



III. THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING—RAH

Since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948, the right to adequate housing has been recognised internationally as an important component of right to an adequate standard of living. Since then, the right to adequate housing has achieved wide recognition through many international legal instruments as a basic right of all human beings.

States have ratified several international instruments that make it obligatory for the state to realise of the right to adequate housing progressively for all its citizens. Therefore, those states also have assumed specific obligations at the domestic level in the form of constitutional provisions, laws, policies and jurisprudence. These international and national legal obligations form the basis for analysing of the fact-finding team's observations.

International Obligations

International legal obligations with respect of the right to adequate housing (RAH) are set out in a body of binding international treaties, all of which the national government has ratified. These instruments include: the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) and the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). As a ratifying party to these legal instruments, a state is bound to ensure that the economic, social and cultural rights set out in each of them are respected, protected, promoted and fulfilled in society.

Article 14(2)(h) of the **CEDAW** obliges States parties to ensure that women:

enjoy adequate living conditions, particularly in relation to housing, sanitation, electricity and water supply, transport and communications.

Article 27(3) of the **CRC** calls upon states parties to:

provide material assistance and support programs with regard to nutrition, clothing and housing.

Article 5 of the **CERD** obliges states parties to:

undertake to prohibit and to eliminate racial discrimination in all its forms and to guarantee the right of everyone, without distinction as to race, colour, or national or ethnic origin, to equality before the law, notably in the enjoyment of the following rights:...

(d)(v) The right to own property alone as well as in association with others...

(e)(iii) the right to housing.

The most comprehensive provision regarding the legal right to adequate housing is embodied in Article 11(1) of the **ICESCR**, which states:

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing and to the continuous improvement of living conditions. The States Parties



will take appropriate steps to ensure the realization of this right, recognizing to this effect the essential importance of international co-operation based on free consent.

The nature of the state party's obligation under the ICESCR is set out in Article 2(1) of the Covenant, which states:

Each State Party to the present Covenant undertakes to take steps, individually and through international assistance and cooperation, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of its available resources, with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the rights recognized in the present Covenant by all appropriate means, including particularly the adoption of legislative measures.

Though this provision, as interpreted by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) in its legal guidance in General Comment¹ No. 3, entitled "The nature of States parties obligations," allows for the progressive realization of rights. States parties to the Convention must give effect to them "as expeditiously as possible." Also, deliberate retrogression constitutes a violation.

In addition, General Comment No. 4, entitled "The right to adequate housing," sets out minimum core obligations of the right contained in Article 11(1) of the **ICESCR** that the state must fulfil immediately. These minimum core obligations are as follows:

- *Legal Security of Tenure*—There should be protection against forced eviction and harassment.
- *Availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure*—There must be made available facilities essential to health, security comfort and nutrition. These facilities include, but are not limited to, safe drinking water, sanitation and washing facilities, and energy for cooking, heating and lighting.
- *Affordability*—Expenditures for housing should be commensurate with income levels. Basic needs should not be compromised.
- *Habitability*—There should be adequate space and protection from the elements. Conditions conducive to disease and structural hazards should be eliminated
- *Accessibility*—All should have access to adequate housing. There is a discernable obligation on the government to ensure that everyone has access to a secure place to live in peace and dignity
- *Location*—Adequate housing must allow for access to employment options (the right to livelihood), healthcare, schools and other social services. There must not be excessive financial or temporal demands on the household in respect to transportation.
- *Cultural Adequacy*—The housing configuration must not compromise cultural expression.

¹ General Comments by the CESCR provide authoritative legal interpretations of the rights contained in the ICESCR and other Covenants.



In accordance with international law, resource constraints, domestic legislation, alteration of territorial borders, break in diplomatic relations, other intergovernmental agreements or political process do not absolve a State from its obligation to fulfil these minimum levels of rights.² To this end, General Comment No. 3 instructs that ensuring the

minimum essential levels of each of the rights is incumbent upon every State party. Thus, for example, a State in which any significant number of individuals is deprived of essential foodstuffs, of essential primary health care, of basic shelter and housing, or of the most basic forms of education is, *prima facie*, failing to discharge its obligations under the Covenant...even where the available resources are demonstrably inadequate, the obligation remains for a State party.

