

# **A PLACE TO LIVE: ASIAN PEOPLE'S DIALOGUE**

*Report on the meeting  
Seoul, Korea 14 - 20 June, 1989*



*Asian Coalition for Housing Rights • Habitat International Coalition  
Urban Poor Federation of Korea • Urban Poor Research Institute Korea  
September 1989*

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*Much has been spoken and written about the life-situation of the urban poor (especially their housing problems) in all major cities of the world -- but mostly by scholars, professionals or member of NGOs. A Place To Live : Asian People's Dialogue organized in Seoul on 14-21 June 1989 is a forum for the urban poor themselves to tell their own stories-- in their own way and their own words. The Dialogue is a coming together of the poor of Asia to share with each other and the world what they think feel and desire about A PLACE TO LIVE.*

## INTRODUCTION

The Asian Coalition for Housing Rights was created at the conclusion of a regional seminar or the Habitat International Coalition for Asia held in Bangkok in June 1988 attended by representatives of Non-governmental organizations and Community-Based Organizations from 10 Asian countries. The Coalition is a regional, action oriented network also acting as Habitat International Coalition's regional network of Asia.

The primary functions of the Coalition is to bring together NGOs and CBOs throughout Asia actively working on different aspects of housing rights of the poor. Eventually, it also hopes to evolve into a coalition of the poor themselves.

In view of the housing rights violation by large scale forced eviction in Korea, the case of Korea was selected as the first regional action project. The main objective was to expose the issue to the attention of the world community, get socially recognized the poor people's rights to stay in the existing urban settlements and bring to an end the forced eviction. The Korean case was considered as a sheer example to show the growing trend of shelterlessness in the world.

One of the major activities under the above Korean Project conceived by the Coalition in June was an Asian Convention for Housing Rights which supposed to be a gathering of concerned Asian groups to voice out the housing rights situation and to prepare a process for a better change on this worsening trends in Asia. However, after two preparatory meetings in October 1988 and March 1989, the idea of the Asian Convention for Housing Rights was changed, finally, the that of an Asian People's Dialogue on A Place To Live. Indeed, this very change in the idea, now conceived as a grassroots dialogue among all strong working groups in Asia was itself a result of a gradual development process of thinking, planning and assessing ourselves: how the coalition could affect the case of Korea, what kind of genuine strength we shall get from it and what should be the powerful process to be generated and the message for the future, how important it is as regional process and action.

Asian People's Dialogue was therefore conceived as a forum where two-thirds of participants were to be the poor people living in Asian slums and squatter areas and where those community workers, academicians or professionals who closely work with the people, comprised of one-third, were to be acting as translators of what the grassroots want to say about their place to live. And instead of having such a meeting as a big convention in a big luxurious hall, we did arrange this big people meeting to be broken

into 5 Korean slums to facilitate the dialogue process. The people's dialogue in living together sharing and learning from each other and what they speak out from their living experience was therefore the most essential part of this meeting.

We are convinced that substantive Asian Culture is preserved among the poor and sustained by the deep-rooted values, structures, social order, community relationships and inherent (although informal) legal order that regulates the rich community life of the poor. So the dialogue about their place to live and their life struggle in a city is the real substance to better understand the people, society and culture in order to explore the right direction of more human development in Asia.

The people's dialogue in this meeting has been recorded on the people's own quotations and will be published in a book form in early 1990. Denise Murphy is the editor of the book.

The minutes of the meeting was mostly recorded and edited by Laurie Boucher from Canada and most detailed documents were compiled by Urban Poor Research Institute of Seoul, Korea who was the backbone in the organization of this meeting.

We do hope that after this meeting, the active exchange and coordination among NGOs and CBOs in Asia will strengthen and have its own lively flow for better regional action with more strong participation of people at the grassroots themselves.

Asian Coalition for Housing Rights  
Bangkok, September 1989

## A PLACE TO LIVE: ASIAN PEOPLE'S DIALOGUE

At a time when more and more millions of people are being denied the security of minimal shelter, the urban poor of Asia gather together to share among themselves and to express to the world what 'a place to live' means to them. What they have to say will give new meaning and impetus to the growing global awareness that the right to a place to live is not just a human right but is an absolute precondition for the enjoyment of all human rights.

- Dates: 14 to 20 June 1989
- Place: Seoul, Korea
- Participating Countries: Hongkong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand
- Participants: 95 Representatives of the Urban Poor (80 from 9 Asia-Region countries; 15 from Korea)
- Venue: Franciscan Education Center 17 Jung-dong, Joong-ku, Seoul, Korea  
Secretariat Office: Room #407  
Telephone (13 to 22 June): 774-8057;  
774-4700
- International Organizations: HIC, MISEREOR, ESCAP (observer), UNICEF (observer)
- Regional Coordinator: Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR)
- Local Coordinator: Urban Poor Federation of Korea
- Local Co-sponsors: Catholic Organization of the Urban Poor  
Councils of Christian Urban Poor Mission in Korea  
Federation of Child Day-Care Centers  
Federation of Evicted People in Seoul  
National Federation of Street Vendors  
Seoul Archdiocese Urban Poor Pastoral Commission

Union of Construction Day-Laborers  
 Urban Poor Research Institute  
 Christian Medical Council For The Poor  
 Korean Association of Young Architects

**Funding Agencies:**

- MISEREOR - Campaign Against Hunger and Disease in the World
- BREAD FOR THE WORLD
- EZE - Protestant Association for Cooperation in Development
- CAFOD
- SELAVIP

**ACHR:**  
 (Asian Coalition for  
 Housing Rights)

The Asia Region affiliate of HIC,  
 headquarters in Bangkok

**HIC:**  
 (Habitat International  
 Coalition)

A world-wide coalition of more than  
 200 NGOs having consultative status with  
 U.N., headquarters in Mexico City

**ESCAP:**  
 (Economic and Social  
 Commission for Asia  
 and the Pacific)

U.N. Commission with headquarters in  
 Bangkok

## Participants according to COUNTRY

Hongkong Mr. Chak Piu LAM  
Fr. Adelio LAMBERTINO  
Mr. Tat Pang LI  
Ms. Kit Ping WAN

India Mrs. Madina Bechan ALI  
Mr. K. Prashanth ANTONY  
Mr. Shreeram Mahadeo BELWALKAR  
Ms. Celine D'CRUZ  
Ms. Kalpana GAWDE  
Mr. K. M. KADAM  
Mr. Abdul Shakoor MOIUDDIN KALWAL  
Mr. Sudhir MAJOMDER  
Mr. A. M. Ansari MASJID  
Mrs. Samina MOHD VARIS  
Mrs. Mustari Ghouse MOHMED  
Ms. Laxmi Satyanarayan NAIDU  
Mr. Minar PIMPLE  
Mr. Ranjit ROYCHOUDHURY  
Mr. Subhash Mahadev SAWANT  
Mrs. Banoo SAYAD ISAQ  
Ms. Pduruchisti Noshir SETHNA  
Mr. Surykant Shrirang SONTAKKE  
Ms. Alpa VORA

Indonesia Mr. Kristian ATTAP  
Mr. Edward Mangapul HUTAPEA  
Mr. Utsman MURTOHDO  
Mr. Syamsuddin NAINGGOLAN  
Mr. Harry B. SIAHAAN  
Mr. Hery WINARYOKO

Japan Fr. Jorge ANZORENA  
Mr. Takahiro FUJIMOTO  
Mr. Gaku HAGIWARA  
Sr. Naoko IYORI  
Mr. Tetsuya NAKAMURA  
Mr. Yuzo UCHIDA  
Ms. Teruko UEMURA  
Ms. Yoshiko UENO  
Mr. Yoshiaki WATANABE  
Mr. Yoshihiko YAMAMOTO

Korea Fr. John DALY  
Mr. Hyo Chae JANG  
Mr. Paul Jeong Gu JEI  
Mr. Chung Won KANG  
Mr. Jeong Hoon KIM  
Mr. Kwang Seok KOH  
Mr. Byong Noh LEE  
Mr. Jong Min LEE  
Mrs. Soon Deok LEE

Korea ( Ctd.) Mr. Keun Jeong LIM  
Ms. Kyong Ja MIN  
Mr. Hyo Woo NAH  
Mrs. Hyon Moon PARK  
Mr. Kwang Yol PARK  
Mr. Sei Won PARK  
Mr. Byong Nok SONG

Malaysia Mr. Jee Yuan LIM

Pakistan Mr. Iftikher Hasan AHMED  
Mr. Salim ALIMUDDIN  
Ms. Aziz FATIMA  
Mr. Khalid MAHMOOD  
Mr. Ramzan QURAISHI  
Ms. Perween RAHMAN  
Mr. Anwar RASHID

Papua New Guinea Mr. Ramesh MANANDHAR  
Sr. Gertrude VAVINE

Philippines Sr. Annie ABION  
Mrs. Felicitas ARPON  
Mrs. Josefa A. DE LEON  
Mrs. Nightingale KEYES  
Mr. William KEYES  
Ms. Rosita Y. LACSON  
Mr. Denis MURPHY  
Ms. Milagrosa Jordon PEREZ  
Ms. Teodora QUINTOS  
Ms. Luisita VENDIOLA

Thailand Mr. Sangwan BOONSONG  
Ms. Somsook BOONYABANCHA  
Mr. Somchai CHUAIKLIANG  
Mr. Siri CHUNBUMRUNG  
Ms. Sanitsuda EKACHAI  
Mrs. Jamnien JAMSRI  
Mr. Somsak LERTVIRIYA  
Fr. Joseph MAIER  
Mr. Poonsak MARKWISAI  
Sr. Kalayaluck RUEKSAWANG  
Mr. Thaweesak SAENGARTHIT  
Mr. Pratuan SAWADI  
Mr. Ruangyuth TEERAVANICH  
Ms. Phaitoon TUVINAN  
Mrs. Arphon WONGSANG

Canada Ms. Laurie Anne BOUCHER

South Africa Rev Julian Kunnie

ESCAP Mr. Mitsuhiko HOSAKA

HIC Mr. Enrique ORTIZ

MISEREOR Mr. Gregor MEERPOHL

Congratulatory Address by Cardinal Stephen Kim Soo Whan

Every country in the world neglects the poor.  
 Many countries pretend you don't exist and try to hide you.  
 Some countries even persecute you.

Someone has said that the Urban Poor are Invisible People.  
 You build our big office buildings and apartment houses;  
 You clean our streets, cook our food, wash our clothes;  
 You drive our buses, trains, subways, taxis and private cars;  
 You carry to stores and markets -- sometimes on your backs or  
 bicycles -- the food and things we need to live;  
 You sell everything imaginable on our street corners -- at a price  
 the poor can afford.

And YET, we never see you.  
 Or rather, we see you without really seeing you.  
 So, in a sense, you are invisible.

But happily, this past week, here in Seoul, you have suddenly become  
 visible -- both here and around the world.  
 So first of all, I congratulate you on FINALLY becoming visible.  
 Secondly, I thank you for becoming visible.  
 Because by showing us who you are, you have shown us who we could  
and should be.

In your faces and your eyes, through your words and your gestures I  
 see and hear many things:

I remember I am Asian:  
 I long for my roots;  
 I feel homesick for our ways.

You make me remember the beauty and richness of the traditions of  
 Asia; the original human-ness and spirituality of our culture; the  
 mystery of family and community which gives new life and the  
 strength to go on.

You show us gentleness, compassion, industry, intelligence .....  
 You show us pain, sorrow and a just, a righteous anger.

