

Item 4 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the Bureau report

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

11-12 July 2013, Copenhagen

Final Report

I. INTRODUCTION AND PARTICIPATION

1. The 20th meeting of the Extended Bureau of THE PEP Steering Committee was held on 11 to 12 July in Copenhagen, hosted by the World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe). The meeting was attended by THE PEP Bureau representatives from: Austria, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia and Switzerland. A representative of the European Environment Agency was present, as well as from the London European Partnership for Transport (representing Polis). Ms. Mary Crass, Head of Policy and Summit Preparation at the International Transport Forum (ITF) participated by video conference.

2. The meeting was opened by THE PEP Secretariat, represented by: Mr. Martin Magold and Ms. Brinda Wachs (UNECE, Transport and Environment Divisions, respectively), Ms. Francesca Racioppi, Mr. Christian Schweizer and Mr. Dawei WU (WHO/Europe).

3. The Meeting was chaired by Mr. Robert Thaler (Austria). He stressed the importance of the meeting to steer the preparations for the 4th High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (4HLM), to be held from 14 to 16 April 2014 in Paris, hosted by the Government of France. He noted that the Bureau shall aim to make progress on the outcome document and to ensure a high-level of participation at the 4HLM. He stressed the importance of communication of THE PEP message going forward, in articulating a viable workplan for 2014-2019 and in securing funds from Member States for future activities.

4. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda as proposed by THE PEP secretariat and the report of the 19th meeting of the extended THE PEP Bureau, held from 4 to 5 April 2013 in Paris.

II. IMPLEMENTING THE AMSTERDAM DECLARATION

5. The Bureau discussed the three main mechanisms for implementing the Amsterdam Declaration, as below.

A. THE PEP Partnership(s)

6. The Chair noted there are currently several THE PEP Partnerships. The Bureau stressed the importance of demonstrating progress made on existing partnerships and expressed hope that new partnerships would be launched at the 4HLM.

7. THE PEP Partnership on Jobs in Green and Healthy Transport followed a side event held in Astana in 2011 during the Environment for Europe Conference where the publication “Green and Healthy Jobs in Transport” was presented. Thereafter, the initiative expanded to include the quantification of green jobs in transport. A comprehensive publication will be presented at the 4HLM, showing case studies of potential jobs in green and health-friendly transport initiatives, in particular those that have been heretofore neglected (e.g. related to cycling and walking, mobility management, eco-driving, electric mobility and public transport).

8. Mr. Dawei Wu (WHO/Europe) presented a draft version of the publication with additional case studies. It is planned to continue this work with the development of a harmonized methodology for quantifying the potential for green jobs. Member States have been solicited to submit case studies through mid-August 2013 to be included in the forthcoming publication.

9. The Bureau endorsed this work, underlining the importance of quantifying the health benefits of cycling, walking and public transport. It proposed to develop this activity in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the EEA, UNEP and other Divisions of UNECE in order to have an impact on the current ongoing discussions on green economy.

10. THE PEP Partnership on the Health Economic Assessment Tools (HEAT) for Walking and Cycling had been further developed and had seen increased visibility. HEAT allows for health considerations in transport planning by focusing on the economic benefits of walking and cycling through their positive effect on reducing premature mortality. The current version of HEAT was launched in 2011 and has been accessed over 20,000 times, including by governments, i.e. Austria, to show the benefits of cycling in its transport plan. Future plans for HEAT include assessments of the health effects of physical activity through walking and cycling, taking into account the negative impacts of inhaling transport-related emissions while walking and cycling. France confirmed that THE PEP invited session at the upcoming Transport Research Arena (TRA) during the 4HLM would be an optimal place to showcase the new version of HEAT.

11. The Representative of Austria confirmed the initiation of a new THE PEP Partnership on Eco-driving, based on the experience of tests made during the Moscow Workshop in June 2012, and thanked the Russian Federation for their cooperation. He informed the Bureau that UNDP Sustainable Transport Almaty would have an eco-driving exercise led by Austria following the upcoming workshop in Kazakhstan in September 2013. Further, a Conference on Mobility Management and Eco-driving would be held from 24 to 26 February 2014 in Vienna to demonstrate fuel consumption and savings through different driving styles and techniques. He encouraged other Member States and Bureau members to participate in the Partnership.

