

**World Health Organization
Regional Office for Europe**
Sixty-eighth session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe
Rome, Italy, 17-20 September 2018

TECHNICAL BRIEFING
**Healthy people through environmentally sustainable urban transport: towards the 5th
High Level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment**

Day and time in the programme	18 September 2018 12:30–14:30
Introductory remarks for the President of the session	<p>The Transport, Health and Environment pan-European Programme (THE PEP) was established in 2002 by the 56 member states of the UNECE and WHO/Europe. Since then, policymakers and experts of the three sectors have been working together to fulfil the vision on “Green and healthy mobility and transport for sustainable livelihoods for all”.</p> <p>THE PEP provides important contributions to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as to achieving the commitments taken at the Ostrava Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health. This is done in particular by focusing on achieving healthy, clean, zero-emission mobility and transport in Europe for all. Among other actions this can be achieved through the promotion of safe walking and cycling.</p> <p>Active mobility can have multiplicative health, social, environmental, cultural and economic benefits for communities and Member States, as also recognized by the Physical Activity Strategy for the WHO European Region 2016-2025 and the Global Action Plan on Physical Activity 2018-2030.</p> <p>To increase the political prominence of walking and cycling, European Member States mandated the establishment of a partnership under THE PEP to develop a Pan-European Master Plan for Cycling Promotion.</p> <p>The master plan is being developed by 25 countries and is expected to be adopted at the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment to be kindly hosted by Austria on 22-24 October 2019 in Vienna.</p>

<p>Objectives – what the session intends to achieve, what is the expected outcome</p>	<p>The event will highlight the importance of healthy, active and sustainable transport systems and address synergies in transport and urban planning, health promotion and protection, environmental quality and economic development. It will also emphasize the role that the health sector can play in promoting cycling as part of the strategies, initiatives and interventions promoting physical activity.</p> <p>Furthermore, the event will raise awareness and encourage the active engagement particularly of ministries of health in the preparation of the 5th High-level Meeting by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • highlighting opportunities for better health through environmentally friendly, economically viable and socially fair urban transport policies with a particular focus on cycling; • illustrating the links between the SDGs and THE PEP and the European Environment and Health Process; • showcasing the potential of THE PEP in integrating health and environment concerns into the transport policies; • presenting the 5th High-level Meeting and the main expected political outcomes (notably the Masterplan for Cycling Promotion);
<p>Scenario: description of the session</p>	<p>The session will include two key note speakers and a panel discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first speaker will highlight the scientific evidence on the correlation between physical activity, in particular cycling, and improved health. • The second speaker (Mr. Robert Thaler, Austrian Federal Ministry of for Sustainability and Tourism, as the Host of the Fifth High Level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment) will focus on the political efforts for a transition to safe, age- and gender-responsive, affordable, accessible, and sustainable urban mobility transport systems by promoting cycling as means of transport. In this context, the forthcoming master plan for Cycling Promotion will be presented with the aim of engaging more supporters from the health ministries of Member States. • The key note speeches will be followed by a moderated panel discussion on developing integrated, comprehensive, inclusive and effective framework for moving forward with sustainable development and implementing the SDGs.
<p>Related documents</p>	<p>Draft Pan-European Master Plan for Cycling Promotion; Making THE (Transport, Health and Environment) Link - Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European programme and the Sustainable Development Goals</p>
<p>Focal point(s) for session at the technical unit</p>	<p>Ms. Francesca Racioppi racioppif@who.int Ms. Nino Sharashidze sharashidzen@who.int</p>