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ВСЕМИРНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ
ЗДРАВООХРАНЕНИЯ
ЕВРОПЕЙСКОЕ РЕГИОНАЛЬНОЕ БЮРО



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ЕВРОПЕЙСКАЯ
ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)

**WORKSHOP ON SUSTAINABLE AND HEALTHY
URBAN TRANSPORT AND PLANNING
(16 – 18 November 2003, Nicosia, Cyprus)**

DRAFT PROGRAMME

I. CONTEXT

1. The workshop on sustainable and healthy urban transport and planning is organized by the Government of Cyprus in cooperation with the UNECE and WHO/Europe secretariats and in consultation with the Bureau of THE PEP Steering Committee, as part of the implementation of the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP). It contributes to the implementation of the key priorities for further action as contained in THE PEP Work Plan¹. The organization of the workshop was welcomed by THE PEP Steering Committee which discussed and endorsed the project proposal on “Elaboration and Implementation of Urban Plans for Transport Sustainable for Health and the Environment” at its first session, on 10-11 April 2003².

2. The workshop builds on the work already carried out under the follow-up to the UNECE Workshop on Encouraging Local Initiatives Towards Sustainable Consumption Patterns (Vienna, February 1998)³, and takes stock of the major international initiatives of relevance, notably, the WHO publication “Healthy Urban Planning – A WHO guide to planning for

¹ Document ECE/AC.21/2002/9- EUR/02/5040828/9 adopted by the 2nd High-level Meeting on 5 July 2002. All relevant documents are available on <http://www.unece.org/the-pep>

² Documents ECE/AC.21/2003/3- EUR/03/5040828/3: “Elaboration and Implementation of Urban Plans for Transport Sustainable for Health and the Environment”, and ECE/AC.21/2003/6- EUR/03/5040828/6: “Summary report of the first session of the Steering Committee for the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)”.

³ Further information on the joint initiative of the UNECE Committees on Environmental Policy and Human Settlements can be found at: <http://www.unece.org/env/europe/li.htm>

people”⁴ as well as the OECD–ECMT project on Implementing Urban Travel Policies and its follow-up action⁵. Account is taken in addition of the outcome of the 9th UNECE Conference on Urban and Regional Research on “Sustainable and Liveable Cities” (Leeds, 9-12 June 2002) and of the International Healthy Cities Conference “The Power of Local Action” (Belfast 19-22 October 2003).

II. OBJECTIVES

3. The main objective of the workshop is to review and discuss good practices as well as lessons learned on integrating environment and health considerations into urban transport and land-use planning through case-studies. The workshop shall discuss the existing strategies, policy and fiscal measures, awareness raising methods and integrated land-use planning processes that aim to widen travellers’ choices in urban areas and to shift demand towards more sustainable and healthy modes of urban transport (public transport, walking and cycling). The workshop shall elaborate on the challenges in implementing these measures, with a focus on the institutional coordination and policy integration between the different levels of administration (national, regional and local) as well as the different sectors concerned. In particular, barriers and solutions to strengthen the active involvement and participation of the authorities and other stakeholders representing the environment and health sectors in decision-making processes on urban land-use planning and transport will be addressed, with a view to identifying examples of good practices and processes, methods, policy and institutional settings that facilitate this participation and integration.

4. The workshop will aim, moreover, at pointing out the specific problems of the countries in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central-Asia and at identifying the particular sub-regional issues to be tackled further. The workshop proceedings, together with the case studies discussed at the workshop, will be made available and widely disseminated through THE PEP Clearing House, to the extent possible, also in Russian. If deemed necessary, the Cyprus workshop could be followed-up by a second workshop concentrating on the specific sub-regional issues.