B. National Transport, Health and Environment Action Plans (NTHEAPs)

12. The secretariat informed the Bureau about the status of the NTHEAPs manual, one of the background documents to be launched at the 4HLM. An informal (email) group would be established (led by WHO/Europe) to review the current draft of the manual. The group would aim to finalize the manual for presentation at the 23rd meeting of the Extended Bureau, scheduled for 30-31 January 2014 in Zurich, hosted by the Government of Switzerland.

13. France and the Russian Federation commented on their experience of developing similar kinds of policy action plans, but noted potential bureaucratic, administrative and financial obstacles. The secretariat noted that the NTHEAPs manual stresses the importance of involving at the outset of the NTHEAP development all three sectors on an equal footing and includes guidance on how this can be achieved.

C. THE PEP Relay Race (Staffete)

14. The secretariat presented the provisional programme for the 6th relay race workshop that constitutes the finalization of the first phase of the Staffete, initiated in 2009 as one of the three implementation mechanisms of the Amsterdam Declaration (i.e. Pruhonice, Skopje, Batumi, Kyiv, Moscow and Almaty). The Subregional Workshop in Almaty, “Green and Health-Friendly Sustainable Mobility: Focus on Urban Central Asia” will be held on 26 and 27 September 2013, to be organized by the Ministry of Transport and Communication, Ministry of Environmental Protection and the Ministry of Public Health, Republic of Kazakhstan; AKIMAT (municipal authority of Almaty) and in cooperation with the GEF-UNDP Project “City of Almaty Sustainable Transport”.

15. The objective of the Almaty Workshop is to encourage transport, health and environment policymakers to work together in developing strategies for sustainable and healthy urban transport, with a focus on reduction of transport-related air pollution, GHG and noise emissions, investments in mobility management, public transport and active mobility. A representative of the Moscow workshop, held in June 2012, will be present in Almaty to pass THE PEP baton to the City of Almaty.

16. The representative of Lithuania (Ministry of Health) informed that the country is considering to host the next workshop (venue to be confirmed) in 2014, preferably a sub-regional workshop focused on the Baltic region. The Ministry of Health would seek synergies with the other two sectors. The Bureau welcomed the initiative of Lithuania to host the first workshop following the 4HLM.

III. PREPARATION OF 4HLM

A. Format

17. The representatives of France presented the schedule for the 3-day event to take place on 14 to 16 April 2014 at Paris in conjunction with the 5th session of the Transport Research Arena (TRA). Over the course of three days, one day of the 4HLM will take place at La Defense (La Grande Arche and Convention Center “CNIT”) on the outskirts of Paris and the other two days in the city centre, location to be determined.

18. Participants of the 4HLM would be welcomed at a cocktail organised by TRA on Sunday evening, 13 April 2014, where free tickets to the Monday sessions, exhibitions and side events of TRA would be provided¹. It was noted that there were currently 658 submissions of abstracts for exhibits or presentations at the TRA, including research from all parts of the world. A draft programme for the 4HLM is presented in the annex.

¹ <<http://www.traconference.eu/>>

19. The Bureau agreed that, in order to steer the Ministerial segment, to take place on Tuesday, 15 April, key questions would be prepared in advance to focus the debate. THE PEP secretariat would begin to develop these questions, to be discussed at the next meeting of the Extended Bureau. The questions could be along the lines of “the future of urban mobility;” issues concerning suburban transport and outlying areas; and/or cover tools, methods and success factors to address these problems as well as address vertical and horizontal integration and the future vision of THE PEP. The questions should be simple and aim to cover all three sectors, if possible, and the synergies among them; focus on success within the country and lessons learned, including on the economic dimension (e.g. the return from investments in schemes that have improved the urban environment) and should include the issue of inequality. The questions should moreover be open-ended and not too prescriptive, allowing a margin of maneuver for Ministers to express their positive experience and not only the pitfalls.

20. The Bureau took note of a design by France that could constitute a new logo for the 4HLM and THE PEP beyond the 4HLM and decided to launch a call for proposals for alternative designs. The call would be made through Member States and distributed to the relevant national interested parties and possibly art schools. In the meantime, France would further develop several designs.