Domestic Obligations

Indivisibility and Interdependence of Rights

In addition to the seven elements (entitlements) of the right to housing cited in CESCR General Comment No. 4 cited above, the HLRN monitoring methodology also considers the housing rights conditions with cognisance of the following “congruent” human rights already recognised in binding international treaties. Without respect for these rights, fulfilment of the right to adequate housing is not possible:

- Right to life
- Right to health
- Right to culture
- Right to property
- Right to livelihood
- Right to information
- Right to development
- Freedom of movement
- Right to privacy and family life
- Freedom from torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
- Right to an adequate standard of living
- Right to gender equality/women’s rights
- Right to a safe and healthy environment

² Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (23 May 1969; entry into force: 27 January 1980), Articles 28, 53, 68-69.



Content and Meaning of the Right to Adequate Housing

As with all human rights, the right to adequate housing too must be understood in the context of indivisibility of rights. In other words, the right to housing is closely and intrinsically linked to other rights guaranteed by the body of human rights instruments that are affected when the right to housing is affected. For instance, it has been recognised that conditions in the housing environment have direct consequences for enjoyment of the right to health.³ This link also crosses the putative categories of rights embodied in the two International Covenants, respectively, on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). Therefore, the denial or fulfilment of the human right to information (Article 19 in ICCPR), as in specific cases related to programs, building materials, hidden conditions of resettlement or finance, could affect the right housing. Moreover, certain types of housing rights violations, such as forced evictions, can be so severe as to constitute a form of inhuman or degrading treatment prohibited under the International Convention against Torture. Based on the understanding of indivisibility of human rights and, based on the legal sources and HLRN's global experience the Committee has developed a methodology for monitoring housing rights violations used in this investigation.

Entitlements

Based on existing jurisprudence, the articulation of social movements, field observation and the human rights literature, HLRN has clarified the definition of the right to housing based on a comprehensive list of entitlements that it contends form the very substance of this right. These entitlements also serve as the indicators for any investigation on violation of the right to housing:

1. **Security of tenure**
2. **Public goods & services**
3. **Environmental goods & services, including water and land**
4. **Affordability, finance**
5. **Habitability**
6. **Accessibility (physical)**
7. **Location**
8. **Cultural appropriateness**
9. **Dispossession, freedom from**
10. **Information, capacity & capacity building**
11. **Participation, self-expression**
12. **Resettlement**
13. **Safe environment**
14. **Security (physical) & Privacy**



Over-riding Principles of Application

Common articles in the international human rights treaties and jurisprudence confirm standard principles of and justice arising from the major legal systems of the world. These include principles of immediate implementation, such as inalienable rights to self-determination, gender

³ *Health Principles of Housing* (Geneva: World Health Organization, 1989).



equality, non-discrimination in general and standard application of the rule of law through access to justice and domestic application of the human rights principles. In the case of economic, social and cultural rights, the International Covenant clarifies that the State Party's obligation is to ensure "progressive realisation" of the rights, therefore, a process of realising the rights should not regress. This over-riding principle of "nonregressivity" has been reaffirmed in the Limburg Principles on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and Maastricht Guidelines on Violations of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁴ as well as numerous cases of international jurisprudence through the monitoring functions of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR). Therefore, comprehensive monitoring of the right to housing requires assessing each entitlement in light of the rights and obligations contained in these over-riding legal principles. This approach requires the monitor to ask a number of relevant questions, including but not limited to the following:

Self-determination:

How concerned persons/ community exercise an effective role in determining the terms by which they realize security of tenure, location, cultural adequacy, affordability criteria, etc. of housing?

*Nondiscrimination:*⁵

Is there any arbitrary basis of discrimination applied in realizing the elements/entitlements within the right to adequate housing?

Gender equality:

Is there any discrimination on the basis of sex/gender in realizing any of the particular elements of the right to housing. For example, where security of tenure is concerned, do women and men enjoy equal tenure and inheritance rights, or do tenure and inheritance conditions ensure the economic domination of one gender group over another?