The most frequent cry of the Urban Poor of Korea is:  
 "We are human beings. We want, we demand to be treated as human."

I can only guess how terrible is the pain of being treated as less  
 than human.  
 But I know how terrible is the sin of treating another that way.

So, along with the declarations you have made today,  
and in gratitude to you -- and to the millions and millions of  
your brothers and sisters whom you represent --  
I would like to make my own small declaration:

You are not lazy; you are not evil; you are not illegal; and your  
demands and actions to be treated as human beings are not illegal.  
You are not worthless; you are not unimportant; you are not  
disposable people.

You are beautiful sons and daughters of whatever-the-name of the  
God you believe in;  
You are the backbone, the life and the strength of your country;  
You are the light and leaven of humanity in this increasingly  
dehumanized and dreary world.  
In short, you are human -- no more, no less.

And that is why you are invisible -- because WE DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU.  
We don't want to see you because you challenge and disturb us.  
You make us feel uncomfortable.

Because if you are treated as less than human, it is WE who treat you thus.  
So your pain (and your amazing human-ness in the midst of this pain) show  
the rest of us our in-humanity.

A Place to Live!

Can there be any more basic need? more minimal demand?  
How can one even exist without a p l a c e? or enjoy any human right  
without a place to enjoy it in?

I congratulate you on this unique and important gathering-together of the  
poor of Asia.

I end with a challenge and a prayer:

Governments, big businesses and private individuals have no right (as  
long as there is one homeless person in this world) to build large and  
expensive homes for anyone.

But they do have the duty to insure a minimal place to live for everyone.

I pray that this Asian People's Dialogue will have three results:

first, the immediate halt, in every country in the world, to all  
evictions-by-force;

second, the immediate recognition that every human being has an absolute  
right to a decent place to live;

third, that all governments, politics, policies, economic structures and  
market forces will be rapidly re-organized to make that right a reality.

## FINAL STATEMENT

I.

Urban poor people from nine Asian countries met here this past week to examine together what it means to have a home and a community, that is, a place to live. We learned from each other how to continue the struggle and demand our basic right to a place to live.

We learned that the housing situation of the urban poor is basically the same across the face of Asia. Rural people come to the cities by the millions because there is no future for them in the countryside. In the cities they are forced to settle illegally on government or private land because they cannot afford to pay the rents charged in available legal housing or purchase a house and lot of their own.

The migrants to the cities are poorly educated, unskilled, so the work they find pays very little. They work hard, but they can barely feed and clothe their families and send their children to school. Over all their days hangs the threat they will be evicted from their homes when governments or private landowners care to develop the land. Often their evictions are very brutal. They destroy not only homes but damage people, especially the young, for life.

Government policies, laws and programs favor the rich. Many countries have no realistic housing programs for their poor citizens. Governments do not know how to tell the poor what plans there are, and more seriously, do not listen to the people when they draw up the plans.

However, over time people have learned on their own how to solve their problems. The key to these solutions is forming strong community organizations that bring the people together and give them an effective voice on the issues that affect their lives.

Governments must listen to the people. Permanent solutions to the housing problems of countries can only be had when poor people participate and initiate in the policy planning and implementation of projects. This requires governments be truly democratic, or the voices of the people can't be heard.

We fear the situation is growing worse in Asia. As land becomes scarcer and more expensive there may be too much housing for the rich and none for the poor.

## II.

We see housing as more than "four walls and a roof." It is protection from the sun and rain, but it is more. A decent home and community, that is, a decent place to live, is a basic human right. Without such a home there is neither security or safety. Without such homes we are less than human. Housing should be near people's work, allow them to send their children to school, and contribute to the health of the whole family.

The home is especially important to women and she will do most anything to protect it. Women in different countries have shown tremendous strength in acquiring and protecting their home and should therefore be involved in all matters relating to the home and community.

People from the different countries had varying ideas of what good housing looks like, but they are one in stressing that such homes are absolutely essential to building good families.

Because a home is so important we oppose all involuntary evictions, especially when the people are beaten and driven away like animals. If land is needed for the genuine needs of the whole city, then the people must be given alternate housing and time to prepare for the change.

Renters and sharers must be given the same rights as homeowners when development plans are being made.

Housing should be included in every country's constitution as a basic fundamental right for all women, men and children. The inclusion of this right in the constitution should be augmented by adequate policies, legislation and programs.

## III.

We find the Korean people are beautiful. We were impressed by their solidarity, hard work and courage. They live under very oppressive conditions. Yet they can sing, dance and laugh. They were wonderful to us and it was largely because of them that we were able to communicate with one another though our languages and cultures are so different. They taught us that we are one people deep down. We all have the same feelings and feel the same pain. Communication is not difficult when we all have such feelings. We extend our support to the Korean people in their struggle for a better way of life. Fight on for democracy and the people!

We must remember the poor are the majorities in our countries. Governments must serve their needs first of all. We ask the Korean government, for example, to see how its insistence on economic growth at all costs has hurt the people for whom all the country's wealth exists. We strongly urge that the Korean government stop all forced evictions and give the vendors the freedom to make a decent living.

For the future we recommend that ACHR should strengthen solidarity among the urban poor of Asia, that it have a newsletter and have further meetings such as the dialogue we have just finished. Future action should also focus on education and lobbying of governments.

For ourselves, we pledge to work as hard as we can for better housing for all of Asia's people. We think the final report of this meeting should be sent to all the governments of Asia and Pacific region.

Let us learn from one another!

Let us unite!

Let us struggle to achieve decent housing for all Asian people!

## Participants' Statement

### Hong Kong Country Report

We have learned that the urban poor housing problem is not only a Hong Kong problem but an Asia one.

We felt how important it is to share with other Asian countries efforts to solve our housing problem in order that the voice of the poor may rise in all the countries in Asia and form a chorus that will be heard by government leaders and by international organizations.

We are convinced that a strong community organization with

- well-trained leaders,
- specific goals,
- clear long term strategy, and
- continuous consultation with the masses

is the basis for the solution of the urban poor housing problem.

Our governments have not done enough to the homeless. Instead, they are obstacles to a solution by allowing and taking part in land and housing speculation.

We call upon the governments of all the Asian countries to take this problem of housing seriously and work to solve it.

In the solution of urban poor housing problem governments should involve the people themselves, because only the people know their needs.

We call upon all the communities in Asia and all organizations to endorse the "Asian Coalition for Urban Poor Housing", in order to unite and work out strategies.

To the Korean communities and organizers we say:

We admire and praise the great work you have done in such a short time. We ask you to continue to fight for democracy. Fight in order to obtain a government housing policy. Join forces with others to pressure your government to provide more land for public housing projects. Form national and regional coalitions for urban poor housing.

## India Country Report

This report represents the views, opinions, and feelings of the 19 Indian delegates that participated in the Asian People's Dialogue. The delegates represent IYSH Forum, Mahila Milan, SPARC, UNNAYAN and YUVA: PROUD, from the cities of Bombay and Calcutta.

One of the strongest realizations shared by the delegates was that the conditions of the urban poor throughout Asia in relation to housing are quite similar.

The concept of housing was broadened beyond 'four walls and a roof.' It is understood more realistically as a basic human right which includes access and opportunity in relation to work, education, health and other basic amenities of a safe and sustainable environment. The delegates also understood the relations of housing to family life, culture and politics.

Government policy, laws and programmes were seen to favor the rich and propertied classes in all Asian countries. In fact many countries had no relevant and appropriate policy regarding housing expressing the aspirations of the countries' poor.

In the light it was strongly felt that the poor in their respective countries and across Asia need to strengthen their efforts towards unity and action to press for reforms in laws, policy and programmes.

The solidarity shared by the poor of Korea in face of oppressive forces offered strength and hope to us.

The dialogue provided an opportunity for delegates to understand ACHR as well as the manner in which such multilingual, multinational conferences can be organized, and the role that an international Regional Coalition like ACHR can play.

The dialogue forged new relationships among the poor of Asia.

Let us learn!

Let us unite!

Let us struggle to achieve Housing Rights!

Even after 42 years of independence India has not been to provide more than half of its population with basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, health, education and work.

Both in Urban and Rural areas people are forced to live in difficult conditions, with little access to housing and housing resources.

In rural areas, housing was based on the economy and with increased modernization people's access to these resources has been reduced, making housing unaffordable and rendering millions of people homeless.

Land, both in urban and rural areas has become a commodity and a source of speculation for the money.

In this light:

Housing should be made a basic right encompassing access to civic amenities and services such as water, toilets, schools, electricity, roads, work and employment opportunities.

Land should be owned jointly by men and women in every household, thus protecting the rights of women to property.

All excess land should be vested in the hands of the government. The laws in this regard should be strictly implemented with people's participation so that the rights of land of the urban poor are guaranteed.

Participation of the communities should be ensured from planning to implementation of all housing activities by the government.

People should have access to all information regarding housing at local, national and regional level.

Housing Rights Movements must be considered a part of the human rights movement.

The Indian delegates extend their full support to the Koreans in their struggle to establish their Housing Rights.

The problems of the room-renters in the light of redevelopment programme and other development projects is extremely difficult and pathetic.

The delegates advocate that in the redevelopment planning this aspect must be dealt with in a proper and just manner so that their right to shelter be protected.

Room renters should be guaranteed permanency of land tenure and must receive all basic amenities and services.

The delegates condemn the use of goons and thugs by the government to forcefully evict and harass the urban poor.

The delegates were shocked to see the ruins of the Sa-dang-dong demolitions which have rendered more than 1,000 people homeless. Adequate measures must be taken to rehabilitate these homeless families and such evictions must be conducted in the future. Instead the government can offer land to the people which they can buy at affordable prices and live in security.

The delegates realize and acknowledge the positive role played by women in the struggle for Housing Rights.

Lastly, it recommends that a demand must be made for a consistent and just policy on housing not just for Korea but for all Asian countries.

The following are the suggestions and recommendations for the dialogue:

- \* To explore the possibility of a newsletter to communicate important events related to housing among Asian countries.
- \* Need to strengthen regional networks for developing advocacy and pressure groups locally on regional issues
- \* A final report of this meeting should be sent to the governments of all participating countries (in addition to the delegates) in order to communicate the demands of the dialogue.

## Indonesia Country Report

We have learned that most of the urban poor or slum dwellers are low paid workers, have only low education, are unskilled, etc. Therefore they are not able to buy good houses. They can only afford to live in urban poor or slum areas. They usually work in the informal sectors.

These people usually will eventually be evicted due to redevelopment plans of the authorities. Eviction will take place either willingly or forcibly. Most of the time they will be evicted forcibly by the police or army. Because they are treated as low class people who have no right to live in the place they are living, they are treated inhumanly.

The problems arising from evictions and demolition can be overcome only by the people working hand in hand and in unity throughout the victimized community, even though they will probably need some professional help and support from other people.

There are some differences of opinion on what it means to have a house. These differences depend on culture and tradition, but generally all the participants believe that a house is a place to live and it is a shelter.

Solidarity among the participants, no matter where they come from, is very real. We feel that we are all in the same situation, have the same feelings, same sufferings. We find that communication in words is not very important when you have these feelings.

A house should be built in accordance with traditional customs and religions. People should also be provided with basic facilities, such as, water, toilet, a healthy environment, schools for children and health care facilities, etc.

Housing is not the only issue of concern for the people. Income generating activities are also important, in order to keep them from selling their houses later on.

We feel that the planning of the city's development should involve the urban poor slum dwellers. The plan should be from the bottom up.

We are impressed with the solidarity and the spirit to fight of the victimized people from all the participant countries.

