

PROGRAMME AND AGENDA (SEE ALSO ATTACHED AGENDA NOTES)

THURSDAY, 17 APRIL

Assemble and Coffee	8.45
1 Welcome and Introductory Remarks	9.00
2 European Planning	
a The EU Compendium Planning Systems and Policies Vincent Nadin, University of West of England, co-Editor	9.15
b The European Spatial Planning Perspective (ESDP) Roger Read, Fred de Ruitter and Richard Kouprie	9.45
Discussion	10.00
Coffee	10.30
3 Berlin and Lisbon Planning Presentations	
a Berlin	11.00
b Lisbon Metropolitan Area	11.30
Discussion	12.00
Lunch	12.30
4 Working Group Sessions	
Working Group 1 Sustainability and the Metropolitan Planning Process	2.00
Tea	3.30
5 Working Group 2 Planning for Economic Change at the Metropolitan level	4.00
6 Atlas/Directory Management Session	5.30
Close	6.30
Evening free	



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FRIDAY, 18 APRIL

Coffee 9.00

7 Working Group 3 9.15
Integrated Land Use and Transportation Planning**Discussion 10.45**
Working Groups findings and conclusions

Coffee 11.15

8 New Discussion Topic (see attached notes)**Experimental Network Dialogue Session 1 11.30****Restructuring Metropolitan Areas for the 21st Century**

- Identifying priorities for change
- Implementing key projects, including funding options

Lunch 12.30

9 Experimental Network Dialogue Session 2 2.00Tea **Network Exchange (see attached pro forma) 3.30****10 IMC Meeting (see attached detailed Agenda) 4.00****11 Working Groups 1, 2 and 3 5.30**
Management Sessions

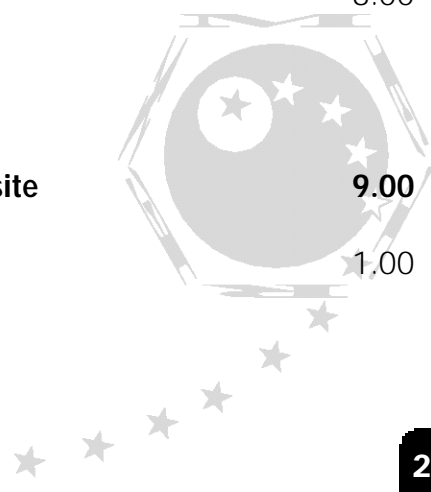
Close 6.00

Network Dinner 8.00

SATURDAY, 19 APRIL

Study visit to Lisbon and the 1998 World Expo site 9.00

Lunch and Close 1.00



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1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE SECRETARIAT AND THE HOST AUTHORITY.

2 EUROPEAN PLANNING

a THE EU COMPENDIUM OF SPATIAL PLANNING SYSTEMS AND POLICIES.

The 3rd meeting of the Ministers for Regional Policy and Planning, in the Hague in 1991, supported the idea of a Compendium to provide an authoritative and comparable source of information about planning systems and policies in the Member states. The work was managed and edited by a team of consultants, comprising Chesterton Consulting and contributors from the Universities of the West of England, Liverpool and Wales. Vincent Nadin, from the University of the West of England, Bristol, will present the work of the team with particular regard to planning at the Metropolitan level. The Summary document has already been distributed to Members, in English.

b THE EUROPEAN SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE (ESDP).

Members have already received a copy of the document prepared by the German Government, dated 1994, following the Leipzig Meeting of the Ministers responsible for Spatial Planning. A further key document on Spatial Planning was prepared by the Italian Government, after the Venice Meeting in 1996. The Brief for the basic ESDP document, prepared thereafter by DGXVI, in English, is attached for Members information.

The ESDP is now being progressed, under the Dutch Presidency of the EU, for consideration in its final form at the Council of Ministers, in Nordweig, in June 1997.

In consequence, officials from DGXVI will find it difficult to attend the METREX Lisbon Meeting but have undertaken to come to the October meeting, in Krakow, when discussion and consultation on the ESDP will be beginning. In addition, the European Commission will make a full presentation on the ESDP to the Nice Conference. A Report on the possible form and content of the ESDP has been prepared by the Secretariat, based on available documents.

3 COTE D'AZUR AND LISBON PLANNING PRESENTATIONS.

At the Nice meeting colleagues from Alpes Maritimes mentioned the intention to prepare a Development Strategy for the Metropole Côte D'Azur. Agreement on

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this concept will be finalised during the Lisbon Meeting and it is hoped to receive a progress report on its form and content.

Colleagues from the Junta Metropolitana de Lisboa will give a presentation on the strategic planning issues facing Lisbon, and the policy approaches being taken to them.