B. Draft outcome document: The Paris Declaration

21. The secretariat presented the document: “Draft Elements for the Paris Declaration-- City in Motion: People First!” The Bureau discussed the format and content and in particular a new goal 5. It agreed the following regarding the new goal:

- It should reflect all three sectors;
- It should be forward-looking and encompass future THE PEP;
- It should underline the importance of urban and spatial planning and the links with transport, health and environmental policy;
- It should reflect the important synergies between spatial planning, housing/zoning, energy efficiency and renewable energy and how they relate to transport, health and environment;
- It should encompass issues of resilience, vulnerable populations and social equity; and
- There should be a corresponding paragraph in the preamble such as:

“Understanding that transport planning cannot be addressed only by developing transport infrastructure, but needs to be closely integrated with land use and spatial planning”

22. The secretariat proposed new goal 5, based on the Bureau deliberations:

Proposed Goal 5: To integrate urban and spatial planning policies with transport, health and environmental objectives (short version)

by adapting urban environments to prepare for demographic, social and environmental change and by developing urban and spatial planning frameworks that support green and health-friendly urban and sub-urban mobility and livelihoods while recognizing the important links between residential and commercial buildings and between zoning and energy efficiency, including transport (long version)

23. The Bureau discussed the idea of “THE PEP Knowledge Network”, a science and policy network proposed by the secretariat as one of the implementation mechanisms in the Paris

Declaration. The Knowledge Network was intended to support the transport, health and environment nexus from a research and academic perspective, an online platform linking science and policy. While the Clearinghouse was considered a good basis for research and had much material available in three languages, THE PEP Knowledge Network could include a roster of experts in different areas of sustainable urban mobility. It would highlight THE PEP's value added of straddling three sectors and encompassing East and West. It would also provide a primary resource of expertise to be mobilized for THE PEP staffette series of workshops, and for other capacity building initiatives that may emerge following the 4HLM.

24. The secretariat would prepare a note on the proposed THE PEP Knowledge Network that encompassed THE PEP Clearinghouse, THE PEP Toolbox and this new aspect of a science and policy network and present it to the next meeting of the Extended Bureau.

25. On the question of outreach to other regions, the Bureau agreed to further explore the need and potential, with a view to making this an additional implementation mechanism for the Paris Declaration, beginning with the Mediterranean region and possibly extending to North Africa, Middle East or Asia. However, there was not full agreement from the Bureau, as some noted that much work remained to be done in the Pan-European Region.

26. It was confirmed that reference shall be made in the Draft Declaration to the possibility of developing a Framework Convention on Transport, Health and Environment, as requested by the Third High-level Meeting.

27. The Bureau discussed THE PEP Questionnaire as a tool for measuring the progress made in-country on sustainable mobility and an integrated policy approach to transport, health and environment. It was reiterated that measuring the impact of THE PEP as a programme was a difficult task, as there were no validated indicators for measurement. However, countries were encouraged to share experiences and best practice as well as to cite examples and case studies showing progress made.

28. The Bureau agreed to consider the need for two kinds of indicators: indicators to measure the achievement of selected projects and another set for the implementation of THE PEP Priority Goals. It was proposed this be part of THE PEP workplan following the 4HLM.

C. Background documentation

29. The Bureau discussed the publications being prepared to launch at the 4HLM, with lead author in parenthesis, as follows:

i. NTHEAPs Manual

30. The NTHEAPs Manual would be complemented by replies to the 2013 THE PEP questionnaire and finalized by January 2014 for approval by the Bureau at its session in January 2014.

ii. From Amsterdam to Paris and Beyond: THE PEP Policy Review and THE PEP Future

31. This document would be based on the replies to THE PEP Questionnaire between 2011 and 2013, should be concise (under 50 pages), providing an overview of progress made in the region, highlighting success stories in countries and outlook for the future. It would include the Compendium of Staffete Experiences (2009-2013), as well as a synthesis of the achievements attained under the partnership mechanism

32. The secretariat would send a reminder to THE PEP Focal Points to contribute to the questionnaire, highlighting the opportunity of show-casing relevant achievements as part of the publication "From Amsterdam to Paris and Beyond", to provide an incentive to increase the response rate.