We were very much impressed by the willingness of students and others to help the needy people in the evicted areas in Korea.

We salute the solidarity and hospitality shown by the Korean people to all of us during our stay in Seoul.

As a follow up of this meeting we would like to suggest that the ACHR should promote an exchange of information between the participant organizations of this meeting, so that we can learn from each other and if possible help each other by means of technical support and in other ways.

ACHR should play a big role in facilitating solidarity and unity among the participant organizations of this meeting.

We hope ACHR will help the participant organizations of this meeting get financial support by connecting them to the financial supporting organizations.

## Japan Country Report

First of all, we would like to thank all the people of Korea and also the people in the communities we visited.

What we felt most was something that we have been losing in the Japanese society. Those are the warmth, kindness and cheerfulness of people, the activeness of women and children in the district, and why they look so happy even though they are suffering from poverty.

We reflected on the strength and weakness of the community organizations, the efficient use of land, and the gap between the poor and the rich in nations and between the standard of living in Japan and other countries.

In Japan there are not so many slums, like the ones in Bombay or Bangkok. The centralization problem in Japan is similar to the one in Seoul. There is also a sharp rise in land cost in Japan that made housing very expensive. There are some similarities with tal-dong-nae (Moon villages, or blighted areas in Korea.)

Although the Buraku districts which have long been discriminated against in the Japanese society are improved environmentally by the liberation movement, the communication in the Buraku communities has been weakened. There are some problems about daily workers and the homeless people (the pavement dwellers) and foreign workers from the Third World. Men are engaged in physical labor and women in prostitution.

However, there are some organizations which are fighting against these bad conditions.

We have 'jiage' or an increasing costs of land that arises from a profit oriented use of land. There is a similar 'jiage' in Korea. This 'jiage' is due to insufficiencies in the law.

It is very important to do the community development research. The aims are the objectification and the sharing of problems in the districts and working for housing and other rights.

When we think of housing problems, it is also important to improve people's livelihood while retaining the living environment and culture.

It is indispensable to intensify the rights of tenants legally. For example, the liberation project in Buraku has been improved by the law on Special Measures for Buraku projects.

It is essential for residents to get together with the architects, including urban planners and other people, to set up better movements in order to realize a good community and human planning.

The meeting as a whole was very exciting. But at the same time we would like to request the secretariat to guarantee interaction among the delegates of each country and to be more flexible in running this meeting. We can regard this meeting as a starting point, and at the next one each country should exchange opinions and ideas and come up with concrete solutions.

All human beings are equal by nature. However the social system has been violating those equal rights.

Where there is an oppression, there is a liberation. So we must join hands to fight.

Korean People's Report

## 1. What We Have Learned in the Process Up until Now

- a. The Asian urban poor could be convinced of their identity as one united body that has to carry out the struggle for the right to live, despite the difference of nationality, language and customs. We agreed that we have the common goal of achieving the housing right. We were very happy, for we could make a perfect communion, even though every single country of us has more or less different political, economic situation as well as the customs. Nothing could interfere our shared spirits to resist against the power oppressing us.
- b. We came to recognize through this Asian Peoples Dialogue that the only way to triumph is the strong consolidated struggle. We performed various activities through which we shared our rich cultural heritage and reaffirmed our common spirit. In the short, extemporaneous drama, each community group composed of persons from diverse countries built and showed strong spirit of solidarity. It means we, the Asian urban poor in each country, are not the isolated minority but the majority of people who stands in the core of man's history. Some of us from abroad where the climate are rather mild indicated that the housing state of Korean urban poor appears relatively nicer than those of their countries, but they also couldn't but express sympathy, having seen the harsh oppression by the government and the rich regardless of their helpless situation. They were frightened by the total destruction of poor families by the government which has to secure its people. Since all of us agreed that Korean urban poor's struggle for living is just and inevitable, we felt strongly the necessity of united linked struggle.

## 2. Our Resolution at the End of This Dialogue

- a. We denounce the violent dictatorship of Korean government. The government evicted the residents in Seochodong during the period of the Asian People's Dialogue and announced that it will oppress the street vendors beginning the month of July. The South Korean government must feel shame on their brutal deprivation of people's right to live, since peoples in all over the Asian countries are keeping eyes on its activities.

The government must understand that their economic growth policy has deprived the lives of many urban poor, even though securing people's lives is the fundamental responsibility of a government.

- b. The recognition that the problems of the urban poor comes from the socio-structural contradictions should be shared commonly in all the Asian countries. The government's oppression on the street vendors, eviction of the urban poor, and the suppression on the labor movement are purely anti-democratic and immoral. They help only the minority of monopolistic enterprises. There can be no real development without changing those policies, and so, our civil movement should also be focused on the reformation of the socio-structural problem instead of the mere demanding of houses or compensations for eviction.
- c. All the suppressive laws must be reformed, and the journalists who avoid active support for the urban poor movement should wake up. The government must immediately stop the oppression of the street vendors and establish the laws to guarantee their survival and to provide them with low-cost social housing. The journalists should report correctly the urban poor's demands.
- d. We Koreans must work hard to organize a coalition of Korean urban poor. As a step towards a strong coalition among the Asian urban poor. we Koreans must build a strong solidarity among ourselves by holding a monthly meeting.

3. What we want to say to the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights

- a. The problems of the urban poor are the problems of all the world, and we Asians should work together to solve these problems. The ACHR should act as the pioneer for the world-wide coalition for housing rights. The ACHR should also endeavor to make a better communication among the urban poor organizations in each of the Asian countries in order for a united resistance against the government's suppression, with exchanging the addresses of the organizations and informations (for example regular publication of information bulletin).

- b. The problems Revealed in This Year's Dialogue.
- (1) We recognize our poor preparation for the ACHR meeting and feel sorry for the difficulties and inconveniences the participants might experience.
  - (2) We regret that the Korean urban poor did not fully understand in advance the nature of the ACHR and the meaning of the Asian People's Dialogue, and that the importance of the right to survive (for the street vendors and others) in addition to the housing right, the poor working conditions, and the little educational opportunities of the urban poor are not fully recognized.
  - (3) It is regrettable that we couldn't achieve the objective recognition of the socio-structural contradictions and the realities of the urban poor in each Asian country in advance.

## Pakistan Country Report

We have learned much about the various situations which face the urban poor and gained an understanding of it from the people's viewpoint. Our apprehensions about differences in communication and culture were overcome in the informal sharing experiences we had. It is this atmosphere that is conducive to bringing people together.

The Korean urban poor are full of life despite their distress and the ever present threat of eviction. Their activities are in groups. They appear to be carefree and progressive. The Korean people are urbanized. They are not destitute. They do not have a problem of jobs. They appear to be economically adequate, 'but their problem is a house of their own.'

People are making efforts to organize, but their direction is diversified. Their organization is informal and confused.

Efforts of the 'young architects group in Ju-an, Incheon is commendable.

The evictions leave not only physical effects but also far reaching social and psychologically damaging consequences. The younger generation, as a result, may be demoralized, resorting either to violence or to isolation, the consequences of which are obvious.

Only through integration in the political process can people's problems be resolved. In the master plan of any country the needs of the urban poor should be integrated. Permanent solutions can only be achieved through people's participation in power, policy, planning and implementation.

This is possible only with a democratic form of government, which is the need of the time.

In Korea the efforts of the urban poor should be persistent and formalized. They need to grow in numbers. The demand should be for ownership of a piece of land. A house when it is constructed on a self help basis is economical and socially suited to the people as in the case of Ju-an in Incheon.

Supporting agencies are needed to provide legal, technical, social, economic advice and information. The quality to be provided should be according to affordability.

The government should provide land to the urban poor at affordable cost on long-term installments.

The Korean situation is different from Pakistan and at the same time it is similar.

Similarities are:

- \* In both countries there has been no people's representation in government in the real sense.
- \* In Pakistan the administration is weak so it is easy for poor people to apply pressure for improving their housing conditions.
- \* In Korea, the administration is strong, so the poor face an oppressive opposition. They will need a long, consistent struggle to get their rights.

The people have contributed to the increase in Korea's national wealth. Therefore, their share should be acknowledged in order to satisfy their basic needs.

## Papua New Guinea Country Report

During the few days of our association with Korean people, we saw some of their culture such as dancing, singing and solidarity in action. Their hospitality was wonderful and we are deeply obliged for their kind and loving attention during our stay in Korea.

Many people we met in Korea seem quite skilled compared to some of our own people. Men and women here work hard to earn their living. Some have little workshops such as knitting, bead-making or sometimes they work in their own food shops or as street vendors. Many of them install water jars to have water in their homes for cooking and bathing. Their houses are neat and streets and lanes are properly kept clean. Rubbish bins are covered. People in Korea dress well and sometimes especially for the tourists like us, we find difficult to distinguish the urban poor from the other middle class Koreans.

Children are healthy. Most of the children seem to go to school. There are even night classes in the communities for the children to help them in their studies.

People in the communities are struggling for their housing rights. People are quite political. The community leaders with their people organize to have meetings so that when police come they can defend their place.

Evicting the poor from urban areas is a crime against humanity. The governments of people all over the world must adopt a law to make forced evictions illegal. In a situation where evictions are inevitable, there must be a law to guarantee the settlers' rights for alternative accommodation and satisfactory resettlement programmes.

We are against all formes of evictions all around the world. We question the recent order of the Papua New Guinea government to evict the squatters from the government lands in PNG. If some of these settlers have to be evicted, then the government of PNG must first make alternate housing arrangements for these people. Evictions without adequate compensation and satisfactory resettlement plans must be stopped at all costs.

We find the Korean people beautiful. In the communities that we visited, we were impressed by their solidarity. They have a strong link amongst the various urban poor groups in Seoul and they seem to be supportive to one another. This is their strength.

The urban poor in Korea are badly treated. They deserve a much better life style. We think that the Korean government should take a lead in providing land for these people at subsidized costs, as happened in Man Soo Dong.

Forced evictions by the Korean government of the urban poor should be immediately stopped.

## Philippine Country Report

The poor have similar problems, no matter from what nation they come: poverty itself, but also land and access to housing. All nations face the terrible problem of demolition and eviction. But, it seems, the problem is most severe in Korea.

Governments, generally, perform very poorly in relating to the welfare of their people. They do not know how to communicate in either direction: that is, neither in telling the people their plans nor in listening to the people, presenting their own needs and priorities.

Over time, people have learned to solve their problems by themselves. They have learned -- with NGOs and Church groups assisting -- to organize and to work out their own solutions to problems.

Our Korean hosts have their own unique approaches. One group chased two goons away with dogs. And Koreans have their unique system of chasing problems away by singing 'struggle' songs. Sometimes in the Philippines, we are not so polite to government.

The seminar was good. Everyone was respected no matter how lowly. No one was ashamed to speak. Despite difficulties, language was not a barrier. We were the real people here. We spoke for ourselves rather than having others speak for us.

Despite poverty, we are filled with hope.

We are concerned that Korea may be the mirror of what the Philippines may become. We are facing the same phenomenon of economic development: wild land speculation, too much housing for the rich and almost nothing for the poor. We are concerned that economic development may be at our expense: everything costing more but wages not rising, housing become less and less affordable to the poor. We are concerned. We do not want what has happened in Korea to happen to us.

The government must find a way to better manage access to basic services: food, shelter, employment. Over time these become less and less available to the poor.

When we, the poor, demand of government these basic human needs, we resent that we are so easily branded as communists or subversives and, sometimes, our leaders are 'salvaged' (killed).

