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UNECE/WHO SYMPOSIUM DISCUSSES BEST PRACTICES TO KEEP OUR CITIES LIVABLE AND ATTRACTIVE - 16 NOVEMBER, GENEVA



What makes people change their behaviour towards sustainable mobility in urban areas, including more walking and cycling, and how can the context be created to make this happen? How to plan and manage transport systems for livable cities? How to make public transport safe and attractive for commuters, children and the elderly? What are the mechanisms and technologies to assist Governments and the industry in doing so?

between social, economic, environmental and health objectives. Experiences made with sustainable mobility schemes in New York, Berlin, Copenhagen and Geneva will be discussed.

Collaborative and transparent mechanisms in urban and transport planning that involve not only Governments and city administrations, but also business and civil society are required to achieve these ambitious goals. Efficient and attractive public transport systems are a key element in this endeavour in addition to effective mobility plans by private companies for their employees. Successful examples from the private sector and public transport authorities will be reviewed by a panel of experts and discussed with the participants of the Symposium.

Prior to the Symposium, a visit of the technical installations of the Geneva Public Transport Authority (TPG) at Bachet-de-Pesay will take place. The latest TPG tramway model (44m long, 14 doors, 256 places) will be shown. Also information on the new TPG network and new services applicable as of 11 December 2011 will be given.

To join the visit, bring along your UNOG badge and meet us on 16 November 2011 at the Place des Nations (under the broken chair) at 12.15 hours. Return to the Palais des Nations will be at 14.30 hours in time for the start of the Symposium. Places are limited, therefore prior registration is required at: secretariat@thepep.org. □

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=26814>.

UNECE WORKING GROUP ON AGEING MEETS TO DEVISE ACTIVE AGEING STRATEGIES FOR THE REGION 21-22 NOVEMBER 2011 - GENEVA

National ageing focal points from across the UNECE region are gathering in Geneva for the Fourth meeting of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing on 21-22 November 2011. Active ageing and quality of life in old age will be the focus of a special in-depth discussion with latest research insights presented by Prof. Dr. Clemens Tesch-Römer, Head of the Berlin-based German Centre of Gerontology. Member states will share good practice examples and discuss strategies for regional cooperation and national action on active ageing.

With longevity rising active ageing has been discussed as a political concept to enhance quality of life in old age and to use opportunities of older people to continue working, to stay healthy longer and to contribute to society, for example through volunteering. Active ageing generally combines good health, good physical and cognitive functioning and societal participation.

Policies for active ageing

In his study Prof. Tesch-Römer advocates for investments into active ageing at three levels - at the early stages in the life course, at later stages in adulthood and investments into societal frameworks for active ageing:

- Early investments in education status during childhood and adolescence have positive effects on health, social integration and participation in late adulthood.
- Education policies need to include health related knowledge and skills. Interventions for health, integration, and participation in late adulthood - such as physical activity, healthy diets, screening and avoiding risk behaviours - are able to change ageing trajectories.
- Finally, societal investments in active ageing concern opportunities for education, participation in the labour



force and civil organizations and social security, health care and long-term care systems.

To provide opportunities for life-long learning, institutions and funding schemes need to be in place. Social security systems need to provide protection against social risks and poverty in old age. Active ageing policies should consider incentives for employees to retire later and for employers to hire and keep older workers. Volunteering opportunities are important to transfer skills and to ensure social integration. Health systems have to ensure good access to health care and care policies should give older persons and their families the choice of care, combining family and professional services. Information technology and innovative forms of residential accommodation can help to ensure independent living in old age. Strategies to enhance social integration need to take into account new diverse forms of families and private networks. Finally, avoiding purely negative and purely positive images of ageing may help to build more inclusive societies that embrace both the potentials and risks of old age.

A broader understanding of active ageing

Research shows that investments into active ageing may delay the onset of chronic illness and disability. However, a

substantial cohort of the oldest old will continue to need support because of multi-morbidity. Promoting an active ageing approach therefore needs to avoid discriminating against older persons who are no longer active and healthy. A one-sided focus on active ageing should not lead to the exclusion of frail older people. Ageing needs to be embraced in its diversities within countries and across the region.

2012 European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations

Discussions about active ageing strategies within the UNECE Working Group on Ageing take place on the eve of the 2012 European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, designated by the European Union. Its aim is to raise awareness and to encourage policymakers and stakeholders to improve opportunities for active ageing in areas as diverse as employment, health care, social services, adult learning, volunteering, housing, IT services or transport. □

More information can be found at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/ey2012.jsp?langId=en>.

More information on the UNECE Working Group on Ageing can be found at:

http://www.unece.org/pau/age/wg/wg_ageing.html.

UNOG LIBRARY TALKS

UNECE'S SECOND ASSESSMENT OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERS

23 NOVEMBER - 12:45-14:45

UNECE is pleased to invite you to the presentation of its recently published *Second Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters*.

Prepared under the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, the Second Assessment illustrates the progress made in the pan-European region as well as the challenges ahead and the hot spots.

It constitutes the most comprehensive, up-to-date overview of the status of transboundary waters in the European and Asian parts of UNECE region, covering more than 140 transboundary rivers, 25 transboundary lakes, about 200 transboundary groundwaters, 25 Ramsar Sites or other wetlands of transboundary importance. Transboundary waters are a major source of income for millions of people and create security, environment, political and social-economic interdependencies.

The presentation will offer a unique opportunity for dialogue with authors and experts. Kindly confirm your presence at: library@unog.ch. □



SEMINAR "EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES AND BEST PRACTICES IN ROAD TRAFFIC SAFETY"

12-13 OCTOBER 2011, BELGRADE, SERBIA



Following the event making the launch of Decade of Action for Road Safety for Europe jointly organized by UNECE and the Government of Serbia in Belgrade in April 2011, the Road Traffic Safety Agency of the Republic of Serbia organized the seminar "Exchange of experiences and best practices in road traffic safety" in Belgrade on 12-13 October 2011.

The aim of the seminar was to identify and bring together the state-of-the-art knowledge and experience of eminent national and foreign experts on the subject of road traffic safety. Beside the presentations of national experts concerning various road-safety aspects, a special contribution to the Seminar was made by the keynote presentations of Professor Giacomo Borruso, a representative of the Institute for Transport Research ISTIEE (Trieste, Italy), general Simone Balduino, Assistant Director of Police in the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Italy and a member of the ISTIEE Scientific Board, and Mr. Miodrag Pesut, UNECE Transport division. The seminar was attended by almost 60 traffic safety experts of various fields. At the conclusion of the seminar, the Road Traffic Safety Agency issued special certificates (licensees) for lecturers and examiners in the field of road traffic safety knowledge improvement. This event marked the beginning of the process of rehabilitation and knowledge improvement of drivers whose driver's license was revoked. □