

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of reports of the Steering Committee on its
fourteenth session and reports of the
Bureau on its thirtieth and thirty-first meetings**

**Thirty-first Meeting of the Bureau of the Steering Committee of the Pan-European Programme on
Transport, Health and Environment (THE PEP)**

4-5 July 2017, Copenhagen (Denmark)

I. INTRODUCTION AND PARTICIPATION

1. The 31st meeting of the Bureau of THE PEP Steering Committee was held on 4-5 July 2017 in Copenhagen (Denmark), hosted by WHO/Europe. The meeting was attended by representatives from: Austria, France, Georgia, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia and Switzerland.
2. THE PEP Secretariat was represented by Mr. Nicholas Bonvoisin and Ms. Virginia Fuse (UNECE Environment Division), Mr. George Georgiadis (UNECE Sustainable Transport Division), Ms. Francesca Racioppi, Ms. Nino Sharashidze and Ms. Oana Arseni (WHO/Europe).
3. The Meeting was chaired by THE PEP Chairperson, Mr. Ion Salaru (Republic of Moldova).
4. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda as proposed by the Secretariat and the report of the 30th meeting of THE PEP Bureau, held on 9 November 2016. The Bureau also adopted the report of the 14th session of the Steering Committee of THE PEP held on 7-9 November 2016 (secretariat notes 02 and 04).

II. IMPLEMENTING THE PARIS DECLARATION

National Transport, Health and Environment Action Plans (NTHEAPs)

5. The Secretariat informed the Bureau about recent activities to support the development of NTHEAPs in the UNECE countries. In particular, a capacity-building workshop took place in Serbia in March 2017 with the financial support of Switzerland. The Serbian delegate briefed the Bureau on the objectives and outcomes of the Belgrade workshop.
6. The objective of the workshop, which brought together 20 representatives from different sectors, was to share good practices undertaken by other countries and to support the Serbian authorities to start internal procedures to develop an NTHEAP.
7. Countries, including France and Switzerland, shared their experiences in creating NTHEAPs. The WHO Secretariat presented a step-by-step manual for policymakers and planners on developing NTHEAPs.
8. Based on the discussions, Serbia considered developing a regional (sub-national) action plan (involving one or two regions) to begin with. For this purpose, Serbia had established a working

group with different stakeholders. France offered to host a working group for further sharing of French experiences.

9. The Bureau welcomed the development of the Serbian activities and expressed an interest in seeing further results.

THE PEP Partnerships

10. **Cycling:** The representative from Austria presented the first draft of the Pan-European Masterplan for Cycling Promotion (information note 01) and updated the Bureau on the development process. The process involves participants from 24 countries, with several of them drafting different chapters on a voluntary basis, as well as the Secretariat with direct responsibility for chapter 3 (UNECE Sustainable Transport Division) and chapter 7 (WHO/Europe). The current draft of the Masterplan addresses 10 topics and includes 30 recommendations.
11. The Bureau welcomed the information and invited the members of the Partnership on Cycling to develop a potential political input to the Declaration of the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (Vienna, 2019), which could draw from the objectives and key recommendations of the Masterplan. The Declaration could also propose the adoption of the Masterplan.
12. The Bureau also recommended inviting cities and city-related organizations and networks (WHO European Healthy Cities Network, European cities and regions networking for innovative transport solutions (POLIS Network), EUROCITIES, etc.) to join the Partnership.
13. Comments by THE PEP Bureau on the Masterplan were expected before September, ahead of the next meeting of the Partnership, which will take place in Mannheim, Germany, on 22 September 2017, back to back with the International Cycling Conference (ICC) (19-21 September 2017). The second draft of the Masterplan is expected to be produced before the 15th Session of the Steering Committee.
14. **Eco-driving:** The Austrian delegate updated the Bureau on the recent and planned activities of the Partnership on Eco-driving. He mentioned in particular that within the Partnership it is planned to elaborate THE PEP Guidelines for Eco-driving, including: elements for a certification scheme for trainers; Eco-driving training programmes for driving schools; and Eco-driving training courses for companies and private drivers.
15. The Bureau proposed that THE PEP Guidelines for Eco-driving be presented at the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment.
16. Bureau members also agreed that the activities under the Partnership could be presented as a contribution to the aims of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and to the implementation of the European Union Directive 2012/27 on energy efficiency. As such, the activities could get additional visibility and be promoted more easily within member States and internationally.
17. **Jobs in green and healthy transport:** The Secretariat updated the Bureau on the related publication (“Riding towards the green economy: cycling and green jobs”) that should be finalized in time for the next Steering Committee meeting. The delegate of France expressed readiness to support further work in this area.

