

**REPORT OF THE AD-HOC SESSION OF THE EXTENDED BUREAU
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TRANSPORT, HEALTH AND
ENVIRONMENT PAN-EUROPEAN PROGRAMME (THE PEP)**

29 August 2008, Rome

1. The Bureau of THE PEP Steering Committee held an ad-hoc session on 29 August 2008 at the World Health Organization European Centre for Environment and Health in Rome. The objective of the meeting was to further preparations for the Third High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (3HLM) to be held on 22-23 January 2009 in Amsterdam. The Bureau also considered a draft note on THE PEP Centre of Excellence (secretariat note no. 2). It postponed discussion on financing options for THE PEP (secretariat note no. 3) and preparations for the Moldova Workshop (secretariat note no.4) until the next Bureau meeting, which would be held on 2 October 2008 in the Hague. The meeting would be preceded by an on-site visit on 1 October to the Felix Meritis European Centre for Arts, Culture and Science in the Hague, the conference centre for the 3HLM.
2. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Robert Thaler, in the absence of the Steering Committee Chair Mr. Vadim Donchenko. The following Bureau members attended: Mr. Robert Thaler (Austria), Mr. François André (Belgium), Mr. Jiri Bendl (Czech Republic), Mr. Mario Fruianu (Netherlands), and Mr. Nigel Dotchin (United Kingdom). Ms. Brigit Staatsen attended from RIVM (Netherlands).
3. Ms. Francesca Racioppi, Ms. Sonja Kahlmeier (WHO) and Ms. Brinda Wachs (UNECE, Environment, Housing and Land Management Division) participated on behalf of THE PEP secretariat.

A. Preparations for Third High-level Meeting (3HLM)

4. Mr. Fruianu confirmed that the Ministry of Transport of the Netherlands would be hosting the 3HLM. He presented a draft programme for the two days, which included slots for key note speakers, workshops representing the three sectors and debates or panel discussions. He informed the Bureau that the Netherlands would produce a film for the opening day, based on existing footage of urban transport themes and solutions.
5. The Felix Meritis conference centre had 5 rooms available for the 3HLM. The main hall could hold 400 people, with balconies used for translators. There were 2 rooms that could be used for breakout sessions or workshops and one “war room” for the secretariat. There were also several small rooms that could be used for bilateral meetings or negotiations, as well as a separate room for the press. Additional rooms were available for side events (one for 150 people and one for 80 people), poster sessions and exhibiting of related technologies or materials. Governments, NGOs or private companies who wished to exhibit should arrange with the organizers and the secretariat in advance. .
6. The Bureau requested the secretariat to contact the International Union of Public Transport (UITP) and other PEP-related members of civil society to ascertain their interest in holding an NGO forum as a side event to the conference. Other organizations included: Child-Friendly Cities Network, Energie Citée (organizers of Mobility Week), Healthy Cities, ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability), PRONET (European Commission) and Transport and Environment (T&E). A separate side event could be organized as a youth forum, drawing on organizations such as Youth Network (under CEHAPE). The sub-theme of both side events would be: “Think Globally; Act Locally.” The Extended Bureau would consider the requests and interest of civil society at its next meeting. The side events could be focused on a specific theme or project that the organizations may wish to showcase, to highlight a specific topic in the programme, or to underline an action point for policymakers in the

outcome document. The possibility for an excursion, a relay race to promote the themes or a bicycle press conference would be explored.

7. The Netherlands would hire a separate organization to handle the logistics of the conference, including registration, technical matters, security and administration. WHO and UNECE would confirm whether and how many people would be needed from their respective administrative personnel. Individual letters of invitation needed for visas would be done separately by WHO and UNECE but travel arrangements would be handled by the Netherlands.

8. The Bureau discussed how to include local communities, private citizens, the private sector and the research communities in the HLM process. UNECE was in the process of organizing a design competition with the International School of Geneva that would include community outreach and environmental education, i.e. informing students about sustainable urban environments and producing a poster and exhibition for the HLM. This would be highlighted in a UNECE press release.

9. It was agreed to alert the general public to the issues of the HLM on THE PEP website, once the draft programme was agreed. Private sector initiatives and research results should be on issues directly linked to the priorities of THE PEP or the action points for policymakers in the outcome document. NGO representatives may also wish to act as rapporteurs for sessions of the HLM or chair the debates. Following the next meeting of the Bureau, the secretariat would communicate with focal points to convey rules and guidelines for side events and exhibiting.

10. The next meeting of the Extended Bureau (2 October) will be held in the Hague. The meeting will be preceded by an on-site visit to the conference centre in Amsterdam by the secretariat and the organizers on 1 October.

B. Draft programme of 3HLM

11. Mr. Fruianu presented the revised draft programme for the HLM. Austria and Germany have thus far expressed interest in attending. The secretariat would communicate with interested countries and organizations to find the optimal place to fit in the programme (e.g. during debates, round-table discussions, plenary, workshops, breakout groups or side events). It was agreed the first day (22 January) would be more technical, while the second day (23 January) would be more policy-oriented (i.e., intended for Ministers).

12. The Bureau discussed ideas for key note speakers, including from Ministries, NGOs, academia and the private sector. Other ideas included: the Deputy Minister of Environment of the Czech Republic to speak on its policies under the EU presidency and a mayor of a city in a non-EU country, who could be contacted through Healthy Cities or UNEP.

13. Possible session chairs could include host country ministers or Bureau members of THE PEP or PEP Focal Points, in the case a minister could not be present throughout the event. Vadim Donchenko (Russian Federation) would be present, as Chairman of THE PEP Steering Committee. Additional sessions and debates could be led by former chairs of THE PEP, such as Robert Thaler (Austria), Francois André (Belgium) or Zaal Loomatze (Georgia). Communications could be handled by, e.g. Franklin Apfel (WHO). Other speakers/chairs/rapporteurs could include: Martin Kroon, ex-Steering Committee member.

