

High-level Meeting on Transport, Health
and Environment

**Steering Committee of the Transport, Health
and Environment Pan-European Programme**

Eighteenth session

Geneva, 25-27 November 2020

Annotated provisional agenda for the eighteenth session

To be held at World Health Organization Headquarters, Geneva,

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the reports of the Steering Committee on its seventeenth session and the report of the Bureau on its thirty-seventh meeting.

* The Steering Committee will be held at World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters in Geneva (Salle D), located on Avenue Appia. To access WHO premises, delegates must be registered in a list of participants that will be made available at the WHO reception facility at the entrance to the main building. Prior to the session, delegates are requested to report to the entrance of the main building, where they will receive an identification badge and be directed to the meeting room. For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of the documents mentioned in this provisional agenda to the meeting. Documents for the meeting may be downloaded from THE PEP website (thepep.unece.org).

Note: In light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, should there be any limitations on in-person meetings and international travel, the secretariat will post relevant information in due course.

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4. COVID-19 and THE PEP.
 5. Preparation of the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment.
 6. Implementing the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme:
 - (a) Financial matters;
 - (b) THE PEP Partnerships;
 - (c) THE PEP relay race;
 - (d) THE PEP programme of work for 2020-2021;
 - (e) Strengthening synergies with other international processes and organization;
 - (f) Monitoring progress in the implementation of THE PEP Priority Goals;
 - (g) THE PEP Academy;
 - (h) National transport, health and environment action plans;
 - (i) Communication.
 7. Other business.
 8. Date and venue of the next session of the Committee and meetings of the Bureau.

II. Annotations

1. Opening of the session and adoption of the agenda

The Steering Committee of the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme (THE PEP) is expected to adopt the agenda of its eighteenth session as prepared by secretariat, comprising the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe (WHO/Europe), in consultation with the Bureau of the Steering Committee.

2. Election of officers

The Committee will elect a Chair and one or more Vice-Chairs, as needed. In accordance with its rules of procedure, the Chair will rotate on a yearly basis between representatives of the transport, health and environment sectors.

The Committee, at its seventeenth session (Geneva, 21-23 October 2019) decided that the current Chair and Vice-Chairs maintain their positions in view of the postponed Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment to November 2020.

The Committee will review the composition of its Bureau (see annex) and consider electing new members.

3. Adoption of reports of the Steering Committee and the Bureau

The Committee will adopt the report of its seventeenth session and take note of the report of the thirty-seventh meeting of the Bureau (29 June 2020), which was held in a virtual format.

4. COVID-19 and THE PEP

At an extraordinary meeting of THE PEP (22 April 2020), the members of the Bureau of the Steering Committee emphasised a new important role that THE PEP could play in the post-pandemic phase.

The Committee may wish to brainstorm and discuss concrete activities how THE PEP could support countries in shaping and promoting healthier and more effective transport options for resilient and sustainable mobility in the future.

5. Preparation of the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment

At an extraordinary meeting of THE PEP, the Government of Austria informed the member States about the postponement once again of the Fifth High-level Meeting to 2021 because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Steering Committee is expected to approve the postponement, to discuss the role that THE PEP can play in reflecting on the current crisis and continue the preparations towards the High-level Meeting.

Furthermore, the Committee will discuss the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the themes and programme of the event and revise the programme accordingly.

Finally, the Committee will consider draft documents on the expected outputs of the High-level Meeting, including the draft declaration and the workplan for the period 2021-2026.

In view of the postponement of the High-level Meeting, the Committee might wish to discuss the new schedule for the preparatory process.

6. Managing and implementing the Transport, Health and Environment Pan-European Programme

(a) Financial matters

The secretariat will inform the Committee about the use of funds in 2020 and provide an outlook for planned expenditures in 2021 based on its programme of work. Delegations are expected to pledge contributions, in cash or in kind, to support the implementation of THE PEP activities.

(b) THE PEP Partnerships

THE PEP Partnerships provide THE PEP with an effective mechanism to support the implementation of the workplan in aspects related to the development of tools and methods as well as to provide technical capacity to support member States in implementing THE PEP at the national level.

The Steering Committee might wish to discuss how THE PEP Partnerships can further support the implementation of THE PEP Priority Goals in view of the current crisis.

(c) THE PEP relay race

THE PEP relay race, initiated by the Amsterdam Declaration of 2009 and relaunched at the Fourth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment (Paris, 14–16 April 2014), provides an opportunity to share experience and best practices in sustainable and healthy transport and mobility and is one of the main mechanisms for implementing the Paris Declaration.