33. The Compendium part of the publication is intended as a record of the best practices and action points for policy makers derived from the six staffete workshops between 2009 and 2013. The Bureau agreed that the authors, in cooperation with the secretariat, would contact the hosts of the first 5 workshops (from Czech Republic, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Ukraine and Russian Federation) to ask about concrete progress made following the workshop, impact on the country and requesting any photographs or other promotional materials on the workshop. The same would eventually be done for the Almaty workshop (Kazakhstan).

iii. Study on Signs and Signals for Active Mobility

34. The secretariat introduced the draft, explaining that there were currently no international standards for signs and signals for walking and cycling in the Vienna Convention on Signs and Signals (only recommendations). For this reason, it would be useful to include in the Paris Declaration a sentence to the effect of "we invite UN Member States to consider positively the inclusion of these in the Vienna Convention".

iv. Jobs in Green and Healthy Transport

35. This study, which builds on the previous publication "Green and Healthy Jobs in Transport" focuses on showing the potential of employment in transport-related enterprises and activities, such as bus manufacturing, car-sharing schemes, mobility management and indirect jobs, some of which are knowledge-intensive, management and highly-skilled jobs. There are case studies available showing jobs in the cycling economy at the national level (Austria, France, USA, Germany and UK) and some case studies at the local level as well for jobs in public bike sharing schemes as well as in tourism. The study is particularly timely, given current unemployment, especially among urban youth and confirms THE PEP can make a useful contribution to the emerging field of transport and green economy.

36. The secretariat will aim to apply HEAT to cycling in some of the case studies, in order to assess the economic benefits related to health, in addition to the potential for job creation.

IV. PREPARATION OF THE PEP STEERING COMMITTEE AND SYMPOSIUM

37. The Bureau considered and approved the proposed agenda for the eleventh session of the Steering Committee (SC11). The secretariat presented the draft programme of work and the

Bureau noted that it would be brought in line with the Paris declaration following the session. The secretariat would finalize the agenda and documents following the Bureau meeting.

38. The Bureau discussed the concept note and draft programme for THE PEP 2013 Symposium and agreed on the title “Healthy urban mobility for all: walking and cycling in cities”. Several Bureau members indicated their availability to contribute with presentations to the programme of the symposium.

39. The Bureau requested the secretariat to revise the concept note and the draft programme for the Symposium, with one key note speech, allowing time to hold two round table discussions. The representative of Lithuania expressed the willingness of the country to contribute to the panel discussion in its capacity as present President of the European Council. The Bureau recommended that the Swiss and UN press be invited to the Symposium.

V. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

40. A representative of the EEA informed the Bureau about its activities relevant to THE PEP. The Bureau welcomed the participation of the EEA and expressed interest in identifying areas of cooperation for the future, in particular in the area of indicators of sustainable transport.

41. The Bureau also welcomed the proposal by the representative of Polis for collaboration between THE PEP and Polis. A concrete work plan for this collaboration will be presented to the Steering Committee at its next session for approval.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

42. The secretariat informed the Bureau about the status of THE PEP trust fund, noting donations were received from: Austria, France, Norway and Switzerland, and detailing expenditures in 2012 and 2013. The Bureau noted that the need for a more sustainable financing of THE PEP, in particular in view of the relatively low level of expected available resources by the end of 2013.

43. The Bureau took note of the recent improvements of THE PEP Clearinghouse and the remaining improvements to be made, which will require additional resources.

44. The next sessions of the extended Bureau will take place as follows: 16-17 October 2013 (two half days) in Paris (to be confirmed), 29 November 2013 (full day) in Geneva and 30-31 January 2014 (two half days) in Zurich.

Annex

**Fourth High Level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (4HLM)
14-16 April 20134, Paris**

Provisional Programme

Sunday, 13 April 2014 (*no interpretation*).

15.00 - 17.00 Informal meeting of secretariat/organizers for last-minute planning.

17.00 - 18.00 Arrival and welcome of participants (registration, free TRA tickets (Monday only) and information packets. Venue: La Defense.