5. Furthermore, in accordance with the decision of THE PEP Steering Committee, the appropriateness of developing guidelines on the integration of environmentally sound and

⁴ World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe Healthy Urban Planning - a WHO guide to planning for people H. Barton and C. Tsourou Editors; London: Spon Press 2000 . More information on the WHO Healthy Cities and urban governance at www.euro.who.int/healthy-cities

⁵ The findings of the project were approved by the ECMT Ministerial Council in Lisbon in May 2001 together with series of follow-up actions. See “Implementing Sustainable Urban Transport Policies, Key Messages for Governments” at <http://www1.oecd.org/cem/topics/urban/index.htm>

healthy local transport with sustainable land-use planning shall be reassessed at the second session of the Committee, preliminarily scheduled for 29-30 March 2004. The conclusions of the workshop should contain recommendations to the Steering Committee on the follow-up action to be taken.

6. Finally, the outcome of the workshop should also be analysed in the light of the series of workshops on “Implementing Sustainable Urban Travel Strategies” which are being held under the framework of the ECMT⁶. The objective of these workshops is to test, disseminate and promote the findings and recommendations of the joint ECMT and OECD project carried out during 1998-2001, and which were also presented at the ECMT Ministerial Council in Lisbon in May 2001. The follow-up actions that were agreed on by the Ministers in Lisbon included the development of a “Guide to Good Practice” for National Governments on how to establish a supportive policy and institutional framework and establish incentives for sustainable travel in urban areas. Among the follow-up options to be recommended to THE PEP Steering Committee, the possibilities for close cooperation with the ECMT and for contribution to the preparation of the mandated Guide should be considered.

⁶ The first of the ECMT regional workshops is to be held in Washington DC on 5-7 November 2003, and is expected to be followed by a workshop in the Russian Federation in 2004. The ECMT is also organizing a round table discussion on implementation issues in the context of the CODATU Conference in April 2004 in Bucharest.

III. DRAFT PROGRAMME

Sunday, 16 November

Study tour (Nicosia- Limassol- Pafos - Troodos mountains) (09.00 - 18.00)

Informal reception at 20.30 hrs.

Monday, 17 November

1. Opening of the Workshop

(09.00 –9.30)

The representatives of the host country as well as the UNECE and WHO/Europe secretariats will make opening statements. The Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) as well as other relevant work carried out in particular by the UNECE, WHO and OECD-ECMT will be presented briefly.

2. Introductory session: Sustainable and healthy urban transport patterns and land-use planning

(09.30-10.30)

The introductory session consists of a brief review of the prevailing urban transport patterns and trends in the UNECE – WHO/Europe region, as well as of the driving forces behind them, including economic, demographic, environmental, health, labour and social factors, spatial development, technological and cultural/lifestyle trends. The implications of these trends and patterns for the environment and quality of life, particularly with regard to safety, security, human health, air quality, social integration will also be considered.

Presentations of discussion papers by Mr. Roger Torode (International Association of Public Transport, UITP) and Mr. Hugh Barton (WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Cities and Urban Policy, Co-author of the “Healthy Urban Planning” Guidelines).

3. Implementing measures for sustainable and healthy urban transport and planning with the emphasis on promoting public transport, walking and cycling

The participants will discuss the various measures taken for achieving urban transport and patterns of urban development that best contribute to sustainable and healthy living conditions in urban areas, with the aim of reducing congestion, accidents and health and environmental problems related to air pollution and noise, as well as increasing the health benefits of physical exercise through ensuring safe conditions for walking and cycling.

A short discussion paper will be presented on each of the sub-items below, followed by case studies that illustrate relevant good practices as well as lessons learned in cities of the UNECE and WHO/Europe region. (The template for the case studies is contained in the annex to this document). After a general discussion, the rapporteur for the item will sum up the discussion.

The institutional coordination and policy integration aspects in the implementation process shall be addressed under each item.

(a) Integrated urban planning (10.30-12.00)

Land-use planning strategies that reduce the need for mobility and allow for the development of alternatives to road transport taking into account environmental and health considerations, and their integration with other aspects of urban governance and policy development

Presentation of a discussion paper by Mr. Michael Kyrakides, Department of Town Planning and Housing, Ministry of Interior, Cyprus followed by city case studies:

- *Sandes (Norway) (Walking and cycling, definition of urban spaces by children)*
- *Nicosia (Cyprus) Master Plan.*

(b) Policy instruments and demand management techniques (12.00-13.30)

Policy measures and demand management techniques in use for inducing more sustainable and healthy urban transport patterns and demand for transport, involving development of public transport systems and nodes, mixed-use development (i.e. promotion of intermodal transport systems, park and ride, etc.), reallocation of road space to public transport and people (car free zones, pedestrianization), parking policies, access management (traffic calming and control), employer mobility plans, car sharing and telecommuting, etc.