4 -7 WORKING GROUP SESSIONS.

Three sessions of 1.5 hours each have been allocated for Working Group discussions. There are two options for the organisation of the time available:

Option 1

Three separate discussion sessions, dealing with each Working Group topic in turn, led by the respective Working Group Chair and Members, but with other Members of the Network observing and contributing.

Option 2

Individual Working Group discussions continuing over the three sessions available.

The Agenda assumes Option 1, because of the possible difficulty of providing language services to three separate but simultaneous Working Groups sessions, and also because it appears to offer the opportunity to take advantage of the assembled knowledge of all Network Members. Management sessions have been programmed at the end of Thursday and Friday to allow Chairs and Working Groups to consider organisational and business matters.

8 - 9 NEW DISCUSSION TOPIC.

As the Network only meets twice a year, it is suggested that the Lisbon Meeting might initiate regular networking sessions between Members on a current topic of common interest. If this is felt to be a success, it could become a regular Agenda item, to be chosen at the preceding Meeting. This would allow Members to give the issue concerned some prior consideration.

It is propose that the topic for this Experimental Network Dialogue should be:

Restructuring Metropolitan Areas for the 21st Century

- **Identifying priorities for change**
- **Implementing key projects, including funding options.**

This topic was raised by Members at previous Meetings.

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It is intended to promote discussion by dividing the Network into 3 or 4 tables of 8-10 participating Members, with a Chair to conduct the proceedings, and a Rapporteur to record key findings and conclusions. Alastair Wyllie has considerable professional experience of arrangements of this kind, and has provided a separate note suggesting how the Dialogue could be managed. The Secretariat has also prepared a Discussion Note on the topic, as an aid to debate, based on some of the policy issues identified in the EU Compendium.

It would be appreciated if Members could give some consideration to this topic, and either circulate short contributions beforehand or come prepared to table these at the Meeting. It would also help if one or two Members could volunteer to initiate the discussion at a table.

It is also proposed that in order to promote networking within METREX, over the coming year, Members should give consideration to the attached pro forma. The results will be discussed at tea time on the Friday afternoon prior to the IMC Meeting.

10 THE IMC MEETING.

A separate Agenda is attached for the IMC Meeting, with its own Reports and Documents. Some Reports will also be given verbally.



2b — THE EUROPEAN SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE (ESDP)

BACKGROUND

The process leading to the imminent publication of the ESDP began in Nantes, as far back as 1989, when the Ministers responsible for Spatial Planning in the EU first met. They then met once a year until 1993, and twice a year thereafter. The ESDP production process really began in 1994. Key meetings appear to have been:

- The Hague, 1991. Committee on Spatial Development (CSD) formed.
- Liege, 1993. Ministers decide to draw up the ESDP.
- Leipzig, 1994. The principles for the ESDP agreed. (Document circulated to METREX Members).
- Strasbourg, 1995. Trend scenarios considered.
- Madrid, 1995. Interim document. Options on planning considered.
- Venice, 1996. Basic document with synthesis maps. (DGXVI Work programme for drawing up the basic document circulated to METREX Members with Lisbon agenda papers).
- Nordweig, 1997. ESDP for public consideration.

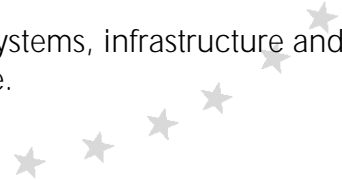
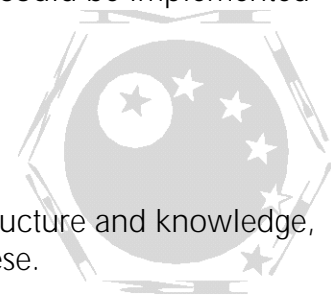
THE FORM AND CONTENT OF THE ESDP

From a reading of the available documents it is possible to gain some insight into the probable form and content of the ESDP. The stated Goals are Economic and Social Cohesion, and Sustainable Development. Within these Goals the Objectives are:

- A more balanced and polycentric urban system
- Parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge
- Prudent management and development of Europe's natural and cultural heritage.

The document will then continue to consider

- Options, and the level (EU, National etc) at which they could be implemented
- Strengths and weaknesses of European Regions
- Trends and the consequent opportunities and threats
- Policy orientations, in relation to urban systems, infrastructure and knowledge, and the natural and cultural heritage. A synthesis of these.
- Implementation measures, in relation to urban systems, infrastructure and knowledge, and the natural and cultural heritage.



2b — THE EUROPEAN SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE (ESDP)

It will conclude with sections on:

- European Action Areas for Integrated Spatial Development
- Policy Synthesis (or Strategy).