How do laws, policies and practices, existing institutions, budgets and programs ensure gender equality in the various entitlements of the right to housing, including access to land, finance, information, capacity, etc.?

Rule-of-law:

Is the right to adequate housing, including security of tenure, access to relevant information, freedom from dispossession, etc. recognized as a distinct right in the Constitution/Basic Laws of your country?

Does specific legislation guarantee the right to adequate housing, including its constituent elements? Which codes or statutes?

⁴ <http://ip.aaas.org/escrdocs.nsf/>

⁵ For further guidance on the legal obligations to immediate implementation of the nondiscrimination principle applied to housing rights, see the report of the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing E/CN.4/2002/5X.



Do the international instruments guaranteeing the elements of the right to housing form part of local law and have domestic applicability?

Do three branches of government (judiciary, legislative and executive) operate independently?

Do three branches of government coordinate to uphold and enforce a single system of law that protects the elements required to realize the right to housing?

Is it possible to mount court cases, including defense and prosecution, in instances of housing rights violations, including of security of tenure, denial of information, forced-eviction?

Do citizens (and others) have equal access to justice, including legal representation and courts?

Do women, indigenous people and all minorities have equal access to justice with other citizens/nationals?

Do administrative or other courts exist that enable citizens to petition and/or challenge Government for acts and/or omissions that result in violations of the right to adequate housing?

Do the rule-of-law and regulations effectively govern market forces to ensure the respect, protection, promotion and fulfillment of the right to adequate housing (e.g., governing monopolies, procedures for legal redress)?

Are applicable laws enforced consistently?

Nonregressivity:

The Covenant's Article 2 identifies the State Party's obligation to ensure the "progressive realisation" of ESC rights. This is widely interpreted to mean that the State Party breaches this provision if it tolerates or causes "regressivity" in the enjoyment of the right and, even in the case of scarce resources, it must exert good-faith efforts, including through international cooperation, to advance and not derogate the enjoyment of ESC rights. Is the State taking necessary measures to ensure progress in the realisation of the various elements of the right to housing?

These elements/ entitlements, seen within their over-riding principles of application, have served as a guide to HIC in assessing the housing conditions in any state party to the ICESCR. Although this housing rights "barometer" served as a useful tool for organising and presenting the findings, as with all social problems, it is not always possible to deal with each entitlement as a distinct and separate right, but as a facet of a complex of affected rights. It



was often found that one entitlement merges or hinges on another, reinforcing the need to address the right to housing based on principles of indivisibility of human rights. For purposes of analysis, each of these elements of the human right to housing is discussed in the following HLRN fact-finding report

In applying the housing rights monitoring methodology as a “barometer” of the state's housing rights performance, the team found a number of human rights violations, including violations of the rights of the child, to have occurred repeatedly during a course of the period under review. As the fact-finding mission has made an effort not just to point out violations, but also to suggest practical recommendations that seek to remedy the problems and injustices arising in XX from the offending resettlement practices. The following report also seeks to point out good practices wherever they were found and recommends steps to institutionalise improvements in public policies and services.

The HLRN technical team hopes that the findings arising from this inquiry will likewise guide policy makers, policy implementers, community-based organisations and concerned citizens to pay required attention to these constituent parts of the right to housing so as to address the whole right. By incorporating the guidance that comes from systematic housing rights monitoring, all parties will be better equipped to ensure that their role as citizens and public servants in community serves to uplift human dignity of your fellow citizens and the state itself, rather than the squalid and dismal alternative.



IV. EVALUATION OF ...

1. Legal security of tenure

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 17, ICESCR 11; ICCPR 1; CESCR 4; ICCPR 1; DSPD I, 6; CHR 1993/77

The legal right to secure tenure, whether freehold, leasehold, or other form of individual and collective possession of housing, involves protection from forced eviction, harassment and other threats. It also effectively guarantees access to, use of and control over land, property and housing resources. Governments should "confer security of tenure to all persons currently threatened with forced eviction and...adopt all necessary measures, giving full protection against forced eviction, based upon effective participation, consultation and negotiation with affected persons or groups" (CHR 1993/77).

