

EPOC High-Level Special Session on Decoupling Environmental Pressures of the Transport Sector in the Context of Unsustainable Production and Consumption Patterns

**Wednesday, 12 November 2003
9:30 am – 6:00 pm**

**Room 1
IEA Conference Centre
9 rue de la Fédération, 75015 Paris**

Context

Developing sustainable transport systems is one of the major challenges for OECD countries at the outset of the 21st century, especially as some important transport trends continue to move away from, rather than towards, environmental, social and economic sustainability. Innovative solutions that go beyond "business-as-usual" must be sought and implemented. Strategies should focus on integrated rather than ad-hoc solutions, system approaches rather than unit solutions, and transport chains rather than single modes.

The purpose of the session is to address at a high-level the pressing environmental policy issues related to transport. The OECD Environmental Outlook highlighted the need to substantially reduce the serious health and environmental effects, in particular regarding climate change and air quality, stemming from high growth modes of both passenger and freight transport, particularly for road and aviation. At the same time, negative environmental effects of transport infrastructure, such as habitat destruction and fragmentation, should be reduced and traffic congestion minimised to reduce CO₂ emissions, improve air quality, and increase economic efficiency.

The Special Session

This special session will focus on three topics: tackling externalities through policy mixes; corporate mobility management for passenger and freight; and experience with environmental impact assessment. Emphasis will be given to the views of transport users, and to the roles of governments and the private sector in contributing to finding solutions.

The High-Level Special Session will provide an opportunity for senior-level OECD delegates to discuss the specific challenges for implementing the specific actions outlined in the transport section of the OECD Environmental Strategy and the Guidelines for Environmentally Sustainable Transport, including consideration of the specific needs and possible actions by Environment Ministries, in co-operation with other ministries, to put transport on a sustainable path.

Organisation and Participants

The special session comprises plenary sessions only, with introductory statements followed by several discussants and much opportunity for reaction by Delegates. Participants will include representatives of environment ministries, transport ministries, as well as Stakeholders (from business, trade unions and environmental NGOs) and international organisations, including both transport policy-makers and researchers.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

12th November, 9:30

Welcome and introductory remarks by the EPOC Chair, **Mats Olsson**.

Policy Instruments for decoupling environmental pressures of transport by **Lorents Lorentsen**, Environment Director, OECD.

Transport and the Environment – Implementation of ECMT Resolutions by **Jack Short**, Secretary-General, ECMT, Paris.

SESSION 1. TACKLING TRANSPORT'S EXTERNALITIES BY PERFORMANCE-RELATED INSTRUMENTS – THE ROLE OF REGULATORY, ECONOMIC AND INFORMATION/COMMUNICATION INSTRUMENTS

9:50

Tackling externalities – state-of-the-art on policy research

- Assessing externalities in the EU (UNITE project): **Chris Nash**, EU UNITE Project co-ordinator, University of Leeds.
- Internalisation of transport externalities – theory and practice: **Emile Quinet**, Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, Paris.

10:20

Plenary discussion

Participants are invited to discuss:

- Given the technical difficulties with estimating transport externalities, progress be made in developing appropriate policies?
- What specific measures could be proposed to overcome implementation barriers (including public acceptance of transport charges and taxes) in order to make progress towards further internalisation?

10:50 - 11:10 Break

SESSION 1. TACKLING TRANSPORT'S EXTERNALITIES BY PERFORMANCE-RELATED INSTRUMENTS – THE ROLE OF REGULATORY, ECONOMIC AND INFORMATION/COMMUNICATION INSTRUMENTS (CONT'D)

11:10

Implementation of transport taxes and charges

- The Swiss distance and pollution-related fee for heavy-duty vehicles – the role of charges: **Stefan Suter**, ECOPLAN, Bern.
- London congestion pricing- first impressions: **Ms. Michèle Dix**, Deputy-Director, Congestion Charging, Transport for London, London.

Stakeholder views (trade unions)

- Internalisation of transport externalities in the context of sustainable development: **Sharon James**, International Transport Workers' Federation, London.

11:55

Plenary discussion

Participants are invited to discuss:

- What are OECD country experiences with distance-related and performance-related policy instruments for internalising externalities?
- What are the economic implications (e.g. on competitiveness) of these actions at national and international level and how can these be addressed?

12:25

Chairman summary and conclusions on Session 1

12:30 – 14:30 Lunch

SESSION 2. CORPORATE MOBILITY MANAGEMENT AND INTEGRATED MOBILITY SERVICES AND LOGISTICS FOR PASSENGER AND FREIGHT – NEW RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

14:30

Overview on passenger transport

- Transport demand management in the US and new approaches to mobility, accessibility and intermodalism: **Hank Dittmar**, President and CEO of Reconnecting America, Washington, D.C.

14:45

Experience with integrated mobility services concepts

- Pilot projects on corporate mobility management in Austria: **Hermann Knoflacher**, Transport Research Institute, Technical University, Vienna.

Stakeholder views (business)

- Corporate mobility management: **Bernhard Dicke**, German Association of the Automotive Industry, Frankfurt.

Stakeholder views (environmental NGOs)

- Economic instruments and Corporate Mobility Management: **Markus Liechti**, European Federation for Transport and the Environment, Brussels.

15:30

Plenary discussion

Participants are invited to discuss:

- What are the experiences with integrated mobility services and their contribution to reducing total transport impacts on the environment? **Gloria Visconti** and **Alberto Frondaroli** (both from the Ministry of Environment, Italy) will make an intervention on the issue of "Mobility management in Italy".
- What policy framework and institutional arrangements are needed to support efforts at the corporate level as well as public operators?
- What are the specific measures and barriers to overcome in order to facilitate the broader use of such integrated mobility schemes?

SESSION 2. CORPORATE MOBILITY MANAGEMENT AND INTEGRATED MOBILITY SERVICES AND LOGISTICS FOR PASSENGER AND FREIGHT – NEW RESPONSIBILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES (CONT'D)

16:00

Company freight logistics management

- Managing corporate freight transport- results from sector surveys: **Alan McKinnon**, Logistics Research Centre, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh.

16:15

Plenary discussion

Participants are invited to discuss:

- What are the experiences with freight logistics and their contribution to reducing total transports impacts on the environment?
- What policy framework and institutional arrangements are needed to support efforts at the corporate level as well as public operators?
- What are the specific measures and barriers to overcome in order to facilitate the broader use of efficient freight logistics management?

16:35

Chairman summary and conclusions on Session 2

16:40 – 17:00 Break

SESSION 3. EXPERIENCES WITH ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENTS OF TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE AND HABITAT PROTECTION

17:00

Overview

- Environmental impacts of road infrastructure – experience and policy implications from the USA: **Richard T. Forman**, Advanced Environmental Studies in Landscape Ecology, Harvard Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, MA.

17:15

Experience with implementation of EIAs and SEAs

- Strategic integration of environmental goals into urban transport development – the programme STEP for transport in Berlin: **Axel Friedrich**, Mobility and Environment Division, Umweltbundesamt (Federal Environment Agency), Berlin.

17:30

Plenary discussion

Participants are invited to discuss:

- What are the practical experiences (e.g. successes, draw-backs and environmental effects) with the implementation of impact assessments of transport infrastructure?
- What specific measures and actions are needed to improve the effectiveness of this policy tool?
- What are the principal challenges, obstacles and institutional arrangements needed for implementing a broader scheme of strategic impact assessments of transport infrastructure projects?

17:50

Chairman summary and conclusions on Session 3

18:00 Closure of the High-Level Special Session

18:00 Cocktail