The Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)
serviced by the UNECE Sustainable Transport and Environment Divisions & WHO/Europe

Matthias Rinderknecht, Outgoing Chair, THE PEP
Seventy-eighth annual session of the Inland Transport Committee
THE PEP activities 2015

THE PEP 2015 Annual Workshop
10-12 September 2015, Irkutsk, Russian Federation
at the deepest and cleanest Lake in the World

«Looking for Synergy: Integrating Transport, Urban Planning and the Use of Traffic Management Methods to Ensure Sustainable Mobility and Healthy Urban Environment»
 Luxembourg Declaration

Informal meeting of EU ministers for Transport
Luxembourg, October 7th, 2015

Declaration on Cycling as a climate friendly Transport Mode

Preamble

Innovation
Cycling is a European success story. Bicycle innovation will boost jobs and growth and support EU industry through new technology and services.

Environment
In and around Europe’s many growing urban centres, cycling is an essential tool for congestion relief. Both for the state and for citizens, cycling is the most cost effective transport mode after walking, as it produces massive positive externalities for society at little expenditure in terms of infrastructure and vehicles. When production, maintenance, operation and fuel are taken into account, cycling is the most greenhouse gas efficient transport mode of all. Considering that half of all passenger car trips made in most European cities are shorter than five kilometres and that more than half of all motorized cargo trips in EU cities could be shifted to bicycles, there is significant potential to increase cycling’s mode share and to improve quality of life.

Action plan
Taking into account (1) the call of the European Parliament for ‘an EU roadmap for cycling to be included in the Commission Work Programme’ and (2) the ‘2014 Paris Declaration’ of the Transport Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) to develop ‘a pan-European Master Plan for cycling promotion’, Ministers and State Secretaries call upon the Commission to consider, in full respect of the principle of subsidiarity, the following actions:

1. Integrate cycling into multimodal transport policy, including smart mobility, stressing the need to promote physical infrastructure and behavioural change programs.

2. Develop an EU level strategic document on cycling. This strategic document should (1) list all the goals within EU competence that would benefit from an increase in cycling’s mode share, (2) identify EU policy and funding instruments that are already mobilized or that should be mobilized to increase cycling’s mode share and to foster cycling related employment in the EU, and (3) include cycling in the above EU policies and funding instruments.

3. Set up a European focal point for cycling to serve as a one-stop-shop for cycling related questions, (2) to facilitate the exchange of best practices among Member States’, notably on cyclists’ road safety, and (3) to monitor the implementation and the impact of the EU strategy for cycling.

4. Designating a national focal point for cycling to gather and disseminate best practices within the Member State and to cooperate with the European focal point for cycling as well as with existing forums, such as the United Nations’ Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme.

5. Ensuring that national transport infrastructure projects consider and aim to strengthen international, national, regional and local cycling networks.
Towards 5HLM THE PEP
Vienna Austria 2019

Thank you for your attention!
www.thepep.org