

Item 8(e) of the provisional agenda

Managing THE PEP

Strengthening synergies with international organizations and processes

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Collaboration with Polis

1. Polis¹ is a network of European cities and regions working together to develop innovative technologies and policies for local transport. Since 1989, European local and regional authorities have been working together within Polis to promote sustainable mobility through the deployment of innovative transport solutions. Their aim is to improve local transport through integrated strategies that address the economic, social and environmental dimensions of transport.

2. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of THE PEP Steering Committee, “*sessions of the Steering Committee are open for representatives of UNECE and WHO/Europe member States and organizations representing the transport, environment and health sectors*”. As such, Polis is considered as a participant in the Steering Committee.

3. Following the engagement of Polis at the 10th session of the Steering Committee and THE PEP 2012 Symposium, the Bureau welcomed an initiative of Polis at its 20th meeting in July 2013 for further formalization of the collaboration between THE PEP and Polis and to continue to build a continuous exchange between Polis and THE PEP and explore further active involvement in each other’s processes. A representative of Polis also contributed to THE PEP workshop in Almaty, Kazakhstan in September 2013.

4. In consultation with Polis, the secretariat has drafted the outline below on potential collaboration of THE PEP with Polis leading up to the Fourth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (4HLM) in Paris in April 2014 and beyond. The specific areas of collaboration are proposed to the Committee for consideration.

Proposed areas of collaboration:

5. Polis to participate in meetings of the Extended Bureau of THE PEP leading up to the 4HLM.

6. Polis to support a potential side event at 4HLM by providing case studies for HEAT, THE PEP Clearing House, Toolbox as well as transport, health and environment projects such as PASTA. Examples could be sought where national policy has been successfully implemented at local level and resources from the Polis website demonstrated. Activities to be prioritised.

7. Polis to draft a report on the Network’s activities in the field of Transport, Health and Environment, showing how Polis and cities are tackling this issue and to give a background of EU policy, projects and funding in this field. This could be used by THE PEP to build knowledge on how cities are implementing national and EU-level policy.

8. Polis to suggest speakers for the main 4HLM sessions in areas including: involving youth through social media to take up active travel; travel demand reduction; CEOs in favour of teleworking; and a potential speaker from London authorities for the Joint Session of THE PEP at TRA with IT (with the new devolution of health responsibilities, as directed by the UK national government, to the local level, what are the opportunities and challenges in the fields of Transport, Health and Environment at the local and regional level in London).

¹ <http://www.polisnetwork.eu/>

9. THE PEP has identified the following areas in need of greater focus, knowledge sharing and exchange of good practices. Polis can contribute by adding these to the Polis Working Group on Transport and Health:

- Examples of Transport, Health and Environment national policy translating into local actions;
- Need for new partnerships between cities and other stakeholders;
- Make cities more resilient; and
- Integrating environment and health considerations into spatial planning.

10. Support in sourcing good practices and case studies in the following areas:

- case studies for the application of HEAT for walking and cycling (a THE PEP Partnership)
- case studies for THE PEP publication on developing National Transport, Health and Environment Action Plans (NTHEAPs) for 4HLM
- case studies of sustainable transport promoting economic growth
- THE PEP Clearing House
- THE PEP Toolbox
- Sharing EU calendar of workshops, seminars and conferences tackling the topics of Transport Health and Environment.

11. Polis to join THE PEP Partnership on HEAT for walking and cycling, through the PASTA project. This cooperation will maximize the benefits for THE PEP, Polis and cities, through advocacy of the results from the project findings.

12. A representative of WHO/Europe's THE PEP secretariat is invited to participate in the meetings of the Polis Working Group on Health and Transport and the Polis Annual Conference.

13. Collaborate on funding opportunities under Horizon 2020, maximising the benefits for THE PEP and cities (applying for - and influencing the priorities of - funding). Polis has been liaising with the European Commission to promote transport and health up the agenda.
