

Item 8 (e) of the provisional agenda

Managing THE PEP:

Strengthening synergies with international organizations and processes

Collaboration between THE PEP and the European Environment Process (EHP) in view of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health (2017)

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

1. THE PEP was established in 2002 at the Second High Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health. THE PEP brought together, under one single policy platform, the UNECE Programme of Joint Action on Transport and Environment and the WHO Charter on Transport, Environment and Health, which had been adopted at the Third Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, held in London, United Kingdom, in 1999. THE PEP is serviced by a joint secretariat provided by the UNECE and WHO/Europe.
2. THE PEP is one of the processes directly contributing to the WHO European Environment and Health Process (EHP), notably through the implementation of the commitments taken under the Fourth and Fifth Ministerial Conferences on Environment and Health, held in 2004 and 2010, respectively^{1,2}.
3. THE PEP Bureau was informed by the secretariat at its twenty-ninth session of the preparations of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, to be hosted by the Czech Republic in Ostrava, on 13-15 June 2017. In particular, the Bureau was informed that the outcome of the Ministerial Conference is expected to be result-oriented, with very few and targeted commitments. THE PEP Steering Committee and Bureau were invited to consider how and to which extent THE PEP could be involved in the preparation and outcome of the Ministerial Conference.
4. In brainstorming about topics that might be relevant for THE PEP to discuss at the EHP Ministerial Conference, the Bureau highlighted several possibilities, including:
 - 4.a) To consider a political outcome linked to THE PEP, such as recognizing human-powered transport as a means of transport. This outcome could support the Master Plan on cycling, currently under preparation. Such an outcome could also be seen as an intermediate step in the preparation of Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health, which will take place in Vienna, Austria, in 2019;
 - 4.b) To link THE PEP to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to the outcome of the Paris Climate agreement of 2015. This could be done by focusing on Goal 5 of the Paris Declaration, linking THE PEP and the EHP to the theme on “Cities”, which has been identified as a priority for the future of the EHP. Inviting THE PEP to further work on decarbonization or on drawing more attention to the social elements of sustainability could be part of it;
 - 4.c) To organize a side event and, possibly, a meeting of THE PEP back-to-back with the Ministerial Conference, to maximize the participation of additional stakeholders in THE PEP process.

¹Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, Budapest, Hungary, 23-25 June 2004 (http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/88577/E83335.pdf)

²Parma Declaration on Environment and Health, 2010 (http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/78608/E93618.pdf)

5. The Bureau decided that the Steering Committee should be involved in the discussion regarding THE PEP and the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, and requested the secretariat to insert in the forthcoming Steering Committee agenda an item to that effect;

6. The Bureau also requested the secretariat to prepare a draft paper drawing from the discussions held by the Bureau at its twenty-ninth meeting, and making proposals for the possible contribution of THE PEP to the political outcome of the Sixth Ministerial Conference, for consideration by the Steering Committee at its fourteenth session. Based on the outcome of the discussions by the Steering Committee, the paper would be submitted for consideration by the Fourth meeting of the European Environment and Health Task Force, the body negotiating the political outcomes of the Sixth Ministerial Conference, which will take place in Vienna, Austria, on 29-30 November 2016.

II. THE PEP and the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health

7. The Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, taking place in 2017, is a milestone in the WHO European Environment and Health Process. Its preparation is being led by the European Environment and Health Task Force (EHTF), supported by its Ad-Hoc Working Group.