18. The Bureau proposed to develop the Partnership activities taking into account relevant work undertaken by other organizations active in the area, such as United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Organisation for Public Transport (UITP) and International Transport Forum (ITF).
19. The Russian delegate underlined the importance of broadening the coverage of green and healthy jobs in the transport sector beyond cycling.
20. Several members of the Bureau agreed that it was important to take into account the social dimension of green and healthy transport, to avoid potential conflicts between the preservation of jobs and the greening of transport, given that more efficiency in transport operations may lead to the loss of jobs. For example, in recent years, the introduction of automated driving of rail transport (e.g., metros in Copenhagen, Paris and Moscow) has had an increasing impact on the labour market.
21. The Bureau highlighted the need to review and agree on a clear definition of green and healthy jobs in transport as a first step to develop the next phase of the work of the Partnership.
22. It was proposed to set up an expert working group consisting of interested member States, international organizations and academic and research institutions, under the Partnership on green jobs and possibly with French support. The 15th session of THE PEP Steering Committee could provide further guidance on this matter.
23. **TRANSDANUBE:** The Bureau member from Austria updated the Bureau on the activities implemented under the subregional TRANSDANUBE project, as well as a follow-up project “Transdanube.Pearls – Network for Sustainable Mobility along the Danube”. The kick-off meeting of this two-and-a-half-year project was held in Serbia in February 2017, back-to-back with the Partnership meeting on Cycling, and was attended by 150 participants from 10 countries.
24. The project engages the relevant ministries in the subregion and links the national authorities to the subregional and local actors in order to establish a network of destinations committed to sustainable mobility in tourism – the “Transdanube.Pearls”. Being part of this network would increase the visibility of the participating destinations, offering visitors the possibility to travel along the Danube with sustainable means of transport.
25. The network would facilitate the cooperation of stakeholders at different administrative levels in the mobility and tourism sector. Common standards and appropriate organizational structures would secure the operation of the network beyond this project’s lifetime.
26. **Health Economic Assessment Tools (HEAT):** The Secretariat informed the Bureau that policymakers of the member States would soon be provided with a significantly updated HEAT. In particular, with support of the European Union-funded project on Physical Activity through Sustainable Transport Approaches (PASTA), new modules on mortality from air pollution and road traffic injury were developed, along with a module to estimate changes in carbon emissions resulting from modal shifts towards cycling and walking. The new modules are intended to be user-friendly, consistent with the HEAT approach. The Secretariat would continue to improve the HEAT in line with new scientific developments. The new HEAT was to be demonstrated at THE PEP Relay Race, taking place in Mannheim on 21 September 2017 within the framework of ICC.
27. The Bureau took note of and welcomed the forthcoming modules. Several Bureau members underlined the importance of using the most updated statistical data to get realistic results.

