

## FOURTH UNECE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEETING ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

*GENEVA, 1-2 December 2009*

### **Agenda item 5. Transport**

#### Intervention by Poland<sup>1</sup>

Poland fully supports the EU Presidency Speaking Note. I would like to present some information about Polish experiences in the area of sustainable transport.

A system of environmental fees is in force in Poland which promotes vehicles with lower emission levels or fuel consumption.

Moreover, efforts made to implement Directive 2009/33 which provides for systemic promotion of the purchase of road transport vehicles with lower emissions and higher energy efficiency, both within public procurement procedures and acquisition of vehicles by public passenger transport operators.

The promotion of biofuels and other environmentally friendly fuels is part of the “*2008-2014 long-term programme for the promotion of biofuels and other renewable fuels*”.

Furthermore, the requirements of Directive 2005/35/EC which restricts sulphur content in marine fuels have been implemented. Moreover, the amended Annex VI to the MARPOL Convention comes into force in July 2010 which imposes further reduction of atmospheric pollutant emissions from ships.

With respect to air transport, a number of initiatives are under way aiming to reduce the environmental impact of this transport industry, such as: PLL “LOT” Polish Airlines takes measures in order to replace its fleet gradually with more economical aircraft with more efficient engines. The Warszawa Okęcie Airport obtained a Certificate of Approval of the Environmental Management System which complies with the requirements of standard ISO 14000 in July 2008. Due to the vital importance of the method of exploitation of aircraft for environmental protection, a number of new technologies for air traffic and operation management have been introduced, such as precise area navigation technology (P-RNAV), continuous descent approach (CDA), optimised approach trajectory (DCT) or the airspace management support database (CAT).

At the city level, intense efforts are under way aiming to develop public transport. They relate in particular to fleet upgrades, introduction of new solutions (underground, fast tram routes, water tram routes) and development of new routes serviced by public transport. The inclusion of railway operators for the servicing of local public transport is a major factor for the development of public transport.

Very important issues are as follow: the promotion of the environmentally friendly public transport system, increase of the public transport share in serving metropolitan area residents and development of transport branches alternative to road transport, including the increase of the inland water and sea transport share and improvement of transport safety.

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<sup>1</sup> The text is presented as received from the author.

Efforts are under way to prepare a bill concerning the operation of mass public transport, including a requirement of the preparation of the so-called Sustainable development plans for mass public transport. The requirement is to apply to cities, among others, with at least 50.000 residents.

Moreover, information and educational initiatives are under way concerning the necessity for drivers to change their behaviour, such as with respect to defensive driving which promotes significant reduction of fuel consumption and exhaust gas emissions (so-called Eco-driving). A number of social actions are also undertaken, such as “Change your ride for a bus”, European Sustainable Transport Week and European Car-free Day. Public Transport Days are organised each September whose aim is to promote public transport.