

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**Adoption of report of the Steering Committee
on its eleventh session and reports of the
Bureau on its twenty-first through twenty-fifth meetings**

**Twenty-third Meeting of the Extended Bureau of the
Steering Committee of the Pan-European Programme on
Transport, Health and Environment (THE PEP)
25 February 2014, Vienna (Austria)**

Report

I. Introduction and participation

1. The 23rd meeting of the Extended Bureau of THE PEP Steering Committee was held on 25 February 2014 in Vienna (Austria), hosted by the Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management in cooperation with the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber and the Austrian Associations of Cities and Municipalities. The meeting was attended by representatives from: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, France, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Polis, the European Environment and Health Youth Coalition (EEHYC) and UNDP.

2. The meeting was opened by THE PEP Secretariat, represented by: Mr Marco Keiner (UNECE Environment Division), Ms Brinda Wachs (UNECE Environment Division), Ms Francesca Racioppi and Mr Christian Schweizer (WHO/Europe).

3. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Mihail Kochubovski (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) and the vice chair Mr Robert Thaler (Austria). The Chair expressed his expectations for reaching final conclusions on the programme for the Fourth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment and on the Paris Declaration, as well as final approval of the upcoming publications. He noted in particular the significant potential for an aspirational Declaration and the need for a high level of participation at the 4HLM. He thanked all present member States for their commitment to the process.

4. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda as proposed by THE PEP secretariat and the report of the 22nd meeting of the extended THE PEP Bureau, held on 30 and 31 January 2014 in Zurich, Switzerland, (secretariat notes 01 and 02), pending amendments by the Bureau.

II. Preparation of the 4hlm: Programme and logistics

5. The French delegation informed the Bureau on the status of preparations for the 4HLM, in particular regarding the logistics of side events, exhibition and other planned activities in addition to the plenary sessions. Further information was presented about the selected conference venue in the center of Paris for the ministerial segment on 15 April. The venue offers ample and modern conference facilities for plenary sessions and side events. One room (up to 100 people) will be made available for two consecutive side events during the lunch break on 15 April.

6. The Bureau was informed that there will be space for exhibition but the details would need to be clarified at an upcoming site visit of the secretariat at the venue for the ministerial segment on 15 April.
7. The Bureau discussed the proposed programme for the 4HLM (secretariat note 03) and made adjustments and added specifications to the opening and closing sessions, the ministerial segment and the timing of the various elements.
8. Representatives from Polis and EEHYC informed the Bureau about the programme and outline of their respective planned side events at the 4HLM.
9. The Bureau clarified that the round table discussions during the ministerial segment of 4HLM shall be led by a moderator and accommodate all high-level participants, including from IGOs. The secretariat will inform the participants on the five main opportunities to make active contributions to the 4HLM: presentation of one of the four new publications, participation in the round table discussions, exhibition, statements from the floor and THE PEP Pledges. THE PEP Pledges are meant to be specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely commitments to implementing the Paris Declaration, which could be prominently featured on relevant media platforms.
10. The Bureau entrusted the chair, vice-chairs, host and secretariat with the task to finalize the programme.
11. Several delegations expressed expected high-level participation at 4HLM from their countries, including, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Russian Federation, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine.
12. The Bureau welcomed the invitation letters sent to member States and clarified which other organizations should be invited. Specifically, city representatives as considered relevant by corresponding national governments, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. The secretariat was tasked with proposing a selection of organizations to invite, taking into consideration the suggestions of the Bureau.

III. Preparation of the 4hlm: Workplan and declaration

13. The Bureau reviewed the Draft workplan 2014-2019 (secretariat note 04) and requested the secretariat to update it based on the outcomes of the Bureau meeting. The Bureau also invited members of the Steering Committee to provide further concrete proposals for inclusion.
14. The Bureau considered final comments in the Draft Paris Declaration (secretariat note 05). A group of member States is to be established to elaborate a concrete process for following up on paragraph 20 (concerning the issue of a framework convention) of the Draft Paris Declaration.
15. The Bureau approved a change in paragraph 13 of the Draft Paris Declaration, as proposed by the secretariat.

IV. THE PEP partnership

16. The Austrian delegation presented the Draft THE PEP Partnership on Cycling Promotion (secretariat note 06). Czech Republic and Serbia expressed interest in joining the Partnership and proposed to also invite the OECD to participate. The Bureau suggested to the Partnership to include a clear focus on actions in the urban environment as this is where the bulk of the environmental and health benefits can be achieved. The Bureau invited national delegations to the 4HLM to include also existing National Cycling Coordinators.

17. The Austrian delegation presented the Draft THE PEP Partnership on ecodriving (secretariat note 07) and introduced the kick-off event of the Partnership, taking place following the meeting of the Bureau. The Czech Republic expressed interest in joining the Partnership.

18. The Bureau noted that there is a need to formalize the procedure for establishing and joining of a THE PEP Partnership and tasked the secretariat with drafting a proposal following the 4HLM. It further noted the importance of creating synergies between all THE PEP Partnerships.

V. Next meetings

19. The 24th meeting of the Bureau will take place on 16 April 2014 in Paris, France, following the 4HLM.