2. Public goods and services

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 8, 21, 22; ICESCR12; ICCPR 2; CRC 39; CERD 6; CAT 11; DJVC 4, 11, 12, 13; ECOSOC 1989/57; CHR 1999/53, 1997/104, 2000/62; SCHR1998/26, 1993/8

The right to adequate housing cannot be effectively realized without access to public goods and services, including, water, health-care, transport, fuel, sanitation, lighting and electricity, sewerage and waste disposal. The services must be adequate in that they are based on the needs of the community and the government must effectively regulate service distribution so as to avoid corruption. It must also ensure sufficient infrastructure. Where private industry is contracted for either provision or maintenance, government remains responsible for the effective functioning of private actors.



3. Environmental goods and services (natural resources), including land and water

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: ICESCR 1 (2), 12; DSPD; CBD; KYOTO; DC; DED

Every community must have access to natural resources necessary for its survival and livelihood, including, inter alia, fuel, fodder, water and building materials. Access to natural resources must be sufficient to meet community needs and the state must effectively regulate distribution and ensure the efficient delivery of same.

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 17; ICESCR 2; CERD 1; CESC GC 4, 12; H II 67, 69; DRD 8; DSPD 8, 17–18; DC; CBD; ILO 169 13–19; DRIP; SCHR 2000/26; VDHS 10, 13

Land is a resource integral to survival, livelihood and adequate housing. To this end, the state must ensure reasonable access to land. In particular, the state must provide for equitable distribution with emphasis on the provision of necessary resources for poor households and other marginalized and vulnerable groups. Governments must implement land reforms where necessary to ensure its fair distribution as a public good and protect the landed property rights of land-based and indigenous peoples from encroachment.

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: CESC GC 14; H II 67, 69; DRD, CBD & KYOTO; DRD; CBD; Kyoto; Vienna 10; SSD; GA 35/18 (1980); GA 47/193 (1992); CUTWIL 5(1); Madeira; CHR 1999/108; SCHR 1998/7, 2000/16

Potable water is integral and essential to the rights to life, health and adequate housing. The state must ensure that clean and safe water is reliably accessible and provided in adequate supply for individual, family and community use. The state should enable agricultural communities not be denied water by any external source, and should assist citizens of all communities meet their water needs. The state must take effective measures to ensure the absence of water-borne pathogens and pollutants, and must protect against environmental degradation of water supply (water table). It must also ensure that adequate infrastructure is in place so as to ensure sufficiency, affordability and easy access.



4. Affordability (finance)

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: ICESCR 7; CEDAW 13; ILO Convs.; CESCR GC 4

Individuals and communities should have access to affordable housing and must have the corresponding right to livelihood so as to be able to afford decent housing. To this end, the state must ensure, through subsidies or market regulation, that a maximum of one-third of any household income be required to obtain adequate housing. Moreover, the state must effectively regulate the operation of private actors that influence the affordability of adequate housing.

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 14, ICESCR 12 & CESCR GC 4, CEDAW 13; SSDI

Individuals and communities must have access to financial resources including, inter alia, wages, loans, grants, cooperative schemes and subsidies, in order to secure an adequate place to live. The state must ensure that finance is sufficiently available on an equitable basis, and finance options must be responsive to diverse needs and ensure sufficiency. Laws, policies and regulations must facilitate such access, particularly for vulnerable and marginal groups, and those who are victims of the injustices of historic discrimination.

5. Habitability

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 12, ICESCR 12 & CESCR GC 4, CRC 24.1; 27.1,3 & 28.1

Adequate housing must provided needed space to live in dignity and peace. It must also provide protection from natural elements, structural hazards and disease vectors that are threats to physical well-being. The physical conditions of the home can affect the realisation of other rights, including the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health, as well as education, whereas the lack of conditions are not conducive to learning (especially for children).