28. France mentioned that, for big cities, HEAT could be very interesting to assess the result of city policies in decarbonizing by using a common method as, until now, different cities have tended to develop their own tools and approaches independently from each other.
29. The Russian delegate suggested using HEAT for educational purposes at university level.
30. **Partnership on integration of transport, health and environment concerns in spatial and urban planning:** The Bureau members from France and the Russian Federation reported on the achievements and planned activities under the Partnership on Priority Goal 5.
31. The main achievement of the Partnership was the signing a memorandum of understanding between the University of Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines (France), the Moscow Automobile and Road Construction Technical University and the Scientific and Research Institute of Motor Transport (Russian Federation). The Ministry of Transport of France was actively involved in the project, and a master's programme was in the process of being developed.
32. Three workshops were held under the Partnership in 2017 on different aspects of sustainable transport systems in Russian cities. The next workshop "City and Transport: Safety, Efficiency, Sustainability" was being organized in partnership with United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and was to take place in Khabarovsk on 4-5 September 2017. The Bureau members were invited to take part in the workshop.
33. The Bureau member from the Russian Federation also informed the Bureau about five more conferences planned in 2018. The Bureau member from France added that other French universities could join the Partnership.
34. The Bureau congratulated France and the Russian Federation on progress achieved by this partnership.
35. The Bureau also supported a proposal by the Secretariat to prepare a publication on good practices in integrated transport and urban planning. Good examples could be provided by Norway and Switzerland, and other examples could be available through the work conducted by POLIS Network, and project such as PASTA, SPACE and CIVITAS. This publication could also be a contribution of THE PEP to the European Environment and Health Process and to the implementation of Ostrava Declaration on Environment and Health with respect to "supporting the efforts of European cities and regions to become healthier, more inclusive, safer resilient and sustainable".

THE PEP Relay Race

36. The Secretariat presented the programme of the ICC and THE PEP relay race to be held in Mannheim during the period from 19-21 September 2017 (information note 02). Under the overarching theme of "bridging the gap", the event would explore the challenges and opportunities of translating knowledge and experience from research into practice and policy making – and vice versa. Bureau welcomed that, as part of the relay race, a city-level application of For Future Inland Transport Systems (ForFITS) for the city of Mannheim was under preparation.
37. The Bureau welcomed the proposed content and structure of the meeting. The Secretariat would work closely with the Federal Environment Agency of Germany to finalize the programme and enable an interactive nature for the workshop.

38. The Russian Federation and Austria presented the progress made following the workshops in Petrozavodsk and Vladivostok (Russian Federation) and Vienna.
39. The Bureau thanked the representatives from the Russian Federation and Austria for hosting the relay races, and for their presentations, and the Secretariat for the update.
40. The Secretariat updated the Bureau about future relay races. The Bureau members from the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation expressed their interest to host a THE PEP relay-race workshops in 2018.
41. The Secretariat recalled the offer by Ukraine to organize a workshop in Lviv. The Secretariat further informed the Bureau that initial discussions have been held with Sustrans (Scotland) regarding a possible interest to host a relay race of THE PEP in Scotland. These discussions will have to be continued with both Sustrans and the Scottish Government that supports Sustrans' work.
42. Taking into account the limited capacity of the Secretariat to support two relay races per year, it was recommended to follow-up on all of these countries' offers and make a decision on which proposals to accept prior to the Steering Committee session. It was also noted that THE PEP relay races in 2018 might offer an opportunity to hold back-to-back meetings of the extended Bureau, should there be a need for additional preparatory meetings ahead of the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment.

THE PEP/CEREMA study on road signs and signals for pedestrians and cyclists

43. The Secretariat updated the Bureau on the follow-up to THE PEP/CEREMA study on road signs and signals for pedestrians and cyclists. This resulted in the formulation by CEREMA of specific recommendations (information note 04) for amendments to the Vienna Convention on road signs and signals for further consideration and, eventually, submission to the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety or its group of experts, as invited by the 2014 Paris Declaration. Considering that recommendations proposing changes to the Vienna Convention need to be put forward by Contracting Parties to the Conventions and it is therefore important to secure their support to the proposed amendments, it was agreed that the CEREMA proposal, following consultations with other Contracting Parties, would be submitted to THE PEP Steering Committee for further consideration and support, before proceeding with the proposal submission to the Working Party on Road Traffic Safety and its group of experts.

THE PEP Academy

44. The Secretariat presented a proposed workplan for THE PEP Academy for 2017-2018 (secretariat note 05). The Bureau recommended to revise the document for the Steering Committee with the updated information from France and the Russian Federation in the context of the Partnership on integration of transport, health and environment concerns in spatial and urban planning and ForFITS.
45. The Secretariat presented an outline of the forthcoming publication on “Promoting Walking and Cycling: a brief for policymakers” (information note 03), the purpose of which is to provide the most recent evidence of linkages between cycling, walking and health, together with the environmental and economic benefits of cycling and walking, to support the active engagement of policymakers from different sectors in the promotion of active mobility and livable, smart cities.