The governments of the region have performed very poorly in providing basic services. Not much has changed. Governments a/have not managed very well. They have not found solutions to our basic problems and, in the meantime, resist the solution offered by community organizations, dialogue and people's unity.

Frequently, corruption and other forms of self interest blind the government to the proper means of carrying out their responsibilities and purposes.

While saying these things, we ask everyone to understand that our government is not as harsh as here. Governments frequently consults with people about demolition and the new government's programs show real concern to assist the urban poor. Despite many problems, we are optimistic.

We are very grateful to Korea for your hospitality and for teaching us so much, especially how to be cheerful and generous to strangers despite many serious problems.

We feel that after this experience we are bound to you; that your problems are ours, too, and that your successes will be our joy. We are anxious to keep in touch and look forward to continuing opportunities to share life with you again in the future. Have this assurance that you have friends in other Asian nations who will support you in your struggle in every way we can.

## Thailand Country Report

We learned much about the urban poor. Their problems in each country are mostly the same, but there are also some differences. It is useful to learn how other people solve their problems.

Our three days in Korean communities were a good opportunity to learn the Korean way of life, culture, economic and political situation, as well as the way they tackle their problems.

Cooperation among the people's organizations and the supporting agencies is very unique. It is very good and effective.

The Korean people and the students are very good at showing their ability and power to fight for their rights.

It is a great advantage for us to have a chance to look at Seoul and gain a broad view of this Korean city and its development.

'A PLACE TO LIVE' for us is a place where we feel free to do anything. It is a protection from rain and sun. Such a place must have security to stay. No matter what size it is or how beautiful or ugly, it is our and we can be proud of it.

We say to the government, 'STOP USING VIOLENCE' and eviction. Peaceful negotiations must be adopted.

'A place to live' must be provided before eviction. This provision should include tenants as well as house owners.

The Korean government should consider a long-term plan for solving the urban poor problem.

There must be information links among countries in order to follow up the problems and movements of each country.

If there is a problem in any country and help is needed, the member countries should take action as much as they can.

The experience we gained in this meeting is so great it would be nice if other countries could enjoy it. We suggest that more of this kind of meeting be arranged in the future, in order to give other people the opportunity to learn what we did.

SCHEDULE FOR  
A PLACE TO LIVE : ASIAN PEOPLE'S DIALOGUE  
14-20 JUNE 1989

Wednesday 14

10.30-11.15	<p>Inauguration of Asian People's Dialogue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Opening Address Ms. Somsook Boonyabanha Secretary Asian Coalition for Housing Rights</li> <li>- Welcome Address Mr. Kwang Seok Koh National Federation of Urban Poor</li> <li>- Address of Encouragement Mr. Enrique Ortize Executive Secretary Habitat International Coalition</li> <li>Fr. Yung Ho Chu Secretary Seoul Archdiocese Urban Poor Pastoral Commission</li> </ul>
11.15-11.30	Coffee break
11.30-13.00	Slides Presentation and Introduction of Participants
13.00-14.00	Lunch
14.00-14.30	Orientation, explanation about Program
14.30-17.30	Sight-Seeing
18.00-19.00	Dinner
20.00-21.00	Slides Presentation (Continued)
21.00-22.30	Cultural show
22.30-24.00	Meeting of facilitators and recorders in conducting dialogue in the communities, the division of delegates into 5 communities

## Thursday 15

08.30-10.30

Steering Committee Meeting

10.30-12.00

General Assembly on Delegates Expectation  
and Information about Dialogue in Community  
by Fr. John Daly

12.00-13.00

Lunch

13.00

Leave for 5 communities

## Friday 16

## Saturday 17

Programs in 5 communities

## Sunday 18

10.00-12.00

Arrival to the center

12.00-13.00

Lunch

13.00

Leave for festival in Bogumjahri

14.00-14.30

Visit a resettlement project near Inchon

15.00-17.00

Festival in Bogumjahri

17.00-18.00

Back to Centre

20.00-21.00

Meeting of recorders

20.00-22.00

Drama preparation and practice

## Monday 19

09.00-10.00

Steering Committee Meeting

10.00-11.30

Drama presentation

11.30-12.30

Report from 5 communities

12.30-13.30

Lunch

13.30-18.00

Country discussion

18.00-19.00

Dinner

20.00-24.00

Report writing

Tuesday 20

- 09.30-11.30      General Assembly  
Final statement, country reports and  
general comments
- 11.30-12.30      Closing ceremony
- Cardinal Kim Soo Whan
  - Mr. Enrique Ortiz
  - Mr. Kwang Seok Koh
  - Ms. Somsook Boonyabantha
- 13.00-17.00      Farewell party at Sogang University  
hosted by Urban Poor Federation

Wednesday 21

- 09.00-21.00      ACHR Meeting
-

Minutes of the Meeting  
A PLACE TO LIVE: ASIAN PEOPLES DIALOGUE

The meeting entitled "A Place to Live - Asian Peoples Dialogue" was held in Seoul, South Korea June 13-21. The urban poor from ten different Asian countries gathered in Seoul to share their thoughts and experiences about their housing, economic situation, culture and political arrangements.

The intent of the meeting was to promote solidarity and linkages among the grassroots people of Asia in the hopes that this direct sharing between the people themselves would increase the awareness of common problems and potentially facilitate common solutions. It was also hoped that this meeting would provide a forum in which to celebrate the cultural richness and humanity of the grassroots of Asia, and raise the level of awareness (in Asia and the world) of housing as a basic human right essential for survival.

The following are the minutes of this meeting:

Tuesday June 13, 1989

Upon arrival in Seoul most delegates were greeted by Father Daly who took us to the Fransiscan Education Centre which was to be our home for a good portion of the meeting. After picking up our conference kits we gathered in the common room for an evening of informal introductions and cultural exchanges. Sister Annie Abion facilitated the exchange and we began by introducing each of the delegates from the various countries.

Country representation included: Thailand, Pakistan, India, Philippines, Hong Kong, Papua New Guinea, South Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia and Japan.

After the introductions we embarked on a cultural exchange of sorts as each delegation was asked to sing a song from their respective countries. Some chose traditional folk songs, others chose songs which captured the up beat mood of the evening. Hong Kong chose to sing the recently composed song entitled "Freedom" in honour of their brothers and sisters in mainland China. Two solo appearances were made by PNG and Nepal.

The evening ended at 22h30 on a happy note and already the group was solidifying. As the meeting broke up some people went to bed, others stayed up to chat with new friends and still others were scurrying about with last minute details in preparation for the next days events.

Wednesday June 14, 1989

Open ceremony

The formal welcoming commenced at 10h30 with traditional Korean dancing and singing. The energetic and stimulating music by five Korean girls was a real crowd pleaser and lively start to precede the official welcoming speeches.

The opening address for the meeting was presented by Ms. Somsook Boonyabancha, Secretary of the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights. In her address Ms. Boonyabancha reinforced the objective of the meeting as a forum for the urban poor to "tell their story in their way". "The people must show the world their strengths," she said, "so the world can learn from them, and work to achieve a more human society". "Seoul symbolizes a trend in Asia," she continued, "where countries are developing quickly economically, but so are the number of urban poor. The solutions to reverse the numbers of the urban poor cannot come from non-governmental organisations (NGO's) or professionals, but rather change must come from the people in the community. This meeting is a forum for the grassroots of Asia to tell professionals how to achieve this change."

Following Ms. Boonyabancha was a speech by Mr. Kwang Seok Koh, Chairman of the Federation of the Korean Urban Poor. As a representative of over four million Korean urban poor people Mr. Koh welcomed the delegates on their behalf. In a poignant and moving speech Mr. Koh asked the delegates to remember our brothers and sisters living in oppressive conditions as the urban poor of Asia "When I think of the urban poor I have tears in my eyes and anger in my heart" and then ask ourselves what this celebration and our happiness means. He said, "happiness comes through our solidarity and our struggle to achieve a better life for each other. If we bind together and unify as one body and if we struggle for each other and if we make efforts for all of us then eventually we will succeed. With our success, a free liberated "human" world will come into being." "Because I am certain of that success, I am happy". He then asked the delegates "to unite together, hope together and struggle together", and that we should make links together "so the world will hear our song of liberation".

In a more formal tone Mr. Enrique Ortiz, Permanent, Secretary of Habitat International Coalition (HIC), addressed the delegates. Mr. Ortiz suggested that "this meeting can be seen as an effective strategy in the global struggle for housing rights, there are 250 members in 56 countries of HIC committee to housing as a right wherein not a single country of this world can say they have solved their housing problem." He noted "that more than one-fourth of the world lives in inadequate housing" and argued that, "there must be a united global strategy to solve this global problem".

"Housing", he continued, "is not the problem of the poor but the responsibility of all of us." He ended by saying that "Asia is a world leader in struggling for peoples housing rights and the world is here to learn from you."

Following Mr. Ortiz was Father Yung Ho Chu, the Executive Secretary of the Catholic Church, Seoul Archdiocese Urban Poor Pastoral Committee. He stressed the importance of our mission here and wished us success. He highlighted the structural barriers in the struggle for a more "human" society when he said that "we are aware that the poor everywhere, because they are powerless, suffer oppression by those who have power. If we look at the world situation the problem of hunger is very serious. There are many people in the world, particularly children who die because they do not have enough to eat. The reason they die, however, is not for lack of food, but rather because a few people eat too much. It is the same inequitable distribution of wealth that creates the shelter problem throughout the world. Many people do not have a place to call their own - a place to live - not because there is not enough land to go around, but because a small proportion of society own a large proportion of the land. This meeting underlines the need that housing is a basic human right - to sit, to sleep, to eat, to raise a family."

On a similar note he said that he was "sure that this meeting will be a celebration of the rich culture and deep spirituality of the people of Asia. Indeed the clearest forms of culture and spirituality are always found among the poor." He continued by saying that "here in Korea, as in your countries, the poor people share their rice and food with one another. One of the distinct qualities of Asian cultures is that we live by sharing with each other". "But, in the new twenty storey apartment buildings that so many people think is representative of "development", the people do not even know their neighbours. Hence only if there is sharing and love can we say that we are living in a human society." In conclusion he congratulated the conference organisers and hoped that delegates would use this opportunity to "work toward a human right for a place to live - a place to live humanly."

At this point individual introductions took place:

- Mr. Paul Jei with the Urban Poor Research Institute and founding member of ACHR
- Mr. Mitsuhiro Hosaka from the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Mr. Gregor Meerpohl representing MISEREOR from West Germany.
- Mr. Oh Yangsik, chairman of the Christian Federation of the Urban Poor and Board member of the National Federation of the Urban Poor.

### Slides Presentation - Sight-seeing

After a short break the delegates introduced their countries through a slide presentation. India, Japan and Hong Kong presented their slides, but due to technical difficulties and a shortage of time the delegates proceeded to their sight-seeing trip in Seoul. Sight-seeing entailed an orientation to the city of Seoul, and some sights not accessible to the urban poor of Korea including a trip to the Olympic stadium and the Lotte Department Store.

Country slides resumed at 20.00 hrs, but only Malaysia, Pakistan and the Philippines could present before the cultural show at 20.45 hrs commenced. The cultural show was punctuated by the arrival of the Indian delegation of Pavement Dwellers from Bombay and the Indonesian delegation.

### Cultural Show

The cultural show consisted of:

#### Korea

dressed in traditional Korean white costumes with masks signifying the nobility or the poor people, the 13 Korean delegates and drummers sang and danced.

