Mr. Chairman, honourable Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Czech Republic has a great pleasure to express many thanks for the generosity and hospitality to the Government of France and to the World Health Organization and to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe for organizing the Fourth High Level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment.

We fully support Paris Declaration; its ideas, new goals and activities. Harmful emissions and noise produced by transport are constantly damaging our health, but not enough attention is paid to these risks by comparison with, for example, climate change which gained public and political interest due to the Kyoto Convention. Hazardous emissions from transport are no less important and challenging issue that demands our consideration. While these emissions escape to our senses and therefore to our attention, they daily hurt our health.

Particular attention should be paid to aromatic hydrocarbons with mutagenic and carcinogenic consequences, fine particles PM2.5 or PM10 with very harmful composition, organic substances, nitrogen oxides and ozone. These emissions are linked mainly to oil engines.

With respect to the urgent need to develop an efficient political solution of these global transport problems and to motivate high-quality innovations and investment in sustainable transport, we propose to make simultaneous preparation of wording of the Framework Convention on Transport, Health and Environment, one of the assignments or missions of the THE PEP program and Paris Declaration.

Thank you for your attention