and the exchange of ideas between people from different countries, and thereby empower them to make the decisions they need to make to ensure that the area within which they work is planned to meet the challenges of 21st Century.

The role of the Commonwealth in achieving this is crucial, as progress in preparing the people responsible for planning and development in the Commonwealth states, which are home to about 2 billion people, to subscribe to these new approaches to urban planning and development, will significantly contribute to resolving the challenges we face, and will impact positively on the rest of the world.

We need to remember that there can be no sustainable development without sustainable urbanisation. The agendas of government and the professions must therefore be aligned to ensure that this fundamental premise is addressed by all of us.

Finally, examples do exist of the maturation of indigenous or local responses to these issues. There are people within the Commonwealth who are already talking about the role of different arms or spheres of government in advancing the reformed planning agenda, about developing new and appropriate legislative frameworks and systems for sustainable planning, about redefining structures and their mandates, about capacity building through mentoring, monitoring, performance management and research, and about strong and symbiotic relationships and collaboration with well organised and credible professional organisations – all with a view to ensuring that the critical issues of the day are addressed. The messages coming from the Commonwealth – wide events, which have been billed “Re-shaping the planning agenda : experiences of small island states” and “The Dawn of effective urban planning in the Great Lakes Region : Skills, Capacity Building and an agenda for action” confirm that the planners of the Commonwealth are responding to the challenges laid at our door.

The question then is, to what extent are you addressing these issues, and what experiences can you share in this regard? How can our global and Commonwealth connections facilitate the resolution of problems in one area of the Commonwealth, by the sharing of experience with planners and other professionals from other areas of the Commonwealth – and not necessarily only with our traditional partners?

5. Conclusion

The message to you today is, put simply, that you have a critical role to play, your role is recognised, and the issues are overwhelming. Use this important opportunity of being at the Planning Africa Conference to learn from one another through debate and discussion. Use this opportunity of unprecedented connections with planners from throughout Africa, the Commonwealth and the world wisely.

It is perhaps fitting to end with a quote from our esteemed Nobel Laureate, Bishop Desmond Tutu who had the following to say in an article:

“We believed that to harm another person was ultimately to injure oneself because *Ubuntu* declared that our humanity was bound up with one another’s; for a person was a person only through other persons; for we existed only in a delicate network of interdependence. And therefore, to perpetuate certain deeds was unthinkable.”

In 2007 the world passed the 50% mark of the proportion of people living in urban areas and therefore it is in the cities that our humanity and dependency is most bound up with one another, and the need to live together in harmony is most critical. Without *Ubuntu* cities are unworkable. The challenge for the governments and the professions in the Commonwealth is to show how new urban planning can embed *Ubuntu* into urban governance, as only then can we hope to begin to realise people’s potential, and at the same time uphold the fundamental Commonwealth values of respect, human rights, gender equity and the right to the City. But we have little time to act as the challenges we face are overwhelming.

Barack Obama speaking in February 2008 after “Super Tuesday” said something which perhaps best sums up this message to you in two short sentences. “We are the change we seek. We are the ones we have been waiting for.”

CHRISTINE PLATT
PRESIDENT

REINVENTING PLANNING: A NEW GOVERNANCE PARADIGM FOR MANAGING HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

“What difference can the New Urban Planning make?”

- ***Reduce vulnerability to natural disasters .***

By addressing, in cities throughout the world, some key causes of climate change, and by carefully planning settlements so that fewer people are vulnerable to natural calamities, human settlements will become more liveable and the world will stand a better chance of coping with environmental challenges.

- ***Create environmentally-friendly cities.***

Urban growth has enormous impacts on the local, as well as global, environment. *New Urban Planning* can support environmentally-friendly forms of transport and sustainable building, and conserve environmental assets. More efficient and economical city forms, where legal and governmental systems can deliver them, are vital elements for environmental sustainability.

- ***Reduce new slum formation.***

The Millennium Development Goal that seeks to make a substantial improvement in the lives of 100 million slum dwellers by 2020 will be achieved. But, on present trends, the proportion of the earth's people living in slums will increase from 1 in 6 in 2001 to 1 in 3 by 2031. Slum upgrading is a necessary but not a sufficient way of tackling the slum problem. A planning approach is essential to ensure an adequate supply of appropriately serviced land, with secure tenure, for development in safe and accessible locations.