8. The Conference is expected to result in the adoption of a negotiated political Ministerial Conference Declaration. This should:

- a. position the EHP as a regional mechanism for the implementation of selected targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as of the WHO public health policy “Health2020”;
- b. renew the commitments made at the previous Ministerial Conference, by addressing the remaining challenges in terms of political will, resources and capacities that make it difficult to achieve progress throughout the European Region;
- c. address the main priorities identified by the EHTF, namely, air pollution, cities, chemical safety, climate change, and water, sanitation and hygiene; and
- d. focus on a limited number of new commitments, which should provide clear added-value and deal with new and relevant issues not already addressed by other processes and/or initiatives;

9. The Declaration will be complemented by: an implementation plan, highlighting the specific partnerships, actors, implementation modalities and financing mechanisms most appropriate to fulfil the commitments taken at the Conference, and linking the commitments to the relevant Sustainable Development Goals and targets, to which the EHP will make a direct contribution, and renewed institutional arrangements for the governance of the EHP.

10. Of particular relevance to THE PEP is the fact that, as part of the preparatory discussions for the Sixth Ministerial Conference, the importance of urban environments and cities has clearly emerged as a platform for environment and health policy implementation. This brings about the need to develop collaboration with cities and local governments focusing on the priority areas identified by the EHP. This could refer, in particular, to air pollution, green spaces, transport-related issues, waste, and resilience to and mitigation of climate change. The urban dimension would also facilitate taking into account new regional issues, such as those related to migration and ageing. It would also bring the outcome of the Ministerial Conference closer to people (the “human-centred” approach).

11. The identification of “cities” as a new priority area for the EHP is highly consistent with THE PEP Paris Declaration “City in motion – people first!” and its Goal 5 “To integrate transport, health and environmental objective into urban and spatial planning policies”.

12. The Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health represents therefore an important opportunity for THE PEP to:

- a. Showcase its key achievements, e.g. through the relay-races and partnerships;
- b. Receive a renewed mandate to continue to contribute to the implementation of the EHP, notably with respect to better quality of life in urban environments;
- c. Establish stronger links and collaboration with the EHP, notably by participating in the renewed institutional framework for the EHP governance, for example by ensuring that THE PEP, e.g. through its Chairperson, is represented in the new governing body(ies) of the EHP;
- d. Establish a link with the forthcoming Fifth High Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health, which will take place in Vienna, Austria in 2019.

13. In particular, THE PEP Steering Committee may wish to consider the following proposals:

- a. **Organizing a side event of THE PEP and an exhibition at the Sixth Ministerial Conference:** This could highlight the main achievements of THE PEP and its partnerships, and showcase THE PEP tools and publications;
- b. **Holding a meeting of THE PEP back to back to the Ministerial Conference.** This could be a relay-race in collaboration with the host country of the Conference, or a meeting of one or more of THE PEP Partnerships, for example, one of the preparatory meetings for the development of the Cycling Master plan, and/or a meeting on THE PEP Partnership on Goal 5.
- c. **Propose that the Ministerial Conference Declaration:**
 - i. **Renews the commitment** to use THE PEP as a mechanism to achieve the Regional Priority Goal 2 “Addressing obesity and injuries through safe environments, physical activity and healthy diet” and its target “to provide each child by 2020 with access to healthy and safe environments and settings of daily life in which they can walk and cycle to kindergartens and schools, and to green spaces in which to play and undertake physical activity”;
 - ii. **Affirms the importance of active mobility (cycling and walking) as full-fledged means of transportation, to be prioritized in urban environments;**
 - iii. **Invites Member States to actively participate in the development of THE PEP master plan on cycling** to be adopted by the Fifth High Level Meeting on Transport, Environment and Health in 2019;
 - iv. **Invites THE PEP to develop and implement health impact assessments of transport and use plans, as well as of new mobility technologies.**

The current proposed text for the draft Implementation Plan of the Declaration of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health is provided in Annex 1.

III Next steps

14. THE PEP Steering Committee is invited to consider these proposals and make recommendations to transmit them for consideration by the European Environment and Health Task Force at its Fourth meeting, taking place on 29-30 November 2016.