#### Papua New Guinea

dressed in a colourful traditional costume replete with grass skirt and sea shell jewelry, Sister Gertrude Vavine, with some help from Ramesh Manandhar, sang and danced to the delight of the other delegates.

#### Philippines

In an all women cast the Philippines entertained the delegates with the "dance of light", a dance Sister Annie Balgemino said "reflects the theme of the conference - to liberate all people from oppression". With candles in their hair and hands they did a graceful dance to traditional Philippino music. They then shared this light by giving each delegation a candle.

#### Thailand

Using traditional Thai instruments, the eight Thai delegates performed a short skit telling the story of rural migrants who come to Bangkok. They ended their performance with a lively Thai folk dance called "Ramwong" in which the audience enthusiastically participated.

- Pakistan A very dramatic and energetic folk dance was demonstrated by an authentically dressed Khalid Mahmood who was helped out by Perween Rahman.
- Japan The Japanese delegates performed a 700 year old song which is still sung in Japan today.
- India The Indian delegation performed a traditional Indian folk dance and then Ranjit Roychoudhury sang a Bengali folk song.
- Hong Kong In keeping with ancient Chinese tradition Mr. Chak Piu Lam recited a 3,000 year old poem and then proceeded to show the delegates a variety of Kung Fu movements.

As a finale the Korean delegation ended the cultural show with a raucous and energetic Korean dance.

#### Meeting of facilitators and reporters

After the show the facilitators, interpreters and minute takers were asked to attend a meeting in preparation for the community visit. The objective of the meeting was to discuss with facilitators useful methods and tactics to be used in the workshop process. During the course of the discussion it was communicated to the facilitators that Denis Murphy would be using the notes from each community visit for a book he would be writing on the meeting. He hoped the book would take the following form:

- 1) Direct quotations from the dialogue between the urban poor delegates and the communities they visited;
- 2) The use of pictures and drawings that delegates and facilitators take throughout the meeting;
- 3) The use of quotations, facts and figures from UN documents on the problem of human settlements; and
- 4) Statistics on the socio-economic situation of squatters.

Denis emphasized that "what the people say" will be the focus of the book. He asked facilitators to ask each participant to tell their story in a kind of bio-data sharing session.

There was concern among the group of facilitators and minute takers that the desire for a book might place too much of a structure on the dialogue process and hinder the spontaneity that can often result. Moreover this was an opportunity for the poor people of Asia to express themselves and that any kind of structure might inhibit that expression.

After much discussion it was agreed that the facilitators would allow the discussion to take its natural course, but would where possible attempt to address the concerns of the book.

Thursday, June 15, 1989

Steering Committee Meeting

A steering committee meeting started and consisted of one grassroots delegate from each country and their interpreter. The purpose of this steering committee meeting was:

- 1) to give feed back on experiences in the last few days;
- 2) to discuss the role of the steering committee in this dialogue; and
- 3) to give reactions/opinions on what will take place in the community.

1. The feed back on the meeting up to that point included:
  - a) Pakistan - "there has been a good exchange of ideas and a sharing of problems in other countries;
  - b) Thailand - "there has been a lack of time to introduce ourselves and the housing situation in our country through our slide presentation;
  - c) India - "due to flight delays there has been an inconsistency of introductions. Also there is a need among our delegation for the provision of vegetarian food;
2. Discussion about the role of the steering committee in this meeting revolved around two points:
  - a) that the steering committee should be a transmitter of information between the other delegates and the steering committee; and
  - b) that the steering committee be very patient and attentive to the delegates needs.
3. Comments about going into the community was characterised by a general excitement and a desire to gain an understanding of other peoples situations. Steering committee members saw the community visits as a good opportunity to see how other people live and to understand their problems.

## General Assembly on Delegates Expectation

At 10.30 hrs a General Assembly of all the delegates was held to discuss the expectations of the delegates from this dialogue and to give a brief orientation for the three days stay in the communities.

Expectation sharing prompted comments from each of the delegations:

### Thailand

Mr. Sangwan Boonsong, a slum dweller from Bangkok said that he was flattered to be in a meeting with so many diverse people of Asia. He said that this meeting was a valuable opportunity for NGO's and people's organisations to share information and strategies. He hopes the meetings in the community will result in information that he can take back to Bangkok.

### Philippines

Mrs. Josefa De Leon, a slum dweller in Quezon City said that after sharing our problems we can reach a level of solidarity where we can work toward solving the housing problems of Asia.

### Pakistan

Khalid Mahmood, a community organizer in Karachi said that the main thing he expects to get from this meeting is to establish a process of communication between poor people from different parts of Asia.

### Thailand

Mrs. Arphon Wongsang is concerned with evictions. What she would like to see result from this dialogue is that people from other countries describe their struggle and share their solutions. She would like to see this information coordinated in a central body and reported on every three months so that we can keep up to date with the eviction situation in Asia.

### Korea

Mr. Sei Won Park, a leader of the Street Vendors Association of Korea, appealed to all delegates to go into this dialogue with a broader vision than just shelter problems. He said that we must also be concerned with the right to food, to work and to live as human beings.

### Papua New Guinea

Sister Gertrude Vavine reaffirmed a need to take a broader vision and said that the urban poor face many problems such as unemployment and lack of education and that shelter was only one problem. She announced that the PNG government has recently embarked upon a policy to evict many of the squatters in the Port Morsby area and she is seeking help and support from the Asian region to mobilize action against the government of PNG.

Philippines

Ms. Luisita Vendiola who is a representative of the urban poor sector of the Philippines said that she hopes to gain a better understanding of the cultures and traditions of the other delegates. She also wants to understand their housing problems and their strategies.

Philippines

Mrs. Felicitas Arpon said that she hope the dialogue will result in a sharing of our problems and experiences as the people of Asia.

India

Mr. Belvalkar is a President of a slum with a population of 300,000 people. He is struggling to establish a right to housing and a place to live with security of tenure. He wants to share his experiences with the other delegates. He sees this dialogue as a ray of hope in this struggle and believes that the voice of the people will be strengthened through this dialogue.

India

Mr. Kadam sees the problem of the planning and development of slums as a common problem and one that he would like to better understand.

Thailand

Mr. Siri Chunbumrung lives in the second largest slum in Bangkok and sees this dialogue as an opportunity to join together as one, and to work toward solving our common problems. He said that the major problem in Thailand is that there is not enough work and people cannot pay for housing so they are evicted by rich land owners or the government. We are perceived as bad and evil people. There is also a problem of drug abuse in our slum and a general lack of education. Time is running out for us and he hope that we can come together to solve our common problems. The struggle is difficult but we have no choice.

India

Mrs. Madina Ali is a pavement dweller on the streets of Bombay. She said that her and her friends have left their children on the streets of Bombay during monsoon season to come to this meeting. We have come to meet the people and to discuss our problems and listen to their problems.

Indonesia

Mr. Syamsuddin Nainggolan is the president of a grassroots organisation which has worked to help slum dwellers for the past ten years. The organisation is made up of slum dwellers. He said his organisation is constantly in threat of being taken over by a bigger organisation which will not address the needs of the people. Slum dwellers are treated like trouble makers and we need your solidarity and support to continue our work.

Japan

Mr. Yoshihiko Yamamoto said that all people have a right to be equal and live a decent life. Within the social systems of our countries, however, there is inequity. It is this problem of inequity that we have come here to solve.

Hong Kong

Mr. Tat Pang Li said that the government does not recognize their obligations to provide housing for the people. The poor people must join forces and make the government understand their plight. Housing is a basic human right.

Departure for the Communities      June 16, 17, 18, 1989

At 12.00 hrs the five groups left for their respective communities. The delegates were divided and brought to five Korean communities namely Pyeong Wha Chon, Nahk-Kol, Seo-Cho Dong, Shin-Jeong Dong and HA-Wol-Kok Dong. (see appendix no.I "Who goes Where" and appendix no.II the Brief description of the 5 urban poor communities.) There were approximately five countries including Koreans in each group, two grassroots leaders plus one translator from each country. Each team had discussions, small trips around the area and three nights in the communities themselves. Six workshops were suggested:

- 1) bio-data sharing - which entails a self introduction of delegates to the group about personal life and activities;
- 2) a community meeting - between delegates and the community to hear the experiences of an urban poor Korean community and to share with the participating countries experiences;
- 3) a housing discussion - on housing issues of the people, problems, policies and its meaning in the different countries in order to learn the differences in their situations;
- 4) employment and jobs - to discuss sources of livelihood of the people in the community, to understand the situations and condition of labour and the economy in Korea and the participating countries;

- 5) family life, culture and religion - to learn about the family life style, culture and religious practices; and
- 6) society and politics - to learn the local organisations, how they operate and their structures, norms, traditions and practices in relation to the political system.

This was an informal structure and left up to each group to decide whether or not they would pursue these discussions. Guidelines for questions were distributed for the facilitator to follow if he/she wished. (see appendix no III workshop guidelines)

Sunday June 18, 1989

#### Return from the Communities

The five groups returned from their communities on Sunday June 18. The day was set aside for free time, but many of the delegates took the opportunity to visit the festival in settlement of Bhoguhmjari.

A steering committee meeting was held in the evening of June 18 wherein four questions were developed to be responded to by each country in the form of a country report. The questions included:

- 1) What did we learn?
- 2) What do we want to say about a place to live?
- 3) What do we want to say about Korea?
- 4) What shall we do next or in future?

The results of the country reports were to be submitted and printed and Denis Murphy would summarize the reports to make a final statement that was to come out of the meeting.

Monday June 19, 1989

#### Drama Presentations

The delegates spent the morning presenting the dramas they had developed in the communities. It became apparent quite quickly that each of the dramas had a common theme depicting the struggle of the urban poor and how they organised to overcome their oppression.

### Community Experience Sharing

Each of the five groups that went into the different communities were asked to report on their experiences in their respective communities.

Group 1 Pyeong Wha Chon - from the experiences in this community group one came up with seven conclusions:

- 1) the urban poor commonly face social discrimination and they generally lack any substantive assistance from the government;
- 2) poor peoples rights are not recognized;
- 3) outside agencies and NGO's can be of assistance to the urban poor;
- 4) although we are from different countries with different languages we can understand each other without any common language because we share common experiences;
- 5) we realize more and more that we, the urban poor, must solve our problems by ourselves;
- 6) the problems of the urban poor are generally the same - they face evictions, poverty, lack of education and lack of public facilities;
- 7) after we shared our experiences with the community we knew we had made new friends and a new bond of solidarity was formed to help us struggle for our rights.

Group 2 Nahk-Kol - During the first day in the community we saw similarities of living conditions between their community and our communities. We noted the importance of water and sewer systems to the quality of peoples lives. We also noted that the urban poor are always busy trying to support themselves and their families through small businesses or whatever work they can find.

On the second day we attended a festival held in the community and we were able get a better feeling for the struggle the people have been undergoing in the process of trying to get their land back.

On the third day we experienced differences between ourselves, both positive and negative. We hope, however, that we do not give up because we have the same goals and must work together for the unity of all people.

Group 3 Seo-Cho Dong - This is a village of plastic houses which used to be nursery for flowering plants but are now peoples homes. The people moved here because their housing was demolished in other areas. Over 200 families now live here. Even though the houses were very small they were very clean. The infrastructure, however, was limited. Although the people were of modest means their hospitality was overwhelming. When we arrived we were greeted by little children who gave us flowers and introduced us to their families. In our three day experience in the community we were brought from one village to another. The hospitality was always generous and warm despite their poverty. Our sad experience was that we witnessed an eviction in this community. The people were very pitiable. The demolition crew did not treat the people as though they were human beings and did not respect their belongings. They just forced them out even though they had no place to go. It does not seem fair that many houses in the big city are often the fruit of the suffering of the poor. We should respect our fellow humans and the poor of the world should unite.