- ***Build sustainable economic growth in both urban and rural areas .***

Urban growth is a major cause and consequence of economic growth and opportunity. By adopting a livelihoods focus, *New Urban Planning* can help to tackle urban poverty and rural-urban migration. *New Urban Planning* practices have reinvigorated declining cities and city centres in the northern hemisphere and facilitated growth in Asia – adapted to local circumstances, they can increase economic opportunities elsewhere. Settlements are also important for the vitality of rural areas. They provide accessible markets and essential services. Planning of settlements within their regional context can sustain livelihoods outside the city.

- ***Conflict Resolution and Safer Cities***

New Urban Planning can aid crime prevention and is crucial to post-disaster and post-conflict reconstruction in strife-torn cities. Planned reconstruction and a governance approach that emphasises inclusiveness and partnership, will nurture social and civic capital. Plans provide a framework for different interests to work together in a common purpose, and a transparent and accountable arena for negotiation of conflicts over development, both within civil society and between private and public interests. *New Urban Planning* can ensure that a long-term perspective is

retained even while emergency needs of the communities affected by conflict and disaster are being addressed.

- **Civic Capital**

New Urban Planning will deliberately foster a climate of civic ownership, recognising that planning will not contribute to addressing the problems of sustainability unless people, communities and individuals take personal responsibility. It will seek out mechanisms of governance compatible with indigenous traditions and practices that will maximise the potential to achieve this.

Overall, ***New Urban Planning* seeks to enhance quality of life in human settlements.** It builds on, but modernises, the planning profession's traditional concerns to address human, social, cultural, environmental, natural aspects of settlements, as well as infrastructure. However, it recognises that in today's world, poverty is central to any planning of human settlements.

How? Ten Principles of New Urban Planning

1. Sustainability

The overarching principle that governs *New Urban Planning* is sustainable development as elaborated at WSSD in 2002. This is not an exclusive preserve of planning. The special contribution that *New Urban Planning* makes is its practical focus on reconciling and integrating social, economic and environmental considerations in human settlements development. *New Urban Planning* takes account of the impact of today's developments on future generations, a crucial factor in environmental sustainability.

2. Integrated Planning and Budgeting.

New Urban Planning is integrated planning, not just economic planning, or physical planning, or environmental planning. Set in a favourable institutional framework, integrated planning and action can deliver efficiency and effectiveness by adding value through policies that support, rather than undercut, each other. In order to ensure integration, plans need mechanisms that ensure effective linkages to private and public budgetary processes. Neither plans by themselves, nor unregulated market processes, can deliver more sustainable settlements.

3. Planning with Partners

New Urban Planning is a means of negotiating where and how development happens. It is about planning with all sectors of the community with a stake in the place – not only governments, but also private sector organisations, voluntary agencies and civil society. *New Urban Planning* fosters voluntary collaboration amongst all these actors. Planning that responds to and works with, not manages or directs, the initiatives of non-governmental actors, will produce better outcomes. This is a departure from the notion that planning is the impartial arbiter of public interest.

4. *Transparent and Accountable Planning*

New Urban Planning is less an instrument of government, and more a process of good governance, to deliver quality and inclusiveness in decision-making, leading to a sense of public ownership of the outcomes. *New Urban Planning* is always seeking new and better ways of making city development more participatory, not least because demand driven planning is more dynamic and more effective - public pressure is the engine of performance. Information and consultation are not enough. Planning must be made accountable to the public, with all activities open to public scrutiny through oversight by mechanisms such as public hearings, integrity pacts and so on.

5. *Subsidiarity*

The subsidiarity principle should be paramount in deciding where roles and responsibilities are lodged in *New Urban Planning*. National governments have important roles in setting national urban development policies and fostering national (and international) infrastructure networks that will guide development patterns. However, there needs to be decentralisation, with local governments playing a leading role, and empowerment of community-based organisations on matters that can be determined at neighbourhood level. Integration of policy across scales again creates efficiency and effectiveness.

