



United Nations

UNECE Weekly

Economic Commission for Europe

Issue N° 395 — 25 - 29 October 2010



UNECE WORKSHOP TO ADDRESS IMPROVING SECURITY OF TENURE THROUGH SPATIAL PLANNING **28-29 OCTOBER 2010, ANTALYA, TURKEY**

More than 50 million people in the UNECE region live in informal settlements today. Informal settlements are improvised dwellings where housing has been constructed without the requisite legal title for use of the land. In some cases, due to the lack of affordable housing, constructions are built on public or private lands with no legal ownership rights. In other cases, good quality housing is built without planning permits and in violation of land use plans. In consequence, its occupiers can have neither security of tenure, nor access to basic infrastructure (such as potable water and sanitation) nor services (e.g. schools, hospitals, public transportation, etc.). Informal settlements are also often built in hazardous locations and their dwellers suffer from social segregation.

To help UNECE member States address multi-dimensional challenges of informal settlements, the UNECE Working Party on Land Administration and the General Directorate of Land Registry and Cadastre of Turkey will jointly organize the UNECE workshop on

“Spatial planning to improve security of tenure in the UNECE region”.

The workshop will discuss the responsibilities of land administration authorities to control the spread of informal settlements through improved spatial planning, cadastre and registration systems in the UNECE region.

The workshop will address a wide range of topics including:

- The impact of effective registration systems for the development of functioning housing markets
- The role of information technology to increase security of registration systems
- Incorporation of the rights of vulnerable populations into public policy
- The role NGOs and citizen organizations can play in urban regeneration projects

The workshop will take place in Antalya, Turkey, on 28-29 October 2010. □

For more information, please visit: http://www.tkgm.gov.tr/fen/index.php?page=sayfalar&op=wpla_antalya or contact Ariel Ivanier at: housing.landmanagement@unece.org.

UNECE LOOKS AT POLICY REFORMS AND POTENTIAL FOR INVESTMENTS IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN EASTERN EUROPE

UNECE held the second Seminar on Policy Reforms to Promote Energy Efficiency (EE) and Renewable Energy (RE) Investments on 20-22 October 2010 in Geneva. The seminar was part of the 16th session of the Group of Experts on Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation.



In April this year the Regional Analysis of Policy Reforms was finalized. Delegates discussed how the recommendations of this study are being implemented in the 12 countries participating in the project Financing Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Investments for Climate Change Mitigation (FEEI), which include Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia,

Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Ukraine.

A number of significant improvements and steps to overcome barriers for investments in EE and RE projects have been taken in recent months. Many countries established energy efficiency strategies and action plans for further development of the energy sector and

introduced governmental monitoring of their implementation and of the enforcement of the legislation. The introduction of incentives for financing projects through local banks and increases in electricity and heat tariffs to cover full costs continued. Training activities to improve awareness and improve professional skills were conducted.

There are still barriers for EE and RE investments, including: lack of secondary legislation regulating EE and RE sector; limited capacity of transmission grids, which restricts possibilities for new RE power generation capacity; and capital constraints due to high upfront costs and long payback periods. The delegates exchanged views on the ways to overcome these and other existing barriers. It was stressed that among the urgent needs for promoting EE and RE investments is capacity building for local project developers on criteria and requirements for preparation of bankable EE and RE project proposals and ways for measurement and verification of savings from these projects.

Conning Asset Management Limited, which is designing the public-private partnership investment fund for EE and RE projects, introduced the lead investor for the future fund – London-based NBGI Private Equity. The delegates engaged in a lively discussion on the primary focus of the fund, problems with financing relatively small projects and requirements for the expertise of the investment fund manager. The Group of Experts confirmed the need to launch the fund in the near future and to have a pipeline of EE and RE projects ready for the fund to invest in soon after the launch. □

For further information, please visit: <http://www.unece.org/energy/se/eneffci.html> or contact Oleg Dzioubinski at: feei@unece.org.

EU TO INCREASINGLY MAKE REFERENCE TO UNECE REGULATIONS FOR THE APPROVAL OF MOTORCYCLES AND MOPEDS

The European Commission of the European Union has proposed a new regulation on the type approval of motorcycles and mopeds where it is proposed to refer as much as possible to the Regulations developed by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). Consequently, the proposal foresees that all current 15 Directives would be repealed.

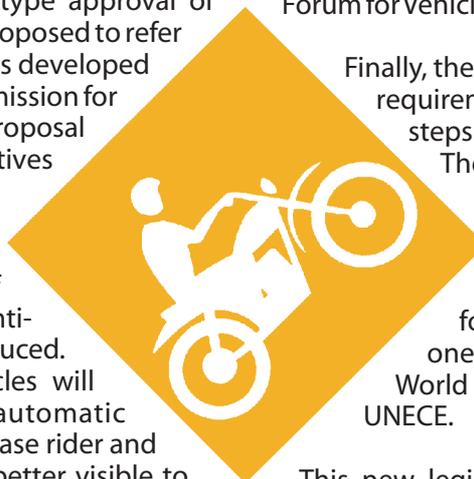
To improve the safety of motorcycles and mopeds, the mandatory fitting of advanced braking systems, such as anti-lock braking systems, will be introduced. Furthermore, mopeds and motorcycles will have to be equipped with an automatic headlamp-on feature in order to increase rider and vehicle conspicuity and make them better visible to other traffic participants. The technical requirements for

these new features will be developed within the World Forum for Vehicle Regulations of the UNECE.

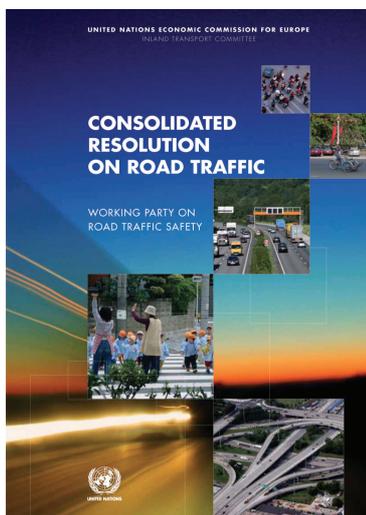
Finally, the proposal sets also ambitious emission requirements for these vehicles. Three emission steps are proposed for the coming decade.

The Commission proposes among others a Euro 3, a Euro 4 and a Euro 5 step (and Euro 6 limits for motorcycles) to be complied with in 2014, 2017 and 2020, respectively. The test cycles used for the approval of these vehicles are the one developed under the auspice of the World Forum for Vehicle Regulations of the UNECE.

This new legislation is anticipated to become first applicable as of 1 January 2013. □



For further information, please visit: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/10/464&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=fr>.



OFF THE PRESS CONSOLIDATED RESOLUTION ON ROAD TRAFFIC

This publication contains a complete revision of the Consolidated Resolution on Road Traffic, the latest version of which dated from 6 January 1998. This new version is the fruit of collective efforts carried out by UNECE's Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1)

This Resolution is aimed at supplementing the Convention on Road Traffic, 1968, and the European Agreement of 1971. It addresses subjects not covered therein, or not in detail, and supplements some provisions with the aim of highlighting best practices in road safety intervention. It constitutes a reference tool on the improvement of road safety and provides a framework which will allow greater harmonization of regulations on a voluntary basis at the international level. □

The publication is available at:

[http://www.unece.org/trans/roadsafe/publications/docs/Consolidated Resolution on%20Road Traffic RE1 e.pdf](http://www.unece.org/trans/roadsafe/publications/docs/Consolidated%20Resolution%20on%20Road%20Traffic%20RE1%20e.pdf)

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