6. Accessibility (physical)

International Legal Basis: CEDAW; CRC; CDESCR GC 4, 5, 6

Disadvantaged communities and groups must be allowed full and sustainable access to adequate housing and resources, including land, infrastructure and sources of livelihood and the state must take account of special housing needs. Disadvantaged groups within communities must be guaranteed equality in respect of the conditions that constitute adequate housing and the state must ensure this equality of right and access.

7. Location

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: ICESCR 12 & CDESCR GC 4

Adequate housing must be in a place that enables access to employment, primary health-care, education and other social services and civic amenities. The financial and temporal cost of transport must not place excessive financial and other demands on the household. In addition, both rural and urban housing must be in a location that is safe, particularly from environmental hazards and pollutants.

8. Cultural appropriateness

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: ICESCR 11, 15; CERD 1; CDESCR 4; DSPD

Housing configuration, spatial design and site/community organization should be determined locally and in harmony with a community's cultural preferences and attributes. The state must enable cultural expression and diversity and should ensure the participation of all cultural/religious groups in planning.



9. Dispossession, damage and destruction (freedom from)

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 13, 17, 23, 25, ICESCR 2, CESCR GC 4&7; GAR 194; REFCON

Each individual and community has a right to a place to live without threat of dispossession from land, all forms of their property, their homes and resources, as well as all individual and collective holdings required to sustain livelihood. The state must safeguard this right to freedom from dispossession, protect vulnerable groups and compensate, resettle or provide for restitution where dispossession takes place.

10. Information, capacity & capacity building

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 19; ICCPR19, ICESCR 15; CESCR GC 4

Individuals and communities must have access to appropriate data, documents and intellectual resources that impact upon their right to obtain adequate housing. Having access to appropriate data means being informed about potential industrial and natural hazards, infrastructure, planning design, availability of services and natural resources and other factors that affect the right. The state has the obligation to ensure that laws and policies facilitate such access and ward against denial of the right to adequate housing. Unimpeded opportunity and reasonable means for public debate and expression with respect of the process of government, administration and finance procedures, market mechanisms and the activities of the private sector and others engaged in the housing sphere are presupposed in a democratic society.

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: ICESCR 2.1 & 13; GCLG; HII 45; DRRIG

Individuals and communities should have access to technical assistance and other means to enable them to improve their living standards and fully realise their economic, cultural and social rights and development potential. The state, for its part, should endeavour to promote and provide for catalysts and mechanisms for the same, including efforts to ensure that all citizens are aware of procedural measures available toward defending and realizing her/his right to adequate housing. This concept is sometimes also referred to as "empowerment," which is defined as "a process that enhances the ability of disadvantaged ('powerless') individuals or groups to challenge and change (in their favour) existing power relationships that place them in subordinate economic, social and political positions." (Agarwal 1994: 39) 1



11. Participation⁶ & self-expression

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: ICCPR 21, 22, 25; GCLG; CERD 1; CESCR 4; DRD 1.1, 8.2; DSPD; HII 44–45

Effective participation in decision making is essential to the fulfillment of all other rights, as well as the elements of the right to housing (Shue 1996). At all levels of the decision-making process in respect of the provision of and right to adequate housing, individuals and communities must be able to express and share their views, they must be consulted and be able to contribute substantively to such processes. The state must ensure access to decision-making centres and effectively combat fraudulent and corrupt practices.

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 18, 19, 21; ICCPR 19; CERD 1; ICESCR 11, 15; CESCR GC 4; DSPD

In respect of the right to adequate housing, the right to self-expression includes the right effectively and substantively to participate in decisions that affect housing, including, inter alia, location, spatial dimensions, links to community, social capital and livelihood, housing configuration and other practical features. The state must ensure that building and housing laws and policies to not preclude free expression, including cultural and religious diversity. Moreover, the right to self-expression must be respected, protected, promoted and fulfilled to ensure harmonious and effective design, implementation and maintenance of the community, for which necessarily addressing the interests of multiple parties is only possible through cooperation in consideration of their views.

12. Resettlement, restitution, compensation, *nonrefoulement* and return

⁶ See Henry Shue, *Basic Rights: Subsistence, Affluence and U.S. Foreign Policy* second edition (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996) 72–78.



INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 8; ICCPR 2; BPGRRR; CAT 11; CRC 39; CESCR GC 4, 7; G-4; CERD 1, 6; REFCON; RefCon; Protocol (1967); G-4, 4; StCon; StRedConDoA; GAR 194; SC 827; ITFY; ICC; DJVC 4, 11, 12, 13; ECOSOC 1989/57; CHR 1997/104; 1999/53; 2000/62; SCHR 1998/26, 1993/8; DSPD; WB R&R

Resettlement may be essential to survival in the case of natural or human-made disaster. Therefore, the congruent right to freedom of movement can be essential to the fulfillment of all other rights. Any resettlement arrangement, whatever the cause, must be consensual, fair and adequate to meet individual and collective needs. It must provide sufficient access to the sources of livelihood, productive land, infrastructure, social services and civic amenities. Moreover, there must also be fair and adequate restitution and/or compensation for losses, particularly when human-caused.

13. Safe environment

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: ICESCR 1, 2b & 12; ICCPR 1; CESCR GC 4; DED; Rio; CBD

An adequate place to live must be free from harm or threat of harm from natural or man-made disaster, and environmental pollutants, disease vectors and other avoidable hazards. The environment must provide access to natural resources, including food, fodder, water, and building materials, and reasonable recreational opportunities in nearby areas similarly free of such menacing conditions.



14. Security (physical) and Privacy

INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS: UDHR 12; ICCPR 17.1; CERD 5 (e); CRC 16; CAT 16; CESCRC GC 4
CEDAW; DSPD; DVaW

Every man, woman, youth and child has the right to live and conduct her/his private life in a secure place and be protected from threats or acts that compromise their mental and/or physical well-being or integrity. The state must address the security needs of the community once determined, in particular the needs of women, the elderly, children and other vulnerable individuals and groups. The State must then ensure physical security to the extent possible, refraining from threat to, or interference in personal and private activity in the home that does not infringe upon the corresponding rights of others. However, domestic violence must be treated as a violent crime.



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

A21	Agenda 21 (1992)
BPGRRR	Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Right to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Violations of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (1996)
CBD	Convention on Biodiversity (1992)
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979)
CERD	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1965)
CESCR	Committee on Economic Social Cultural Rights
CHR	(UN) Commission on Human Rights
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989)
CUTWIL	Convention on Use of Transboundary Watercourses & Intl. Lakes (1992)
DC	Desertification Convention (1994)
DED	Declaration on Environment and Development (1992)
DRRIG	Declaration on the Rights and Responsibilities of Individuals and Groups (1999)
DJVC	Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power
DoA	Declaration On Asylum (1967)
DRD	Declaration on the Right to Development
DRIP	(draft) Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
DSPD	Declaration on Social Progress and Development (1969)
DVaW	Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (1993)
FFM	Fact-finding mission
G4	4 th Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War (1949)
GAR	General Assembly resolution
GC	General Comment
GCLG	(draft) Global Charter on Local Government
Go	Government of (+ name of State)
HII	Habitat II Agenda (1996)
HIC	Habitat International Coalition
HLRN	Housing and Land Rights Network
ICC	Rome Statute on the Establishment of the International Criminal Court (1998)
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966)
IDP	UN Guidelines on Internally Displaced Persons
ILO	International Labour Organisation (+ convention no.)



IstDecl	Istanbul Declaration (1996)
ITFY	Statute of the International Tribunal on the Republic of the Former Yugoslavia
km	kilometers
Kyoto	Kyoto Declaration
Madeira	Madeira Declaration (1999)
RefCon	Refugee Convention (1951)
Rio	Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 (1992)
StCon	Stateless Convention (1954)
SCHR	(UN) Subcommittee on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights
SSDecl	Social Summit Declaration and Programme of Action (1995)
StRedCon	Statelessness Reduction Convention (1961)
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)
UN	United Nations
VDHS	Vancouver Declaration Human Settlements (1976)
Vienna	Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (1993)
WB R&R	World Bank Guidelines on Resettlement and Rehabilitation