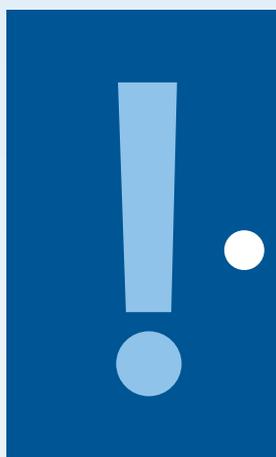


For the first time in history, over half of humanity is living in cities and towns. Since time immemorial, cities have been centers of cultural and economic vitality. But today, one-third of the urban population—a staggering 1 billion people—lives in slums without adequate shelter, clean water or sanitation. If we factor in the condition of human settlements in rural areas worldwide, more than 1.6 billion people suffer some form of shelter deprivation.

As a direct result each year, up to 10 million people die from preventable diseases. Infants die. Children suffer at school. Parents cannot make ends meet. Families are robbed of the dignity every human being deserves. Yet too often their suffering goes unseen, their voices unheard.



unacceptable. Durable, affordable housing can and should be made a priority everywhere.

We call upon the citizens of our global village to take a stand against substandard shelter in our communities, in our countries, and in our world. Together we can slam the door on poverty housing

On the occasion of World Habitat Day 2007, we, the undersigned organizations, declare that the lack of decent, affordable housing is

and open the door to a world in which everyone enjoys the stability, the security and the dignity of a decent, affordable home.

ENDORSED BY

Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Bread for the World

CARE USA

Catholic Relief Services

Church World Service

Counterpart International

Habitat for Humanity International

International Housing Coalition

International Medical Corps

Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter

National Peace Corps Association

ONE: The Campaign to Make
Poverty History

PACT

Plan USA

Save the Children US

UN-Habitat

Women's Edge Coalition

World Vision

World Concern

visit www.slamthedor.org to add your name to the proclamation