Presentation of a discussion paper by Mr. Eric Ponthieu, (European Commission, DG Research, Member of the EU Working Group on Sustainable Urban Transport) followed by city case studies.

Lunch offered by the hosts (13.30-15.00)

(c) Pricing and fiscal measures (15.00-16.30)

Pricing incentives for sustainable and healthy urban transport and planning (e.g. additional taxes on the purchase, licensing and use of private vehicles; local fuel taxation, tolls, road or congestion pricing, parking charges and reducing the costs for the more sustainable options, such as public transport by municipal subsidy supported by local taxation)

Presentation of a discussion paper by Mr. Andrea Ricci, ISIS (Istituto di Studi per l'Integrazione dei Sistemi, Rome) followed by city case studies.

(d) Raising awareness on health and environmental impacts of urban traffic; (16.30-18.00)

Information and education programmes that focus in particular on safety, security and health aspects in the urban environment; involving questions on the availability of information, targets and indicators for healthy and sustainable urban transport, and use of these tools to assess projects, plans and policies and monitor progress. Use of assessment procedures (e.g. SEA, EIA, HIA) as means to raise awareness and make the environmental and health effects of transport and land-use policies explicit will also be addressed.

Presentation of discussion papers by Ms. Leah Jans Lanfont, (WHO Healthy City Network) and Ms. Karen Vancluysen, (ACCESS EUROCITIES for a New Mobility Culture) followed by city case studies.

Official reception at 20.30 hrs

Tuesday, 18 November

4. Institutional co-ordination and co-operation (09.30-12.30)

The development as well as the effective implementation of measures for sustainable and healthy urban transport and planning require timely and coordinated involvement of all the relevant authorities dealing with transport, environment, health and spatial planning. Furthermore, although the cities have the prime responsibility for policy and action at the local level, a more holistic view of the urban problems and an integrated approach to their solution necessitates identification of appropriate forms of action and enabling policies at the regional, national and international levels. Owing to the difficulties experienced by many countries of the region, the workshop shall elaborate on the challenges in the institutional coordination and policy integration in implementing the measures discussed the previous day. In particular, barriers and solutions to strengthen the active involvement and participation of the representatives of the

environment, health and other relevant sectors in decision-making processes on urban transport and land-use planning will be addressed, with a view to identifying examples of good practices and processes, methods, policy and institutional settings that facilitate this participation and integration. Both the “horizontal” (i.e. related to inter-sectoral co-operation at the urban level) and “vertical” aspects (i.e. related to the interaction between different levels of government) will be addressed.

Discussion papers by Ms. Mary Crass (European Conference of Ministers of Transport, ECMT) and by Mr. Hugh Barton (WHO Collaborating Centre for Healthy Cities and Urban Policy, Co-author of the “Healthy Urban Planning” Guidelines) followed by city case studies.

- (a) **Legislative frameworks**
Role of national framework policies /strategies, impact assessment (EIA, SEA, HIA) requirements and other legislation in facilitating integrated decision making on transport planning and investments;
- (b) **Institutional arrangements**
Horizontal (inter-sectoral) and vertical (among different levels of government) institutional arrangements for integrated decision-making; subsidiarity issues;
- (c) **Information, communication and participation requirements,**
Accessibility and availability of the information, involvement of interest groups and general public into decision-making.

Lunch offered by the hosts 12.30-14.00

5. Concluding session (14.00 – 16.00)

- (a) **Summarizing the conclusions of the previous sessions**
 - (b) **Summarizing the specific problems of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia**
 - (c) **Recommendations on the follow-up actions to be taken.**
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