Group 4 Shin-Jeong Dong - We were sympathetic with the situation of the people and we were overwhelmed by their hospitality. We visited two evicted areas and as a result we have become more socially and politically aware of the issues of the urban poor. We have learned that even though eviction is often a local problem the countries of Asia must work together to the improve the plight of the urban poor. We must pressure the government to encourage peoples participation because we know what is best for us. The government must deal with organized groups who are free to express the needs of the people. The government must respect such inalienable rights of the people such as the right to organise and the right to a house.

Group 5 Ha-Wol-Kok Dong - During the three days we visited two communities, Ha-Wol-Kok Dong, the community we stayed in and Hangi Dong, a community just recently settled with many of the people evicted from Sanakie dong. Our group had a very deep feeling about the communities we visited which can be summarised in five points:

- 1) we have found that in the communities we visited there was overcrowding and the housing was very small. We discovered that there were more than five people living in a small house of less than 20sq. meters. We were convinced that housing is the main problem of the poor in this community;

- 2) concerning the community organisation we saw differences in the two communities we visited. Ha-Wol-Kok Dong community had strong unity and the other was divided. The first community was united with a clear strategy and planning was undertaken successfully. The second community had a very weak organisation and the people were divided among themselves. As a result their work was not very successful;
- 3) we found that new comers to the community are the poorest in the community - both financially and socially. We are concerned about the new comers who find themselves alone and unaccepted.
- 4) we felt the need for an alliance of all the urban poor to strengthen their unity and power. This is important because organised communities can help newer communities and by working together we are all stronger; and
- 5) there were some organised services in the community for example the Sandol Study Centre that was set up to help the children and train the women in the community to be more active and aware. We felt the community we stayed in was a good example of an efficient and active community.

After the five groups reported there was an open forum where any one could speak:

- Korean speaker - Democratisation is very important as is regional autonomy. We must overcome the inequity between the rich and poor and all the poor must join the struggle to overcome this inequity.
- Korean speaker - Our country is small in size and only a few people hold large portions of land. It is difficult for the poor to obtain land. In Hange Dong it is as though the rich people grab land and just throw it away. They use it only for profit while the poor look for a place to live. The government must distribute land to the poor if the housing problem is to be solved. The government and the people must work together if the problem is to be solved. Those with political power and those without must work together.

Korean speaker - I was afraid I would not be a good host. I was afraid our differences would be too great. We wanted to provide you with good food and facilities. In carrying out our programme we experienced differences of opinion but we were able to overcome those differences. Despite the cultural differences we found that through person-to-person relationships we could build solidarity.

### Steering Committee Meeting

The purpose of this steering committee meeting was to reflect on the process of the dialogue in the communities:

#### Thailand

the efficiency of the meeting bogged down. There was not enough time for sharing and individual interaction. In the community there were problems of food, adequate water, but we accepted those problems.

#### PNG

There was some confusion in the community in terms of who was in charge - the Koreans or the facilitator.

#### Indonesia

There was not enough time to see the differences of the slum areas of Korea. Nor was there enough time to talk to the people in the communities. We also would have liked to speak to donor organisations for financial support.

#### Philippines

communication was not a barrier because all Asians have the same problems. Every country in Asia has a very rich culture and this is something as Asian people we can be proud of.

#### Japan

Time sharing should be examined as there was not enough time in our community to talk to the people. We would have liked to have visited more than one community. In the next conference we would like to see an exchange of information before hand.

#### Hong Kong

The community schedule was too busy to allow for an adequate dialogue between ourselves and the community.

India

We gained first hand experience of the people, their lives and their culture. One subject that needed more time was housing and the strategies to overcome housing problems. We would have liked to have seen more concrete examples of strategies to take back to India with us.

Tuesday, June 20, 1989

Country Reports and the Final Statement

After the steering committee all the delegates assembled to hear the highlights of the country reports based on the four questions previously mentioned. (see country reports) Sister Gertrude Vavine then read out the general statement based on a summary of the country reports.

The reaction of the delegates generally was that the statement should be made stronger. As there was no mechanism for change and because the final statement was based upon the country reports, substantive changes could not be made. Amendments, however, were submitted by various delegations and these were adopted at the discretion of the draftsman. (see the amended final statement).

The amendments generally were to include a stronger presence of women in the final statement; the need to constitutionally entrench the right to housing in every country; and the need to make a very clear and strong statement to the Korean government' to immediately stop all forced evictions.

Closing Ceremonies

Cardinal Kim Soo Whan led the closing ceremonies by giving a moving speech which he read in both Korean and English.

Enriquez Ortiz, Permanent Secretary of HIC

"We are sharing, learning and building." We have shared the warmth and the energy of the Koreans, we have shared their living conditions, delicious food, your feelings and your struggles, the songs and the smile of your children even in hard conditions. We have learned of Asias' similar housing problems and the strong forces that work against you for profit. The land and a place to live are seen simply as a commodity. Culture is being destroyed in the name of progress and modernisation. We are denying our roots by building a boring and homogeneous world, instead of showing to the world with pride the beautiful expressions of our different cultures.

At this meeting we have deepened our knowledge of these issues. We have been building ways of working together beyond language and cultural barriers and identifying common goals and strategies.

Mr. Ortiz remarked that we see the effects of the scarcity and overpriced cost of land in the city of Seoul in every corner of the society, in the struggles of the poor families to live in peace and dignity, and in the tiny space given over to the so-called golf-courses. How is it that land can be conceived in the same form for Housing and golfing? Land used for housing? For land used for shelter - a necessity to survive - to be perceived as an equal competitor in the market place as golf or any other land use such as banks or shopping centres is deeply wrong. Land used for housing and shelter are not simple words of the market but are the right shared by everyone. Housing is a fundamental need and therefore a lack of housing is an injustice. To overcome this injustice all of us are responsible. From this perspective HIC has initiated an international campaign on housing rights. This campaign will build an alliance of housing rights activists. We hope that together with ACHR we will build a more powerful movement to improve the housing conditions of the poor, the homeless and the disabled.

Madina - India Representative from participants

"I have learned alot. We need to demand what is our right. It is time to wake up and not sleep any more and to work hard for our demands. The government will give us nothing. Women need shelter more than men but men and women need to be partners in this process. We need a permanent solution not the same old story of a struggle for the poor."

Kwang Seok Koh from Korea Although we are different we have ways to communicate, heart-to-heart. We have defined for ourselves at this meeting who has deprived us from housing. It is found in the contradictions of the economic and social structures in the countries where we live. We do not want someone to give us a house, we need to struggle to learn how to gain these things on our own.

Ms. Somsook Boonyabancha officially closed the Asian peoples dialogue with these words "We came here to learn and we have learned. We established a process of communication through which we have found new strength. We wanted a better future and we have found a way to achieve it - together. The future is clearer and we have more confidence to shape it.

## WHO GOES WHERE

Areas	Facilitator	Participants		Translator
	Recorder	Country	Name	
Community 1 Pyong Hwa Chon	Sr.Iyori	Korea 1	K.S.Koh, K.J.Lim	Sr.John/ Angela Prasanth Teeravani Rashid Hagiwara
	Ramesh	India 1 Thailand 1 Pakistan 1 Japan 1	Kadam, Sontakke Saengathit, Boonsong, Chuaykiang Ouraish, Ahmed Yamamoto, Uemura	
Community 2 Nahk-Kol	Celine	Korea 2 India 2 Thailand 2	H.W.Nah, S.W.Park, K.J.Min Naidu, Mohmed, Ali Tuvinan, Wongsang, Lerdviriya	Y.J.Yoo D'Cruz Ekchai Murtado
	Hosaka S.Ekachai	Indonesia 1 Papua N.G.	Attap, Winaryoko Manandhar, Vavine	
Community 3 Seo Cho Dong	Alpa	Korea 3 India 3 Thailand 3	Jang, Song, K.Y.Park Belvalkar, Gawde Chunbumrung, Pratuan, Jamsri	Mark Seo Vora Maier W.K.Ping W.Keyes
	Bill Keyes	Hong Kong 1 Philippines 1	L.C.Pui F.Arpon	
Community 4 Shin Jeong Dong	Perween	Korea 4 India 4 Philippines 2	J.H.Kim, S.D.Lee, H.M.Park Varis, Kawal, Isaq Lacson, Perez	M.S.Park Sethna N.Keyes H.Siahaan Alum
	Lim	Indonesia 2 Pakistan 2	Nainggolan, Hutapea K.Mohd, Fatima	
Community 5 Ha Wol Kok Dong	Sr.Annie	Korea 5 India 5 Philippines 3	C.W.Kang, J.M.Lee, B.N.Lee Ansari, Chowdhury de Leon, Quintos	Y.M.Yoon Mazumdar A. Abion Fujimoto Lambertino
	Laurie	Japan 2 Hong Kong 2	Watanabe, Fujimoto, Nakamura Pang	

Community-1      PYEONG WHA CHON      ("Peace Village")

Location:      Flat ground in the Song-Pa District, south-east Seoul

Special Characteristics: A 'remnant' community.

Community originally in 1968 by people evicted from Ma-Jang Dong (in Seoul). Then that community was destroyed in 1984 by redevelopment, but 16 families have refused to leave the area, even though their shacks have been torn down and they have been moved around many times.

Most of the women are street vendors, from around 5 pm. until 2 am., next to the Central Fresh Fruit Market in ka-rak-dong.

How to find: Take #2 Subway to Jam-sil Station and then take Bus # 141-1 to the Ka-rak fruit market, then go to the 20-storey Oo-seong Apartment buildings and the Peace Village is behind the apartment buildings.

Telephone: 408-3646 and 408-3621

Community-2      NAHK-KOL

Location:      Mountainside in southern part of Seoul

Special characteristics: Under no threat of mass evictions and so is a TYPICAL Urban Poor Community. Community was formed in 1967 when people moved there after being evicted from other areas. 4,116 families (19,020 people) live here in very crowded conditions.

How to find: Take stand-up bus 96/101/101-1/111/119 or 160 or Sit-down bus 150 to end of line and then walk up the mountain and go to Nahk-ko1 church.

Telephone: 869-9067

Community-3      SEO-CHO DONG ("Plastic-House Village")

Location:      Flat ground in the Song-Pa District, south-east Seoul.

Special Characteristics: NOT a redevelopment area. Thousands of families evicted from other areas have migrated here to rent space in plastic 'green houses' originally constructed for growing flowers.

How to find: Take Subway #2 to Seo-Cho station, then go to the Plastic House village and ask for No-ri-bahng (name of Day-Care Center).

Telephone: 577-4244

Community-4      SHIN-JEONG DONG

Location:            Level ground in western Seoul

Special Characteristics: A 'redevelopment' area in which the tenants have been resisting eviction since mid 1988. January 11, 1989 a 2-month old infant died from shock during attempted forced eviction. Leader of people was in jail at one time but now released. 40 tenant families stubbornly hanging on.

How to find: Take Bus 9-2 or 109 and get off at Shin-an Apartment bus-stop and walk to Tenants Organization Office which is near the Shin-mok primary school.