Due to the current pandemic there were no relay races in 2020. However, delegations may wish to discuss opportunities for future activities under the current implementation mechanism. The Committee may wish to propose that the relay races are temporarily turned into on-line events.

(d) THE PEP programme of work for 2020-2021

At its eleventh meeting (Geneva, 23 October 2009), the Bureau of the Steering Committee requested the secretariat to prepare each year a detailed programme of work, showing work accomplished over the previous year and expected outputs for the forthcoming year.

The Committee is invited to review activities completed in 2020 and to adopt its programme of work for 2020-2021.

(e) Strengthening synergies with other international processes and organizations

The Committee will be informed about collaboration between THE PEP and related international processes with a view to strengthening synergies.

The extraordinary meeting of THE PEP expressed the need for guidance on transport, health and environment to be developed in the short term to support the post-lockdown recovery efforts. The secretariat will present a guidance “Supporting healthy urban transport and mobility during the easing of COVID-19 measures” developed in collaboration with WHO Headquarters as well as the technical guidance on “Moving around during the COVID-19 outbreak”.

In addition, the secretariat will provide information about a series of thematic webinars addressing different environment and health challenges in the context of COVID-19.

(f) Monitoring progress in the implementation of THE PEP Priority Goals

At the seventeenth session of the Steering Committee, the secretariat presented the state of national implementation of THE PEP, in particular, the main developments, challenges and enabling factors based on replies to an annual questionnaire for the period 2011–2018.

The Steering Committee will consider the existing reporting mechanism to evaluate the progress made in the implementation of THE PEP and may wish to further explore the assessment mechanism for identifying country needs and main challenges in implementation of THE PEP based on replies to an annual questionnaire in 2011-2018.

The Steering Committee may also wish to discuss what to propose to the High-level Meeting in terms of monitoring the implementation of THE PEP.

(g) THE PEP Academy

The Paris Declaration provided for the establishment of a new implementation mechanism, THE PEP Academy. The objective of THE PEP Academy is to link science, policy and practice, and serve as a platform to strengthen capacities for integrated transport, health, environment and spatial planning. It should thereby facilitate the uptake of new knowledge and capitalize on the achievements and experience of THE PEP.

At the seventeenth session of the Steering Committee, the secretariat presented the review of the implemented and proposed activities for THE PEP Academy and emphasised a lack of financial and human resources needed for enabling this

implementation mechanism to properly fulfil the role assigned to it for linking science, policy and practice and reinforcing capacities of Member States for integrated policymaking.

The Committee may wish to discuss the progress and challenges with regard to THE PEP Academy and the next steps for strengthening it as an important implementation mechanism, including possible efficient ways for resource mobilisation in order to broaden range of activities and to enhance a set of possible good results to be achieved following the Fifth High-level Meeting on Transport, Health and Environment in 2021.

(h) National transport, health and environment action plans

A national transport, health and environment action plan is a key tool and mechanism for developing sustainable and healthy transport in a country. Such plans call for work across sectors and thus contribute to achieving the goals of THE PEP.

The Committee might wish to consider possibilities to assist member States requiring support in developing national transport, health and environment action plans and to build the capacity of countries to integrate transport, health and environment policies.

(i) Communication strategy

The secretariat will present a list of proposed communication activities for THE PEP in 2021.

The Steering Committee may wish to discuss opportunities for increasing the visibility of THE PEP, while at the same time promoting further involvement of all potential stakeholders.

The member States will be invited to consider and suggest innovative approaches and share good practices that can be applied for dissemination and visibility opportunities for THE PEP.

7. Other business

The Committee may wish to consider other issues of interest in the field of transport, health and environment.

8. Date and venue of the next session of the Committee and meetings of the Bureau

The Steering Committee might wish to consider the timeline for the next meetings.

The date of the 19th session of the Steering Committee as well as the dates and places of the next Bureau and the preparatory meetings depend on the date of the High-level Meeting.

Annex

Composition of the Bureau

The current composition of the Bureau is as set out below.

Health sector

- Mr. Mihail Kochubovski (North Macedonia)
- Ms. Vigdis Ronning (Norway) - **Vice-Chair**

Transport sector

- Mr. Vadim Donchenko (Russian Federation) - **Vice-Chair**
- Mr. Julien Fernandez (France)
- Mr. Matthias Rinderknecht (Switzerland)

Environment sector

- Ms. Biljana Filipovic (Serbia)
 - Ms. Nino Tkhilava (Georgia)
 - Mr. Robert Thaler (Austria) - **Chair**
 - Mr. Mario Fruianu (Netherlands).
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