18.00 Evening TRA reception (cocktail) for participants. Venue: La Defense cocktail location.

Monday, 14 April 2014 (*interpretation from 10.00 to 11.00 and from 17.30 to 19.00*).

8.45 - 19.00 Ongoing (“permanence”) arrival and welcome of participants (registration, free TRA tickets (available Monday only) and information packets. Venue: La Defense, Grande Arche, level 3, salles 1-2.

Morning session 10.00-13.00

10.00 - 11.00 Opening of 4HLM

Opening statements (host country/UNECE/WHO). Ceremony to pass THE PEP “baton” from Amsterdam to Paris. Venue: La Defense, Grande Arche, level 3, salles 1-2.

11.00 - 13.00 4HLM participants attend TRA sessions, exhibits and events. Venue: La Defense, CNIT.

[(parallel, tbc) Final negotiations of Paris Declaration (as required). Venue: La Defense, Grande Arche, level 3, salles 1-2.]

13.00-15.00 Lunch for THE PEP participants at TRA, Venue: La Defense, CNIT.

Afternoon session 15.00-19.00

15.00 - 17.30 Participation at TRA sessions, exhibits and events. Venue: La Defense, CNIT.

17.30 - 19.00 Joint Strategic Seminar THE PEP-International Transport Forum-TRA: “Urban Innovation and Change: The Dynamic Nexus of Transport, Health and Environment” (see separate concept note and programme). Venue: La Defense, CNIT.

19.00 - 21.00 Evening reception with Round-Table of former THE PEP chairs, slide-show, poster session, speeches. Venue: La Defense, Grande Arche, level 3, salles 1-2.

Tuesday, 15 April 2014: Ministerial Segment (*interpretation*)

Venue: Paris, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Amphi Laroque or UNESCO headquarters (rooms could be made available for bilateral discussions)

Morning session 9.30-13.00

9.30 - 10.00 Welcome coffee and Press Conference.

10.00 - 10.20 Opening remarks by Host country, UNECE, WHO.

10.20 - 11.00 THE PEP Synthesis: Launch of background documents:

During this session the following documents will be presented by Ministers or their Representatives.

- (1) NTHEAPs Manual (Minister/representative of...);
- (2) From Amsterdam to Paris and Beyond: THE PEP 2009-2019 (including Compendium of staffete experience) (Minister/representative of...);
- (3) Study on Signs and Signals (Minister/representative of...);
- (4) Jobs in Green and Healthy Transport ((Minister/representative of...).

11.00 - 12.00 Cities in Progress: Fulfilling THE PEP vision – Roundtable with case studies involving new actors (municipal authorities, civil society, private sector).

This session will bring into focus the importance of strengthening partnerships with local authorities, civil society, scientists and the private sector. It will consist of a roundtable discussion with representatives of THE PEP stakeholders, who will highlight case studies to illustrate the value of this collaboration

12.00 – 13.00 First Ministerial Roundtable, followed by brief interventions from the floor.

13.00-15.00 Lunch (special arrangements for Ministers, as appropriate)

Afternoon session 15.00-20.00

15.00 - 16.00 Second Ministerial Roundtable, followed by brief interventions from the floor.

16.00 - 16.30 Coffee break / possible youth film or event

16.30 - 17.00 Adoption of the Paris Declaration

17.00 - 18.00 Closing ceremony / Closing statements: Mayor of Paris or other high-level official (unveiling of new THE PEP “baton” to pass from Paris to Vilnius to signal kick-off of new round of staffete and launch/implementation of THE PEP 2020)

18.00 - 20.00 Evening reception / Social event

Wednesday 16 April 2014 *(no interpretation)*

Venue: Paris, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, Amphi Laroque or UNESCO

Morning session 10.00-13.00

10.00 - 13.00 Extended THE PEP Bureau and possible debates with youth network and NGOs on THE PEP workplan and implementation: THE PEP 2020 -- Where do we go from here?

13.00-15.00 Lunch for participants of extended Bureau

Afternoon session 13.00-15.00

Venue: La Defense, CNIT

17.30 - 19.00 THE PEP invited Session at the TRA: THE PEP overview, HEAT for Walking and Cycling and Green and Healthy Jobs in Transport (restricted participation).