Telephone: 649-7701

Community-5      HA-WOL-KOK DONG      ("Chestnut-tree Village")

Location:            Mountainside in northern Seoul

Special Characteristics: Is registered as a 'redevelopment area,' but no official steps have been taken by the municipality yet. Good example of local organizations, many of which have originated from the Tong Wol church, started by the Rev. Byung Sup HUH, a Christian Minister who has been one of the leaders of the Urban Poor movement for many years.

How to find: Take bus 30-1 or 161; get off at the bus stop in front of Tong-seok Women's College and then walk to Tong Wol church.

Telephone: 913-3170

### Workshops Guideline in Communities

- The following questions are starting points but can be set aside if the group so wishes
- People should be allowed freedom to discuss what they want
- Facilitators can use different techniques to draw out the participants (e.g., drawings, pictures, etc.)
- Try to make questions and the discussion as concrete as possible
- Coordinate with local field coordinator and community

### QUESTIONS:

#### 1. BIO-DATA

Name/married or single/number of children/what work do you do?

What would you like to tell us about yourself; what would you like to share?

Why did you or your family (parents) leave local provinces/rural area?

Why did you squat rather than rent? Why did you settle in the area in which you live?

#### 2. HOUSING

Describe your house. (May be they have a picture of it).

What are your problems with it?

What are your hopes/dreams for a house?

Describe your neighborhood. Describe its problems. What would you like to change?

#### 3. WORK SITUATION

What work do you and the people have? (Unemployed?)

Is your income enough?

What do you do in a crisis, for example: sickness?

What can people do to get more and better work?

#### 4. FAMILY LIFE, CULTURE AND RELIGION

How does living in a slum or urban poor area affect family life?

Is religion important? Does it help? How does it help you or the community?

What do you do when some is born, gets married, or dies?

## 5. SOCIETY AND POLITICS

What is your government's attitude towards you or your community?

Is your community organized?

Who controls your community?

Whom do you fear most? Who do you go to in a crisis?

What is your people's organization trying to do?

Tentative Schedule for a Regional Meeting on  
**A PLACE TO LIVE: ASIAN PEOPLE'S DIALOGUE**  
 in Seoul, South Korea, 14-21 June 1989

DATE	MORNING			AFTERNOON		NIGHT
Day 1 Wednesday 14.	1 Welcome	2 Slides Presenta- tion	3 Orienta- tion	4 Sight Seeing	5 Facilitators and recorders meeting	6 Cultural show
Day 2 Thursday 15,	7 Orienta- tion			8 Travel to Community		10 Community Meeting
Day 3 Friday 16,	* 11 Workshop in community housing			* 12 Workshop in community Jobs		13 Brainstorming on drama preparattion
Day 4 Saturday 17,	* 14 Workshop in Family life, culture and religion			* 15 Workshop in community Society and politics		16 Drama practice in community
Day 5 Sunday 18	Back to Center			* 18 Country Discussion		19 Write up of reports
Day 6 Monday 19	17 Drama Presentation			* 22 Party		
Day 7 Tuesday 20,	20 General Assembly	21 Closing ceremonies				

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<u>Session Activities</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Welcome Ceremony	Formally open the meeting, welcome address will be given by the President of the Federation of People's Organization in Korea
2. Slide Presentation	To bring a broader awareness of different participating countries. An introduction of countries and delegates by slides on background about country, community, work, life, etc., approximately 6 slides for one country.
3. Orientation	A brief introduction and information about the Meeting.
4. Sight-seeing	Tour to the city of Seoul in order to provide the foreign delegates a Korean atmosphere.
5. Facilitators and Recorders meeting	A preparation to be mediators of people's dialogue workshop in 5 communities. To clear directions, concerns, methods and tactics and questions to be used in the workshop process.
Before 6,	A meeting of the steering committee, one member from one country to define the functions, clear the events and roles of all people involved as well as adapt the process of the meeting if necessary.
6. Cultural Show	Cultural presentation of different countries to highlight Asian culture.
7. Orientation of Community Workshop	Introduction and explanation of activities and issues as well as clarify all practical arrangements in community workshop process.

<u>Session Activities</u>	<u>Description</u>
8. Travel to communities	The team will be divided and brought to 5 Korean communities, approximately 5 countries including Korea in each group, 2 grassroots leaders plus one translator from each country. Each team will have discussions and all possible related activities, possibly some small trips around the area as well as stay overnight in that particular community on the night of day 2, 3, 4 of the meeting.
Session 9-16 will be organized in the 5 communities.	
9. Workshop sharing on "Biodata Sharing"	Self introduction of delegates to the group about personal life and activities as an introduction of group members to one another.
10. Community Meeting	The meeting between delegates and the community to hear the experiences of an urban poor Korean community and to share with the participating countries experiences.
11. Workshop sharing on "Housing"	Discussions on Housing issues of the people, problems, policies, its meaning in different countries in order to learn the differences and analyse the situations.
12. Workshop sharing on "Jobs"	Discussions on sources of livelihood of people in the community, to understand the situations and conditions of labour, people, economy, in Korea and participating countries.
13. Brainstorming on Drama Presentation	Preparation of drama that will summarize the issues discussed in the community for the group presentation on morning of day 6.

<u>Session Activities</u>	<u>Description</u>
14. Workshop sharing on "Family life, Culture and Religion"	To learn about the family life style, culture, religion and practices of one another.
15. Workshop sharing on "Society and Politics"	To learn the local organizations for example the people organizations - how they operate, and the structure, norms, traditions, practice in relation to political system.
16. Drama Practice	Experiment and testing the drama by group members together, probably show to the community as a preparation for a group presentation on morning of day 6.
On morning of day 5, delegates will be brought back to the center. Day 5 is a free day except for the steering committee meeting at night to assess what happened and prepare for forthcoming events on day 6, 7.	
17. Drama Presentation	To dramatize the issues that were discussed in the community by the 5 groups. To present the issues through drama for better internalization.
18. Country Discussion	To internalize the messages and experiences and to ask what is next? Every country Team will discuss what they learned from community exposure and what they will do when they go back as well as preparing a clear and brief "country statement" - what each country want to say to be compiled as Meeting Statement with other countries.
19. Write up Summary Report	Preparation of Regional Report, individual statements and country report to prepare the culmination day of the programme.
20. General Assembly	Last assembly of People's Dialogue to present report summary and recommend plans and programmes concerning forthcoming Asian Co-operation on People Housing Rights.
21. Closing Ceremonies	
22. Party	

List of Participants in Alphabetical Order

Explanation of number code:

1 = Urban Poor      2 = Community Organizer or NGO

3 = International Agency

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
Sr. Annie A. ABION	Philippines	Manila	CHHEDF	2
Mr Iftikher Hasan AHMED	Pakistan	Karachi	OPP	1
Ms Madina Bechan ALI	India	Bombay	MM	1
Mr. Salim ALIMUDDIN	Pakistan	Karachi	URC	2
Mr K. Prashanth ANTONY	India	Bombay	PROUD/CISCR	2
Fr Jorge ANZORENA	Japan	Tokyo	SELAVIP	3
Mrs Felicitas ARPON	Philippines	Manila		1
Mr Kristian ATTAP	Indonesia	Bandung	HFH	1
Mr Shreeram BELVALKAR	India	Bombay	YUVA	1
Mr Sangwan BOONSONG	Thailand	Bangkok	USDA	1
Ms Somsook BOONYABANCHA	Thailand	Bangkok	ACHR	2
Ms Laurie Anne BOUCHER	Canada	Toronto	CIDA	3
Mr Somchai CHUAIKLIANG	Thailand	Bangkok	HSF	2
Mr Siri CHUNBUMRUNG	Thailand	Bangkok	HDC/UPCO	1
Fr John DALY	Korea	Seoul	UPRI	2
Ms Celine D'CRUZ	India	Bombay	SPARC	2
Mrs Josefa A. DE LEON	Philippines	Manila	UPCO	1
Ms Sanitsuda EKACHAI	Thailand	Bangkok	BANGKOK POST	2
Ms Aziz FATIMA	Pakistan	Karachi	OPP/OWC	1
Mr Takahiro FUJIMOTO	Japan	Kochi	KHS	2
Ms Kalpana GAWDE	India	Bombay	YUVA	1
Mr Gaku HAGIWARA	Japan	Tokyo	Toyo U.	2
Mr Mitsuhiko HOSAKA	Thailand	Bangkok	ESCAP	3
Mr Edward Mangapul HUTAPEA	Indonesia	Jakarta	YPB	1
Sr Naoko IYORI	Japan	Tokyo	JPC	3
Mrs Jamnien JAMSRI	Thailand	Bangkok	HDC/UPCO	1
Mr Hyo Chae JANG	Korea	Seoul	FEPS	1
Mr Paul Jeong Gu JEI	Korea	Seoul	UPRI	2
Mr K.M. KADAM	India	Bombay	PROUD	1
Mr Chung Won KANG	Korea	Seoul	UPCO	1
Mrs Nightingale KEYES	Philippines	Manila	FTB	2
Mr William KEYES	Philippines	Manila	FTB	2
Mr Jeong Hoon KIM	Korea	Seoul	NFSV	1
Mr Kwang Seok KOH	Korea	Seoul	FEPS	1
Ms Rosita Y. LACSON	Philippines	Manila	NWHR	1
Mr Chak Piu LAM	Hongkong		PHRA	1
Fr Adelio LAMBERTINO	Hongkong		SOCO	2
Mr Byong Noh LEE	Korea	Seoul	NFSV	1
Mr Jong Min LEE	Korea	Seoul	UPCO	1
Mrs Soon Deok LEE	Korea	Seoul	FEPS	1
Mr Somsak LERTVIRIYA	Thailand	Bangkok	KSDF	1

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>STA</u>
Mr Tat Pang LI	Hongkong		THRA	1
Mr Keun Jeong LIM	Korea	Seoul	FEPS	1
Mr Jee Yuan LIM	Malaysia	Penang	CAP	2
Mr Khalid MAHMOOD	Pakistan	Karachi	ROHTAK	1
Fr Joseph MAIER	Thailand	Bangkok	HDC	2
Mr Sudhir MAJOMDER	India	Calcutta	UNNAYAN	2
Mr Ramesh MANANDHAR	Papua N.G.	Lae	PNG UT	2
Mr Poonsak MARKWISAI	Thailand	Bangkok	HDC	2
Mr A. M. Ansari MASJID	India	Bombay	PROUD/LHC	1
Mr Gregor MEERPOHL	Germany	Aachen	MISEREOR	3
Ms Kyonh Ja MIN	Korea	Seoul	COUP	2
Ms Samina MOHD VARIS	India	Bombay	MM	1
Mrs Mustari Ghouse MOHMED	India	Bombay	MM	1
Mr Abdul Shakoor MOIUDDIN KALWAL	India	Bombay	PDA	1
Mr Denis MURPHY	Philippines	Manila	COPE	2
Mr Utsman MURTOHDO	Indonesia	Bandung	HFH	2
Mr Hyo Woo NAH	Korea	Seoul	KCCP	2
Ms Laxmi Satyanarayan NAIDU	India	Bombay	MM	1
Mr Syamsuddin NAINGGOLAN	Indonesia	Jakarta	YPB	1
Mr Tetsuya NAKAMURA	Japan	Nara	NI	2
Mr Enrique ORTIZ	Mexico	Mexico City	HIC	3
Mr Ramzan QURAIISHI	Pakistan	Karachi	OPP	1
Mrs Hyon Moon PARK	Korea	Seoul	FEPS	1
Mr Kwwang YoI PARK	Korea	Seoul	FEPS	1
Mr Sei Won PARK	Korea	Seoul	KCCP	1
Ms Milagrosa Jordon PEREZ	Philippines			
Mr Minar PIMPLE	India	Bombay	YUVA	2
Ms Teodora QUINTOS	Philippines	Manila	UMASA	1
Ms Parween RAHMAN	Pakistan	Karachi	OPP	2
Mr Anwar RASHID	Pakistan	Karachi	OPP RTI	2
Mr Ranjit ROYCHOUDHURY	India	Bombay	CISRS	2
Sr Kalayaluck RUEKSAWANG	Thailand	Bombay	HDC	2
Mr Thaweesak SAENGARTHIT	Thailand	Bangkok	USDA	2
Mr Pratuan SAWADI	Thailand	Bangkok	HDC/UPCO	1
Mr Subhash Mahadev SAWANT	India	Bombay	SPARC	2
Ms Banoo SAYAD ISAQ	India	Bombay	MM	1
Ms Pduruchisti Noshir SETHNA	India	Bombay	SPARC	2
Mr Harry B. SIAHAAN	Indonesia	Jakarta	YPB	2
Mr Byong Nok SONG	Korea	Seoul	FEPS	1
Mr Surykant Shrirang SONTAKKE	India	Bombay	PROUD	1
Mr Ruangyuth TEERAVANICH	Thailand	Bangkok	NHA	2
Ms Phaitoon TUVINAN	Thailand	Bangkok	USDA	1