14. The Bureau of the UNECE's relevant multilateral environmental agreements (i.e. Aarhus, ESPOO and LRTAP) should be informed about the 3HLM, requesting suggestions for key speakers/rapporteurs/chairs and to ensure the appropriate liaison is made with the Ministries of Environment of Parties to the conventions. The Bureau may also note that the upcoming Moldova

workshop on Sustainable and Healthy Urban Transport (29-30 October 2008, Chisinau) would feature both the LRTAP and ESPOO Conventions and could provide an impetus for further ratifications and implementation of these two conventions in EECCA/SEE.

15. Regarding communication, the Netherlands will set up a dedicated website once the preliminary programme was agreed. Three posters will be produced by the Netherlands, as well as a logo and a brochure with the final programme. Press activities will be planned in November, including a one-day press conference on the event. Depending on the quality, one of the designs from the drawing competition at the International School in Geneva could be produced as a poster by the Netherlands. The UNECE would contact its new press officer, Charlotte Griffiths to inquire about in-house promotion of the 3HLM.

C. THE PEP Centre of excellence

16. The Bureau discussed the draft concept paper (secretariat note no.2) on ideas for THE PEP Centre of Excellence. The Centre would promote policy integration through a dedicated office and outsourced expertise, develop and support implementation of THE PEP activities and promote outreach to other regions of the world. The Bureau welcomed the idea, but was hesitant to propose the setting up of a new institution or body. It was suggested that a centre could be established by a core group of 3-5 interested countries. The centre would afford a greater sense of ownership on the part of countries and could ensure funding devoted to specific projects. It was proposed to incorporate these comments into a revised, shorter version of the note for discussion at the next meeting of the Bureau.

D. Workshop on Sustainable and Healthy Urban Transport, 29-30 Oct 2008, Chisinau, Moldova

17. The Bureau discussed the draft agenda for the workshop (secretariat note no. 4), including the programme, invitation letters and EECCA/SEE-related inputs to the 3HLM. It was noted that the workshop should be interactive, addressing the specific problems of that sub-region, e.g. urban air pollution and accessibility of transport. The secretariat was urged to send materials in advance to allow for adequate preparation.

E. Next meetings and other business

18. The next meeting of the Extended Bureau would be on 2 October 2008 in the Hague, preceded by a site visit to the Felix Meritis Conference Centre in Amsterdam on 1 October from 17:30-18:30. Bureau members wishing to visit the site would be expected to arrive in Amsterdam around 14:00 on 1 October. There would be an informal dinner in the Hague, with the meeting of the Extended Bureau on 2 October. A subsequent meeting would be held on 8-9 December 2008 in Rome from 14:00 on 8 December to 16:00 on 9 December. The final meeting of the Extended Bureau will take place in advance of the 3HLM on the afternoon of 21 January 2008 in Amsterdam..

ANNEX

DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR 3RD HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON TRANSPORT, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

22 JANUARY: CHOICES FOR THE FUTURE		
REGISTRATION		08:30-09:30
WELCOME BY NL (TRANSPORT MINISTRY), WHO AND UNECE		09:30-10:00
SESSION 1: THE CHALLENGES FOR THE PAN-EUROPEAN REGION		
PICTURE THE IN THE PAN-EUROPEAN REGION: MOVIE (NL)		09:50-10:20
FOOD FOR THOUGHT: KEYNOTE SPEECHES ON THE CHALLENGES		10:20-10:30
THE PEP GOALS, ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES		10:30-11:30
COFFEE		11:30-12:00
DEBATE: HOW SUSTAINABLE IS TRANSPORT IN THE PAN-EUROPEAN REGION TODAY?		12:00-13:00
LUNCH BUFFET		13:00-14:00
SESSION 2: LINKING THE KNOWLEDGE		
2 KEYNOTE SPEECHES TO SET THE SCENE		14:00-14:30
PRESENTATION ON THE PEP TOOL BOX		14:30-15:00
GOOD PRACTICES HEALTHY PEOPLE	GOOD PRACTICES EFFICIENT TRANSPORT	GOOD PRACTICES SUSTAINABLE LIVING AREAS

COFFEE			16:00-16:30
DRAFT THE PEP 'VISION AND OUTCOME DOCUMENT AND DISCUSSION'			16:30-18:00
DINNER			19:30-21:30
23 JANUARY: SOLUTIONS AND BEST PRACTICES			
SESSION 3: THE POLICY CHOICES			
KEYNOTE SPEECHES BY MINISTERS ON POLICY CHOICES			09:30-10:00
WORKSHOP: HEALTHY PEOPLE	WORKSHOP: EFFICIENT TRANSPORT	WORKSHOP: SUSTAINABLE LIVING AREAS	10:30-11:30
COFFEE			11:30-12:00
DEBATE: HOW DO WE MAKE THE RIGHT POLICY CHOICES?			12:00-13:00
LUNCH BUFFET			13:00-14:00
SESSION 4: MAKING THE FUTURE			
EC GREEN PAPER: TOWARDS A NEW CULTURE FOR URBAN MOBILITY			14:00-14:30
DEBATE: WHAT CAN WE DO INTERNATIONALLY TO IMPLEMENT ACTIONS AT LOCAL LEVEL?			14:30-15:30
FINAL 'VISION AND OUTCOME DOCUMENT': LAST DISCUSSION AND ADOPTION			15:30-16:00
CLOSURE SPEECHES			16:00-16:30
MARKET SPACE: ROOM FOR POSTERS, BROCHURES AND LEAFLETS			09:00-17:00