

# **Proposal for THE PEP Partnership on the Integration of Transport, Health and Environmental Objectives with Urban and Spatial Planning Policies**

*Draft concept note from 19 June 2014 submitted by the Governments of France and the Russian Federation*

## **I. Background and mandate**

1. At the Fourth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment, 14 to 16 April in Paris, the members of the UNECE-WHO Pan-European Programme on Transport, Health and Environment (THE PEP) adopted a new priority goal “*to integrate transport, health and environmental objectives into urban and spatial planning policies*” as mentioned in the Paris Declaration.
2. During the Extended Bureau meeting, held on 16 April 2014, the Russian Federation proposed the organization of an international Partnership of THE PEP in the framework of this fifth priority goal and France proposed to join the partnership.
3. All three sectors of THE PEP will benefit from the Paris Goal 5 and a proposed new partnership will be a positive and constructive way to help States to implement a proactive policy in terms of urban mobility, health and sustainable development. Moreover, THE PEP 2014 Symposium will be held on 19 November in Geneva in relation with the new fifth goal, providing a chance for further consideration of the implications of Goal 5.

## **II. Proposal for a new THE PEP Partnership**

4. The lack of sufficient coordination of urban and spatial planning policies with the real possibilities of transport system in many cases results in generation of excessive transport demand which in turn leads not only to the reduction of urban transport system efficiency but also to a significant increase in transport’s negative impact on the environment and health. The scale of the problem is significant and requires joint action of the States at international level.
5. As the main directions of the new Partnership, it is proposed to consider the following:
  - (a) Organization of scientific cooperation on the problems of integration of transport and urban planning policies taking into account their possible impact on human health and the environment between related research institutes and scientific centers of participating countries through<sup>1</sup>:
    - (i) Research and a detailed analysis of the best practices in the field of sustainable urban and transport planning, joint preparation on this basis of relevant Manuals;

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<sup>1</sup> Note: many of these are included also in the concept note on THE PEP Academy (secretariat note 08). The Bureau may wish to discuss which of these activities shall be part of the partnership and which should be carried out through forthcoming activities of THE PEP Academy.

- (ii) Joint initiation and organization of bilateral and multilateral research projects in the framework of existing international and national research programs and plans;
  - (iii) Organization of study courses for experts in the framework of mutual scientific and technical interchange, and their involvement in realization of relevant national projects in this sphere;
  - (iv) Joint organization of international scientific conferences, seminars and round-tables;
  - (v) Joint holding of open competitions for an award for the best studies among young scientists (e.g. under 30);
  - (vi) Joint publication of scientific articles.
- (b) Joint organization of training in the field of sustainable transport planning in relation with THE PEP Academy (new implementation mechanism of THE PEP in the Paris Declaration) by :
- (i) signing of appropriate agreements between the leading technical universities from participating countries if such agreements don't exist yet or with the objective of completing existing agreements;
  - (ii) joint development of curricula and programs for students ;
  - (iii) organization of distance learning system in accordance with MD program with presenting an international diploma to graduating students.
- (c) Joint development and valorization (guides, seminars...) of methodical recommendations, normative guidelines and exchanges on experiences and best practices for city administrations, urban and transport planners (initiative 5.1 of the Paris Declaration) ;
- (d) In case of interest from a sufficient number of Member States - preparation of proposals on a new Charter or Convention on the General principles and rules of assessment of urban planning solutions from the point of view of their impacts on transport demand generation, human health and the environment;
- (e) Joint organization of international conferences and seminars for representatives of city administrations, transport authorities on issues related to transportation efficiency and safety (in Russia - in the framework of the Road Safety Federal Target Programme, with possible locations in 2015-2016 - Moscow, Lipetsk, Kaliningrad, Kazan, St. Petersburg and in France – Paris or Lyon) ;
- (f) Joint organization of functioning of an international information-consulting and analytical Centre on Problems of Sustainable Urban and Transport Planning on the basis of the existing THE PEP Clearing House (with English, French, Russian and German languages) or with the use of national resources ;
- (g) Establishment of a pool of accredited international experts on the problems under consideration with the issuance of " THE PEP Expert " certificates;
- (h) Development of joint proposals for the creation of an international system of voluntary certification of town planning and a big construction projects for their compliance with the requirements of transport accessibility and “sustainability” for the environment and human health with the issuance of a “THE PEP Certificate”.

### **III. Conditions of participation in the Partnership**

6. The conditions of participation shall follow the procedures as agreed by the Bureau: The proposed THE Partnership would be established by a decision of the Steering Committee. To facilitate such a decision, the secretariat, in collaboration with interested partners, would prepare the following supporting documentation: objective; scope and purpose; list of initial partners; management arrangements; target groups; an indication of how the proposed Partnership would fit under the existing work plan; and a proposal for monitoring implementation. Specific activities and a timetable for carrying them out should be described. Initial partners would confirm their participation by submitting to the secretariat a signed letter of intent expressing interest to join the respective Partnership and indicating the quality and quantity of their expected contribution (Secretariat note 06).

### **IV. Action requested of the Bureau**

7. The Bureau is invited to take note of the content of this submission and to comment on it as appropriate with a view to move forward in the preparation of a proposal in accordance with paragraph 6 above for submission to the Steering Committee of THE PEP at its 12<sup>th</sup> session.