Reference is made to “successive updates” of the ESDP which implies that the Commission has in mind an ongoing process of spatial planning at the European level.

THE IMPLICATIONS FOR METROPOLITAN REGIONS AND AREAS.

It is clear that the ESDP will refer to a number of matters that, by their nature, can be considered on a hierarchical basis. For example, the European transportation network has already been categorised, with the definition of the Trans European Transport Networks (TENS), into routes and terminals of EU, National, regional or local significance. Similarly, the cultural and natural heritage has been categorised into areas or locations of EU, National or other significance. These categories can then be related to levels of administrative responsibility and policies, priorities and programmes established. Horizontal synthesis between policy areas (for example, transportation and heritage) is, of course, required as is vertical synthesis within policy areas (for example, between EU, National and regional administrations).

The situation is less clear in dealing with the urban system. It would appear that the ESDP will contain a social and economic analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of urban areas with populations in excess of 50,000, and the opportunities and threats presented by discernible trends, looking to the year 2015. Trends will be categorised as “strong”, which cannot be influenced, and “less strong”, which may be mitigated, neutralised or reversed through policy. Such an analysis will be followed by “scenarios of what is possible”. The Leipzig principles require that the ESDP should “not be derived from the size of cities, but from their functional specialisation and diversity... according to their role at global, European, national, regional or local level.” The richness and diversity of Europe’s urban life and heritage is recognised as being of central importance.

It appears, therefore, that the ESDP will contain an assessment, categorisation and policy view on European Metropolitan Regions and Areas, as well as smaller urban areas. This view will comprise “a series of concrete actions. Programmes, measures and initiatives will be suggested, possibly distinguishing various stages.” “Implementation measures will be accompanied by criteria defining the performance and targets to be achieved, enabling evaluation of the impact... and the monitoring of their actual degree of implementation.” Experience of strategic planning at the Metropolitan level suggests that such precision will be difficult to achieve, and that what is important is to establish the spirit and intent of a Strategy, and the general direction of supporting sectoral policies and programmes.

2b — THE EUROPEAN SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE (ESDP)

Within this general indication of the form and content of the ESDP, it appears that a number of specific issues of common concern will be addressed, as appropriate to each Metropolitan Region and Area, including:

- Alleviation of the excessive attraction of some areas.
- Spreading growth.
- Decongestion.

- Maintenance and encouragement of key urban functions.
- Relocation of functions.

- Exodus of wealthy inhabitants and neighbourhoods in crisis.
- Inadequate urban facilities.

- Revival of the economy of older industrial areas.
- Economic diversification.

- Improvement of the image of the City and its urban landscape.
- Eliminating dereliction.
- Preventing urban sprawl.

- Improving access to poorly served areas (“parity of access”).
- Implications for public transport of new road infrastructure.
- Completing missing transportation links (road, rail, sea, and multi modal terminals).
- Diversion of long distance traffic to rail, waterway or sea transportation.
- Modal interconnections.
- European gateways and their futures.

- Fragmentation of green spaces and nature areas.
- Inter relationships between large ecosystems, sensitive areas and “ecological corridors”.

- Water catchment area management.
- Alleviating land degradation (discharges, over intensive agriculture, mineral extraction etc).
- Reduction of road traffic and industrial emissions.
- Waste management (“zero waste?”).
- Extensification of agriculture (reform of the CAP).

- Degradation of the historic cultural heritage.
- Quality of the new built environment.



2b — THE EUROPEAN SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE (ESDP)

In addition to these matters the Commission is clearly concerned to reflect the principle of subsidiarity, and to ensure that the ESDP only addresses issues of recognised European significance. In this connection it lays particular emphasis on cross border issues, for example in the Benelux area where there are urban inter-relationships affected by national borders.

The concept of “European action areas for integrated spatial development” is raised. “The idea is to undertake pilot projects in European spatial development, by reinforcing modern administrative structures and establishing outline plans.” “These ...should promote strategies which can serve as an example for horizontal (between policy sectors) and vertical (between levels of authority) integration”. There would appear to be scope for METREX to promote such an initiative, either directly or through an EU programme such as RECITE II, OUVERTURE or INTERREG.

CONCLUSION

It appears certain that the ESDP process will be of immediate and continuing importance to Metropolitan Regions and Areas, and that the Commission envisages an extended period of consultation which METREX can contribute to. The Nice Conference will offer an ideal platform for the Commission, and an opportunity for wide ranging debate. It remains to be seen just how the ESDP will deal with the many varied, but inter-related, strategic spatial planning issues which arise at the Metropolitan level. It would appear that there will be assessments and policy views on all the Metropolitan Regions and Areas represented by METREX, and it will be interesting to see whether these reflect the views of members. There will clearly be scope for an interesting dialogue!