46. This publication was supported by the Federal Health Agency of Switzerland. The study will be presented to the next Steering Committee meeting and will be part of the background documentation for the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment. The Bureau welcomed and supported the outline of the study.

Monitoring progress towards the implementation of THE PEP Priority Goals

47. The Secretariat presented proposed revisions to the annual questionnaire for reporting on the implementation of THE PEP in 2017 (secretariat note 06). A review was conducted to make it more targeted and identify areas that could be revised to reduce the efforts required to complete and analyze the questionnaire.
48. Proposed revisions were based on recommendations and lessons learned from previous reporting cycles. The main changes were turning open-text questions to multiple-choice ones.
49. The Bureau provided comments and requested the Secretariat to produce an updated questionnaire based on those comments. The Bureau further requested the Secretariat to send the questionnaire early enough to ensure sufficient time for focal points to coordinate information collection from other authorities involved in THE PEP implementation.
50. The Secretariat took note of the need to send out the questionnaire allowing countries to have at least one month to respond.
51. The Bureau asked the secretariat to send the questionnaire by email to focal points as in previous years.

III. TOWARDS THE FIFTH HIGH LEVEL MEETING ON TRANSPORT, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

52. The Bureau member from Austria reported to the Bureau on the preparation of the Fifth High-level Meeting. The High-level Meeting was expected to take place during the period from April-June 2019.
53. The Bureau members emphasized the importance of having concrete political outputs from the High-level Meeting to engage more high-level representatives. One of the key outputs should be the Pan-European Masterplan for Cycling Promotion, together with concrete, high-visibility products coming from the other Partnerships.
54. The Bureau members discussed how to achieve higher visibility and greater political momentum for THE PEP. Decarbonization of transport by 2050 could be one of the major themes. Decarbonization and ongoing changes in mobility, which are not only environmental but also health-related, are in many agendas globally and THE PEP could focus on these. New technology, digitalization and active and smart mobility could be other interesting themes.
55. The Bureau discussed the possibility for the High-level Meeting to give a mandate to define the possible need for and scope and contents of a legal instrument on active mobility and cycling. Several members of the Bureau noted that even if there was a niche for a convention on cycling, it would be challenging reach consensus on developing and adopting a new legally-binding document.

56. The Bureau suggested developing a concept note on the possible outcomes of the High-level Meeting and its organization, to be submitted to the Steering Committee.
57. The Chair thanked the Bureau members for the constructive brainstorming.
58. As part of the preparations for the High-level Meeting, a number of communication materials and publications will be prepared. The Secretariat proposed an outline for the publication on THE PEP Partnerships (secretariat note 08) that provides an overview of the Partnerships, their goals and achievements. The publication could be an additional communication tool to hand out at meetings and events.
59. The Bureau welcomed the outline of the proposed publication on THE PEP Partnerships, its content and goals. Other supporting publications could include ones on green jobs, a brochure “from Paris to Vienna”, and a compendium on good mobility practices in cities. A publication on THE PEP vis-a-vis the Sustainable Development Goals would also provide useful background.