Annex 1

Draft text relevant to THE PEP in the draft Implementation Plan of the Declaration of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health

Priority area 5: Making European cities and regions liveable, environmentally sustainable, resilient to global environmental change, protecting and promoting health and wellbeing of their citizens

With more than four fifths of our population living in cities, and an increasing devolution of responsibilities to the sub-national levels of government, we need to collaborate with cities to make them inclusive, safe, resilient, ecological and sustainable. This implies ensuring policy coherence across all levels of government, protecting and promoting the environment, health and wellbeing, and increasing the capacities of sub-national levels of government to effectively discharge these new responsibilities.

Towards this goal, we will use the European Environment and Health Process as a platform and mechanism to support the policy planning and implementation at the sub-national levels, bringing the benefits of our work closer to the people and augmenting the impact of our efforts.

Specifically, in the context of urbanization and infrastructure that supports life and economic activity in urban and peri-urban areas, we will give appropriate consideration and attention to transport and mobility as important determinants of health and wellbeing, and will work through THE PEP to make progress towards healthy and sustainable transport systems.

We recognize active mobility (cycling and walking) as full-fledged means of transportation, to be prioritized in urban environments and invite Member States to actively participate in the development of a European master plan on cycling to be adopted by the Fifth High Level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment in 2019.

Objective:	(ii) Support the development of sustainable and healthy transport and mobility policies leveraging on the Transport Health and Environment Pan European Programme (THE PEP)
Action:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthen the cooperation in and enhance the implementation mechanisms of the Transport Health and Environment Pan European Programme (THE PEP) to develop and implement environmentally friendly and health promoting transport policies 2. Support the development and implementation of the THE PEP Pan-European Master Plan on cycling (to be adopted in 2019) as an important step towards promoting cycling at the Pan-European, national and subnational level; 3. Develop and implement national policies for healthy active mobility focusing on cycling and walking, connecting them with public transport, and integrate their needs into land use and transport planning, infrastructure development and design of public space; 4. Assess the health and environment impacts of transport infrastructures and new technologies, such as autonomous vehicles; 5. Promoted decarbonizing of transport, by a transition to renewable energy, zero and low emission vehicles and environmentally friendly transport modes, such as active mobility, public transport, eco-driving, electric mobility and mobility management; 6. Develop and disseminate the evidence of environment, health and economic benefits of decarbonizing transport and environmentally friendly and healthy mobility to raise awareness of policy makers,

	<p>stakeholders and citizens;</p> <p>7. Integrate environment and health objectives and professionals into transport and infrastructure planning and decision making processes on national and sub-national level</p>
SMART target	<p>XX countries to take part in the development of the European Master Plan by 2019;</p> <p>xx countries and xx cities to use THE PEP Master Plan on cycling as a basis to develop national and local active mobility policies by 2025</p> <p>xx countries applying Health Economic Assessment Tool (HEAT)</p> <p>xx countries developing national strategies to promote walking</p> <p>xx countries developing national strategies for decarbonization of transport</p> <p>xx countries developing national plans for electric mobility</p>
SDGs Targets:	3.4, 3.6, 3.9, 7.2, 7.3, 7.a 11.2, 11.3
Commitments:	<p>Parma Declaration on Environment and Health (2010), Paris Declaration on Transport, Health and Environment (2014), Paris Climate Agreement (2015), Declaration of the Sixth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health, WHO European Strategy for the Promotion of Physical Activity</p>
Lead actor(s):	UNECE and WHO co-secretariat
Supportive partners:	<p>UNEP, UN Habitat, Committee of the Regions, EU, THE PEP Partnerships, EEHYC, European Cyclists Federation, ICLEI, POLIS, Healthy Cities, Regions for Health Networks</p>
Monitoring mechanism:	THE PEP implementation reporting;
Indicator:	<p>Number countries/cities that use THE PEP cycling masterplan to develop active mobility policies</p> <p>Number of countries developing national strategies to promote walking</p> <p>Number of countries developing national strategies for decarbonization of transport</p> <p>Number of countries developing national plans for electric mobility</p> <p>Number of applications of HEAT</p>