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>CITY</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
Mr Yuzo UCHIDA	Japan	Tokyo	Toy U.	2
Ms Teruko UEMURA	Japan	Nara	BLL	1
Mr Yoshiko UENO	Japan	Tokyo	UPCO	1
Sr Gertrude VAVINE	Papua N.G.	Lae	LSJ	2
Ms Luisita VENDIOLA	Philippines	Manila	SAMA SAMA	1
Ms Alpa VORA	India	Bombay	YUVA	2
Ms Kit Ping WAN	Hongkong		SOCO	2
Mr Yoshiaki WATANABE	Japan	Tokyo	UPCO	1
Mr Hery WINARYOKO	Indonesia	Bandung	HFH	1
Mrs Arphon WONGSANG	Thailand	Bangkok	FPPT	1
Mr Yoshihiko YAMAMOTO	Japan	Osaka	BLL	1

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CONTACT CENTERS

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
HONGKONG	(852)	(. = telephone country code)	
PHRA	Public Housing Residents Association		
SOCO	Society for Community Organization 52, Princess Margaret Road 3/Floor, Kln. Hongkong	(3) 713 9165/6	
THRA	Temporary Housing Residents Association		
INDIA	(9)		
CISRS	Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society		
NSDF	National Slum Dwellers Federation Janata Colony, Cheeta Camp Trombay BOMBAY 400 088	(22) 555 1535	
PDA	Pavement Dwellers Association		
PROUD	People's Responsible Organization for a United Dharavi R. No 11 New Siddarth E Chawl Committee Dharavi, Bombay 17		
SPARC	Society for Promotion of Area Resource Centers P.O. Box 9389 Bombay 400 008	(22) 89 6730	494211
UNNAYAN	36/1A, Garcha Road Calcutta 700 019	( ) 47 0162	
YUVA	Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action 8 GR. FL., 33L Mugbhat Cross Lane Bombay 400 004	(22) 38 9811	
MM	Mahila Milan Bombay		

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
INDONESIA	(62)		
HFH	Habitat for Humanity Jln Ahmad Yani No.416 Kandaga Building c/o Sangkuriang Jaya Sakti Bandung		
YPB	Yayasan Panca Bhakti Gg. Mesjid No.3 Kalibata Utara Mampang Jakarta 12740	(21)	
JAPAN	(81)		
BLL-A	Buraku Liberation League ASAKA KAIHO KAIKAN 1-4-62, Sumiyoshi-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka-fu 558	(6) 697-0971	697-9790
BLL-N	Buraku Liberation League NARAKEN KAIHO KAIKAN 1211-1, Daianji-cho, Nara-shi, Nara-ken 630	(742) 62-5111	62-5105
KHS	Kochi High School KOCHI-ken KYOUIKU CENTER 181, Otu, Kochi-shi, Kochi-ken, 781-51	(888) 66-3839	
NI	Nakamura Institute 101, Maison Gakuenmae, 3326-1 Nimyo-cho, Nara-shi, Nara-ken	(742) 47-4051	44-7875
TA	Tenants Association HIROBA HENSYU IINKAI 6-46-4, Higashi Nippori, Arakawa-ku, Tokyo	(3) 806-4840	807-5445
TAS	Tenants Association/Shinagawa SHINAGAWA-ku SYAKUTININ SYKAKKANIN KUMIAI 201, Sun-city 21 Building, 19-13, Togoshi Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 142	(3) 786-6047	788-6508

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
JPC	Justice and Peace Commission Machiya 4-21-3 Arakawa-ku Tokyo	(3) 809-1521	264-4946
	Mr. HAGIWARA GAKU 401, Sunrex, 2-29-9, Minami Otuka Toshima-ku, Tokyo 172	(3) 944-8388	
	Mr. UCHIDA YUZO TOYU UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE 2100 Kujirai, Nakanodai, Kawagoe-shi, Saitama-ken 350	(492) 31-1211	32-0981
KOREA	(82)		
CMCUP	Christian Medical Council for the Urban Poor 4th Floor, Franciscan Education Center 17 Jungdong, Joong-ku Seoul	(2) 779-3708	
COUP	Catholic Organization of the Urban Poor Marist Residence 95 Hapjung-dong Mapo-ku Seoul	(2) 332-9866	
FDCCC	Federation of Child Day-Care Centers 2nd Floor, 134 Ikse-dong, Jongno-ku, Seoul	(2) 749-0587	
FEPS	Federation of Evicted People in Seoul Seoul		
KAYA	Korean Association of Young Architects 303 Hansung Bldg., 76-6 Chungdam-dong, Kangnam-ku Seoul	(2)	
KCCP	Councils of Christian Urban Poor Mission in Korea Room 307, Christian Building 136-46 Yunchi-dong, Jongno-ku Seoul		

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<u>Organization</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
NFSV	National Federation of Street Vendors Seoul		
UCDL	Union of Construction Day-Laborers Seoul		
UPPC	(Seoul Archdiocese) Urban Poor Pastoral Commission Catholic Center, 3rd Floor 2-ga Myung-dong, Joong-ku Seoul		
UPRI	Urban Poor Research Institute Sogang University, ILM Bldg. 1 Sinsoodong, Mapoku Seoul 121-742	(2) 701 9004	702 0622
MALAYSIA	(60)		
CAP	Consumers' Association of Penang 87 Cantonment Road Penang	(4) 37 3511/ 3713	36 8106
PAKISTAN	(92)		
OPP	Orangi Pilot Project 26/1 Daulat House Orangi Town Karachi 41	(21)	
OPP RTI	Orangi Pilot Project - Research/Training Institute Same address as above		
OWC	11/E 670 Orangi Town		
ROHTAK	Anjuman Mamaran-a-Rohtak Qtr No.10/7-G Central Jacob Line Karachi 3		
URC	Urban Resource Center 66-1-K, Block-6 P.E.C.H.	43 4022	

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
<b>PAPUA NEW GUINEA</b>			
UT	University of Technology Dept. of Architecture & bldg. University of Technology PMB, Lae	43 4505	
LSJ	Little Sisters of Jesus Box 1286 Lae Morobe Province Papua New Guinea		
<b>PHILIPPINES (63)</b>			
CHHEDF	Center for Housing and Human Ecology Development 107, 13th Avenue, Cabao Quezon City Metro Manila	(2) 78-7539	521-7225
COPE	60 P. Poblete St. Project 4 Quezon City	(2) 721 5040	
FTB	Freedom to Build P.O. Box 64, Greenhills San Juan Metro Manila	(2) 62 2993/60 0884	
<b>THAILAND ((66)</b>			
ACHR	Asian Coalition for Housing Rights P.O. Box 24-74 Bangkok 10110 (Telex: 21257, ATTN HICA)	(2) 466 8906	381 158
BP	Bangkok Post 51 Soi Nopanas Sukumvit 101 Bangkok	(2) 233 8030	392 0439
CCOS	Coordinating Committee of Organized Slums 526 Soi Rong Boon Huey Kwang Bangkok 10310	(2) 255 1092	

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<u>Organization</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Fax</u>
HDC	Human Development Centre 3757/15 Soi 40 Sukhumvit Road Bangkok 101110	(2) 391 7981	
HSF	Human Settlements Foundation 128 Soi Panitchkul Sukhumvit 71 Bangkok 10110	(2) 392 0439	
KSDF	Klongtoey Slum Dwellers Federation 78/381 Artnarong Road Bangkok 10110	(2) 249 4880/3553	
NHA	National Housing Authority Bangkapf Bangkok 10240	(2) 377-1763	
USDA	United Slum Dwellers Association Day Care Center Bonkai Community, Rama IV St. Bangkok 10330	(2) 255-1092	
CANADA	Laurie Anne Boucher 4556 W 14th Vancouver BC V6 R 2Y4		
GERMANY	(49)		
MISEREOR	Postfach 1450 Mozartstrasse 9 5100 Aachen	(241) 442749	442188
MEXICO	(52)		
HIC	Habitat International Coalition Cordobanes 24 San Joe Insurgentes 03900, Mexico D.F.	(5) 651-6807	5453263

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EXECUTION AGENCIES

Organizer: Urban Poor Federation

Local Secretariat: Urban Poor Research Institute  
Sogang University, ILM Building  
1 Sinsoodong, Mapoku  
Seoul, 121-742 Korea  
Telephone: 02-7019004  
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P.O. Box 24-74, Klongchan, Bangkok  
Bangkok 10240, Thailand  
Telex: 21257 SPECCOTH  
Fax: 381158



### *The meaning of a house*

"A house is my center. It's where I do all my everyday things. It's my entire security. You are there if your house is there. If you have no house, you have no security, you are nothing. If I don't have a house, I have no reason to live, no aim. I am empty. And if I have nothing to look forward to, then I am like an animal. A house is not just a place to eat and sleep in; it gives me an identity. In my house I can socialize. I can ask my friends over and I can be proud. Without this, I am not human, but just an animal."

*Aziz Fatima, Orangi Town, Karachi*



### *We live by sharing*

"The purest form of culture and spirituality is always found among the poor. The poor share their rice, bread, work, joy and problems with one another. We live in Asia by sharing."

*Father Yong Ho Choo, Catholic Priest, Seoul*



### *Tears in my eyes*

"When I think of the urban poor, I have tears in my eyes and anger in my heart. If we bind together and unify as one body, and if we struggle for each other, and if we make efforts for all of us, then eventually we will succeed. And with our success, a free and liberated human world will exist. I am certain of that success, because all of you are here. Let us hope together and make a network with one another, so the world will hear our song of liberation. I welcome you."

*Ko Kwang Sung, urban poor leader, Seoul*

### *Small victories*

"We are pavement dwellers. Our main problem is demolition, because we have no legal status on the pavement. We began forming an organization of pavement dwellers. When the police come to tear down our huts, we stand in front of our houses and resist. Time after time the police have demolished our settlements. We didn't realize that the police could only legally demolish our plastic sheets and bamboo poles. But often they also took away our utensils and all our belongings. When we knew the law, we appealed to the court and we won our case. We won compensation worth 15,000 rupees. It was the first time we won. Though we were illegal occupants, we were able to prove ourselves."

*Laxmi Naidu, pavement settlement dweller, Bombay*