IV. COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION

60. The Secretariat informed the Bureau on the outcomes of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health held in Ostrava, Czech Republic, from 13 to 15 June 2017, including THE PEP Side Event “Scaling up active mobility in Europe: THE PEP from Paris 2014 to Vienna 2019” (information note 07).
61. The Bureau congratulated Mr. Thaler (Austria) on his chairmanship of the European Environment and Health Task Force and the successful outcomes of the Ostrava Conference and thanked him for his support for THE PEP.
62. The Bureau welcomed the information on the Ministerial meeting celebrating the 70th Anniversary of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee, which was held in Geneva on 21 February 2017. The Meeting brought together close to 40 Ministers and Deputy Ministers of Transport and the European Union Transport Commissioner, alongside participants from 90 countries, including 45 non-UNECE countries. THE PEP was actively promoted during the Conference and was included in the Ministerial resolution.
63. The Chair presented various communication opportunities for THE PEP in 2018 (secretariat note 09).
64. The Bureau was also informed by the Bureau member from Austria about the plans to promote THE PEP during the Austrian Presidency of the European Union. One of the opportunities to highlight THE PEP and the Fifth High-level Meeting could be in Graz on 29-30 October 2018, at the informal consultation with the Council of the Ministers of Environment. A preparatory meeting was expected to take place on 11-13 July 2018 in Vienna; an extended Bureau meeting could be organized immediately after that preparatory meeting.
65. An additional opportunity would be at the Urban Future Global Conference (with the UNECE Human Settlements Division), expected to attract about 1,500 participants, that was to take place in Vienna on 28 February - 3 March 2018.
66. The Transport Research Arena in Vienna, organized by the Austrian Ministry of Transport (16-19 April 2018), could be another opportunity to highlight THE PEP and the Fifth High-level Meeting.

67. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to update the document on communication activities for THE PEP based on the proposals and outcomes of the discussion.
68. As requested by the Steering Committee at its last session, the Secretariat presented the modernized structure of THE PEP website and Clearing House. Managing THE PEP Clearing House would be a decentralized exercise, controlled by the Secretariat. Focal points would be able to receive passwords to upload information to the Clearing House. On the management of the website, the Secretariat informed the Bureau that the new website would provide opportunities for sharing information, e.g. on the Partnerships or the Academy. However, the Secretariat highlighted that it still lacked resources to provide content management, thus taking full advantage of the opportunities offered by the new platform, would require additional resources. The Secretariat would, however, continue to provide the same type of support as in the past, by updating the website with meetings and events included in its programme of work and documents related to these meetings.
69. The Secretariat further informed the Bureau that, pending the fixing of technical issues, THE PEP website and Clearing House should become operational in autumn 2017.
70. The Bureau welcomed the forthcoming developments and endorsed the proposed content and structure of THE PEP website and Clearing House.

V. PREPARATIONS FOR THE 15TH MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

71. The Bureau reviewed the Draft Programme of work for 2017-2018 (secretariat note 07) presented by the Secretariat, and agreed to keep the current biennial time-frame.
72. The Bureau further discussed the preparations for the 15th session of THE PEP Steering Committee, which will be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 6-8 November 2017, beginning with THE PEP 2017 Symposium on 6 November (p. m.), followed by the Steering Committee meeting (7 November and 8 November (a.m.) and concluding with a meeting of the Bureau on 8 November (p.m.).
73. In brainstorming about possible speakers for the Symposium, the Bureau mentioned several possibilities, including inviting European Platform on Mobility Management (EPOMM), as well as Austria on mobility management at the community level (Klimaaktiv). Switzerland proposed having a talk on Swiss innovative technologies for sustainable, energy efficient and healthy transport management systems.
74. The Bureau discussed the proposed scope of the Symposium and endorsed it without further changes.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

75. The Secretariat informed the Bureau about expenditures and received donations in 2016 and 2017. The Bureau thanked Austria, France, Norway, Serbia and Switzerland for their contributions.
76. The Bureau member from Norway informed the Bureau about its continuing support for THE PEP, while the Bureau member from Switzerland noted that its transport authority might be unable to provide further support.

77. At the end of the Bureau meeting the Chair reminded the Bureau members about forthcoming meetings and events of 2017, including the International Conference “City and Transport: Safety, Efficiency, Sustainability” in Khabarovsk on 4-5 September 2017, ICC in Mannheim on 19-21 September and the Cycling Partnership meeting on 22 September in Mannheim.
 78. The thirty-second meeting of the Bureau was to take place on 8 November 2017 at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, following the fifteenth session of the Steering Committee.
 79. The thirty-third meeting of the Bureau was provisionally scheduled to take place in Copenhagen in summer 2018, unless otherwise decided.
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