Ad Hoc meeting of THE PEP Secretariat and the Government of France
20-21 February 2013, La Defense (Paris)

Summary

I. Participation

1. The Government of France convened an ad hoc meeting in Paris (La Defense) from 20 to 21 February in order to progress on the preparations for the 4th High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (4HLM). The 4HLM will be held in Paris and La Defense from 14 to 16 April 2014, hosted by France. The ad hoc meeting was attended by (from France), representatives of the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy and the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health; from THE PEP Secretariat, representatives from the UNECE and from the WHO/Regional Office for Europe.

II. Preparation for the 4HLM

2. The Meeting discussed several themes that may be highlighted in the 4HLM, such as green and healthy jobs, which has evolved since THE PEP presented its publication on the same topic at the Environment for Europe (EfE) Conference in Astana. Global health policy was also evolving, as encompassed by the WHO-led Health 2020 (H2020) and there were new approaches to mobility including an increasing awareness of transport policymakers to support active mobility such as walking and cycling and new technologies, such as electric mobility. WHO stressed the importance of quantifying results and showing examples through case studies.

3. The Meeting concluded that it would build on what it had started in Astana and seek additional case studies to determine what kinds of initiatives would be useful for THE PEP to support, not only in Western Europe but in EECCA countries as well. THE PEP Secretariat would contact Member States who contributed to the publication in Astana and take stock of new developments in order to demonstrate at the 4HLM that it is possible to create jobs with green and health-friendly objectives. A draft would be presented at the 20th Meeting of the Extended Bureau on 11-12 July 2013 in Copenhagen.

4. The Meeting considered the timing, format and events that would make up the Draft Programme for the 4HLM and produced a detailed schedule as reflected in the Annex of the Report of the 10th Session of the Steering Committee of THE PEP (and further elaborated in the Report of the 19th Meeting of the Extended Bureau of THE PEP (4-5 April 2013, Paris)).

5. The Meeting considered possible themes, indicators and actions and developed a working draft of the Paris Declaration. As the Steering Committee had agreed at its 10th session, the forthcoming Paris Declaration would build on the original four goals of the Amsterdam Declaration of 2009, while elaborating each goal to reflect the changing reality over the past 5 years. An additional Goal 5 was proposed, to encompass Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCA/DRR) with an emphasis on building the resilience of urban environments and infrastructures to prepare and plan for the expected increase in climate change-induced extreme weather events, such as droughts, cyclones, storms and floods.

6. The next meeting of the Bureau was scheduled for 4-5 April 2013 in Paris.