6. *Market Responsiveness*

New Urban Planning understands market demand, particularly in land and property markets, and is aware of the dynamics and potential of the informal sectors. It is responsive, but not reactive: not all development is good development. Plans backed by public investment can create confidence in areas where assets are threatened by weak demand and disinvestment. *New Urban Planning* is about creating opportunities, anticipating development impacts and being able to reduce risks of unintended outcomes and undesirable externalities. The market will respond to plans that are credible.

7. *Access to Land*

A supply of land in safe and accessible locations to meet the needs of all sectors of society, is fundamental to achieving efficient and equitable settlements. Traditional town planning too often under-estimated needs, particularly those of the poor. Consequently the least advantaged sectors of urban society lack security, and often live in hazardous locations. Equitable systems of land ownership and land management need to underpin *New Urban Planning*. Plans must recognize the reality of existing slums and informal settlements, and the rights of their residents, and foster strategies that facilitate upgrading and/or negotiated relocation

8. *Appropriate Tools*

Control of development should be strategic, affordable and effective, sensitive to the needs of the poor while conserving essential ecological resources, rather than attempting to micro-manage land use change and small-scale development. Thoroughgoing land use control is probably only

affordable in wealthy economies with highly developed legal systems and a plentiful supply of trained professionals, or in situations of especially pressing need, such as areas of high risk from natural disasters. Indeed, land use control is only one of the tools, albeit an important one, available to implement integrated, strategic planning. *New Urban Planning* recognizes that rigid urban containment is not a feasible, equitable or affordable policy in conditions of rapid urbanization. Land use controls should never be used as a pretext for forced evictions of the urban poor in long-established communities.

9. Pro-poor and Inclusive

New Urban Planning is inclusive and pro-poor. It recognizes diversity and promotes equality. Plans can and should be driven by the objectives and priorities as expressed by all groups in the city. Planning is about finding ways to reconcile the priorities of diverse groups, now and in the future. Particular attention needs to be given to those whose voice has often not been heard in conventional public policy-making – e.g. the old, children, those with disabilities, women, ethnic minorities, the homeless, those with low incomes etc. All have an equal right to the city and a right to be consulted, especially about developments that will affect them. *New Urban Planning* will be sensitive to the differential impacts of plans on men and women.

10. Cultural Variation

Cultures of governance and the resources that can be invested in governance vary between different countries. Interpretation of the principles of *New Urban Planning* will inevitably be influenced by such differences. *New Urban Planning* allows for a variety of outcomes according to cultural priorities and preferences: this contrasts with the uniformity imposed by the old master planning model. Outdated legal regimes and traditional bureaucratic cultures, as well as shortages of skilled personnel and of responsive institutions, are barriers to realizing the benefits from the practice of *New Urban Planning*. An increase in capacity building would be good value for money. This should include skill development for sub-professionals and for community-based organizations and training of politicians.

Attachment 2 : Vancouver Declaration

VANCOUVER DECLARATION 2006

We, representatives of the planning profession of the world, dedicate ourselves to working together, and with others, to tackle the challenges of rapid urbanisation, the urbanisation of poverty and the hazards posed by climate change and natural disasters. Urbanisation must become more sustainable if the global community is to realise the aspirations in the Millennium Development Goals, especially MDG7, which seeks to “ensure environmental sustainability”.

We have a responsibility, along with others, to future generations for custodianship of this planet and its habitats, and to those within our own generation who are disadvantaged, especially the poor and those who lack adequate shelter.

We stand for Planning as an inclusive process. Planning is strategic and local, integrative, participatory, creative, embracing cultural diversity and rooted in concerns for equity.

We advocate that Planning must underpin any approach to managing rural, urban and regional development. It is practised in the private sector, the public sector, by voluntary bodies and community organisations.

We will mobilise, share and develop the knowledge and skills of planners to build the capacity for creating safe, healthy and sustainable settlements.

We advocate that Planning, and its values and ethics, are fundamental to good governance and a means to deliver more equal access to the benefits cities have to offer.

We assert that there can be no sustainable development without sustainable urbanisation, and no sustainable urbanisation without effective planning: political will and investment is required for effective planning.

We will promote this Declaration to governments, international development organisations, civil society and other professions in a spirit of global partnership.

We dedicate ourselves to action now, and in the years ahead, in support of this Declaration.