

### THE PEP

## Fourth High Level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment adopts Paris Declaration



European ministers attending the Fourth High Level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (14-16 April) adopted the Paris Declaration "City in Motion – People First!" on Tuesday, 15 April. Ségolène Royal, French Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, Marisol Touraine, French Minister of Social Affairs and Health, Frédéric Cuvillier, French Secretary of State for Transport, Sea and Fisheries, Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Regional Director for Europe, Eva Molnar, Director, UNECE Transport Division, and Marco Keiner, Director, UNECE Environment Division, signed the Declaration on behalf of Member States.

Through the Paris Declaration, participating States reaffirm their commitment to a new vision of green and healthy mobility and transport for sustainable livelihoods for all, linking the promotion of health and sustainability to socioeconomic justice.

This is supported by new goals and tools including:

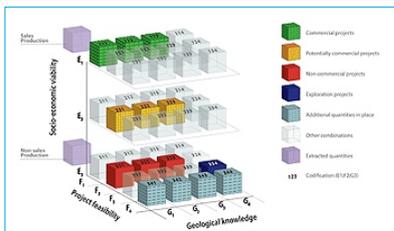
- a new priority to integrate transport, health and environmental objectives into urban and spatial planning policies;
- THE PEP Academy, strengthening knowledge and skills development for integrated transport, health, environment and spatial planning;
- a pan-European master plan to promote cycling; stronger partnerships with city networks, civil-society organizations and the research community;
- and the mobilization of young people and their organizations. □

For more information, please visit: [http://www.unece.org/thepep/en/hlm/hl4\\_info.html](http://www.unece.org/thepep/en/hlm/hl4_info.html).



### Sustainable Energy

## UNECE Resource Classification Week



Experts from the UNECE region, as well as from Africa, Asia, and Latin America, will gather in Geneva at the end of April to discuss the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Reserves and Resources 2009 (UNFC). UNECE's Expert Group on Resource Classification provides the only forum in the world where experts in resource classification covering solid minerals and petroleum, and now also renewables, meet and share information and ideas. Given that the specifications for UNFC are now finalized and that the system is operational, the fifth session of the Expert Group (30 April–2 May) will include a special focus on implementation and testing and will explore broadening its application to renewable energy resources. A project is also underway in the Expert Group to evaluate the utility of UNFC for classification of injection projects, including storage of carbon dioxide. A workshop on how UNFC works will be held on 29 April.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) will additionally meet on 28–29 April to prepare a guide book for application of UNFC to uranium and thorium projects. IAEA, in active collaboration with UNECE, has finalized a Bridging Document between UNFC and the Nuclear Energy Agency/IAEA Uranium Classification which will help to align the reporting of uranium and thorium resources with international good practices and bring in overall consistency and clarity to the process. To assist IAEA and United Nations Member States in the application of this bridging scheme further supporting documentation in the form of a guide book will be required. The guide book will provide case studies and examples, which will illustrate the application of the Bridging Document in a consistent manner in various situations. The guide book is further expected to look into aspects of sustainability and the environment that should be considered when classifying the projects.

Organized in collaboration with UNECE, the IAEA meeting will be attended by experts from Argentina, Brazil, China, India, Kazakhstan, Malawi and the United States of America, as well as from IAEA, the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO), the Expert Group and the UNECE secretariat. □

For more information, please visit: <http://unece.org/energy/se/reserves.html> or contact Charlotte Griffiths at: [reserves.energy@unece.org](mailto:reserves.energy@unece.org).



The second global workshop on river basin commissions and other joint bodies for transboundary water cooperation, took place in Geneva on 9 and 10 April 2014. Over 120 participants, from 55 countries, discussed interactively specific areas and technical aspects of cooperation in the framework of joint bodies. Despite the various challenges such as those highlighted by the bi-national GEF Freplata project on reducing pollution in the River Plate, drawing lessons from previous experience and political willingness have led into important progress in environmental protection.

Among the cases presented were good examples about cooperation in the development of infrastructure, which is commonly controversial and prone to conflicts between riparian states. These included in particular the regional infrastructure programme of the Organisation for the Development of the Senegal River and the Islamic Republic of Iran's joint construction and operation of the Doosti Dam with Turkmenistan, both involving sharing of costs and benefits between the countries sharing the basin.

The workshop demonstrated that having institutions for transboundary water cooperation is important to coordinate the different needs and uses of water and inspired revival of discussion in some basins. The necessity of integrating groundwater into overall management of water resources was also recognized.

Participants also discussed a draft list of principles of organisation and activities identified as increasing the efficiency in operation and maturation of cooperation in the framework of joint bodies. These principles will go through further consultations with countries and other stakeholders, and will then be circulated widely to promote good practice.

The two-day seminar was organised under the leadership of the Governments of Germany and Finland in the framework of the UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (UNECE Water Convention) in partnership with UNESCO IHP, UNEP, GEF IW:LEARN, GIZ, INBO, GWP, the Ramsar Convention and funded by the governments of Estonia, Finland, Germany and Luxembourg. □

For more information, please visit [http://www.unece.org/env/water/joint\\_bodies\\_workshop\\_2014.html](http://www.unece.org/env/water/joint_bodies_workshop_2014.html) or contact Annukka Lipponen at [annukka.lipponen@unece.org](mailto:annukka.lipponen@unece.org).

## Implementing the UNECE Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development beyond 2015



Delegates from 27 member States, education associations, and international organizations gathered in Geneva from 3 to 4 April for the ninth meeting of the UNECE Steering Committee on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD).

The UNECE Strategy for ESD serves as a regional implementation pillar for the United Nations Decade for ESD (2004–2014). It aims to raise people's awareness about sustainable development and to equip them with the knowledge and skills they need so that they can confidently and competently apply its principles. This in turn will increase their opportunities for leading healthy and productive lives and ones with concern for social values, gender equity and cultural diversity.

At the 9th Steering Committee meeting, member States reviewed progress made in implementing ESD in 2013 and 2014, in particular with regard to the three priority action areas of the Strategy.

Countries reported that continuous progress had been achieved in:

- ensuring that there was an ESD school plan in every school by 2015;
- and introducing ESD in teacher education.

However, there appears to be a lack of information and good practice examples for the implementation of third priority action area, namely the reorientation of technical and vocational education and training. In addition, a political commitment or an indication for the continuous implementation of ESD beyond the current implementation phase, which runs until 2015, was reported by nearly all countries.

The Committee confirmed its decision to hold a high-level meeting of education and environment ministries in 2016. In preparation of such a high-level meeting, the Committee considered the main elements of a future implementation framework that would allow for continuing the implementation of the UNECE Strategy for ESD after 2015.

The Committee also prepared the up-coming mandatory national implementation reporting, which will collect evidence about successes and obstacles encountered in the implementation of phase III under the Strategy (2010–2015) and as such will be instrumental to set priorities for future ESD implementation.

Member States and observers discussed the Committee's contributions to the World Conference on ESD (10–12 November 2014 - Aichi-Nagoya, Japan), where a new global action programme on ESD will be launched.

The report on the 9th Steering Committee meeting will be released shortly on the UNECE ESD website: <http://www.unece.org/env/esd.html>. □

*Not an official record - For information only*