

XXVII Meeting of the METREX Managing Committee, Paris, Saturday 16 May 2009

Location Institute for Urban Planning and Development
of the Paris Ile-de -France Region (IAU-Idf),
15 Rue Falguiere,
75015 PARIS,
France.

MINUTES

Saturday 16 May 9.30-12.00

1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

The Managing Committee meeting was attended by 44 delegates and guests representing 26 of the 44 constitutionally recognised Member metropolitan regions and areas of the Network. This was more than the 50% required to form a quorum. The Sederunt is shown in Appendix 1.

Apologies were received from colleagues in Oslo and Zaragoza

2 MINUTES OF THE LONDON GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The London General Assembly (GA) took place on Saturday 18 October 2008. The Minutes have been placed on the METREX web site, at www.eurometrex.org, in EN|DE|FR|IT|ES. The Secretary General drew Members attention to the potential for cooperation between the PURPLE network and the EUCO2 80/50 project on common issues such as renewable energy and metropolitan food plans (Item 6E). PURPLE and EUCO2 80/50 were presented to the Paris Meeting on Friday 15 May.

The Minutes of the London General Assembly were approved

3 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION - Meeting of the METREX Managing Committee, meeting as the METREX General Assembly

The Election for the President of METREX took place on Friday 8 May 2009. The vote was authenticated and counted by the Secretary General and the METREX Accountant, John Brown CA, and the outcome verified by the Honorary, and acting, President, Dr. Gerald McGrath, on Saturday 9 May. Hannu Pentillä was duly elected as President by a clear majority and the result e-mailed to Members on Monday 11 May. The President will hold office for the period to the Berlin General Assembly in autumn 2010 but can stand for a second term.

Dr Gerald McGrath declared Hannu Pentillä to have been duly elected as President and handed the chair of the Managing Committee meeting to him

The President addressed the meeting and emphasised some of the key points in his previously circulated Election Statement.

The metropolitan dimension to European affairs will continue to be promoted particularly with regard to the definition and recognition of metropolitan areas and their governance. Alliances will be formed with other European bodies and networks on issues of common interest. Networking remains the core reason for METREX including the exchange of experience between practitioners on their successes and failures.

A small Steering Group (SG) will be set up to meet between Meetings and Conferences and review and role forward the Network's Programme of activities and events, as currently summarised in *Intentions*. The SG will also review the operational arrangements of the Network, including the Statutes and Internal Regulations.

The SG will comprise the President, active Vice Presidents and the Secretary General. Francesco Moccia, Assessore of the Provincia di Napoli and a Vice President, was invited to join the SG. Active Vice Presidents from Frankfurt Rhein-Main and Ile-de- France will also be invited to participate. Sylvia Schreiber, Director of the European Office of Stuttgart Region, in Brussels, kindly agreed to support the lobbying activities of METREX and to also join the SG.

The first meeting of the SG will take place in Brussels, at the offices of Stuttgart Region, on Thursday 1 October

The President has expanded on his address to the MC and this updated Statement will be circulated to all Members for their information and interest

4 INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

4A European Neighbourhood Policy

Egidio Canciani, Deputy Head of DG RELEX Unit D/1, attended the METREX spring Meeting in Veneto in May 2007 to present and explain the EU Neighbourhood Policy.

Subsequently the Secretary General wrote to Mr. Canciani to explore the possibility of DG RELEX holding "*a short event in Brussels for invited colleagues from these (Moscow, St. Petersburg, Minsk, Kiev, Lviv, Belgrade, Chisinau, Odessa, Istanbul, Alexandria and Rabat) neighbouring metropolitan areas in order to explore the possibilities for cooperation and the exchange of knowledge and experience*"

DG RELEX clarified that St. Petersburg, Minsk, Lviv, Chisinau, Odessa and Alexandria could be eligible to participate in a supported exchange of the kind suggested by METREX and confirmed that "*it is possible to organise small consultative meetings in the interests of the service where 5 invited persons could be reimbursed for their trip to Brussels*".

After the METREX autumn 2008 London General Assembly, the Secretary General confirmed that the participants from METREX in such a small consultative meeting might be as follows.

St. Petersburg - Helsinki
Minsk - Vilnius
Lviv - Wroclaw
Chisinau - Bucharest
Odessa - Sofia/Thessaloniki
Alexandria - Athens

The Secretary General will write again to DG RELEX to progress these arrangements

4B METREX/US relations

DG RELEX has clarified that the next Call for Proposals under the EU Transatlantic civil society dialogues EU-USA Programme will be in 2010 but will not include the issue of environment. The participation of colleagues from the US in the USEUCO2 project will now be pursued through other means of cooperation and financial support.

Dr. Sebastian Carney has presented the GRIP model and process (see item 6A) to colleagues in California and Washington and it is hoped that this will lead to the parallel exchange of experience with the application of GRIP in the US and the EU (through the EUCO2 80/50 project).

METREX has now established a strong working relationship with colleagues from Northern Virginia Regional Council (NVRC) through whom METREX/US relations are being developed. The primary emphasis is on the EUCO2 80/50 project and the development of a mutually supportive EU/US approach to metropolitan greenhouse gas emission mitigation

4C METREX/China relations

Colleagues from the Shanghai Municipal Government Urban Planning Administrative Bureau (SUPB) attended the METREX London Conference and the Paris Meeting. The Paris Meeting was also attended by Shi Nan, Secretary General of the Urban Planning Society of China.

Discussions took place during the Meeting about the possibility of the GRIP tool and process (see item 6A below) being piloted in a Chinese city. Shi Nan will investigate this possibility and also whether GRIP could be presented to an Annual Conference of the Urban Planning Society of China

4D METREX/Latin America relations. Study Visit 5-8 October 2009

Preliminary expressions of interest in the Study Visit have been received from Frankfurt, Stockholm, Mazovia, Sofia, Piemonte and Rotterdam. With Madrid and METREX representatives this would make a delegation of some 10 colleagues. This is about the minimum size of delegation required. An updated programme for the Study Visit and an outline of the arrangements has been received by Alberto Leboriero of the Comunidad de Madrid from colleagues in the Chilean Ministry of Planning and is included as Appendix 2.

On this revised basis all METREX colleagues are now asked to confirm their interest in participating in the Study Visit to the Secretary General and the Study Visit leader Alberto Leboriero by Friday 19 June

4E Moscow International Seminar

The International Co-operation Programme, signed at Szczecin, has been proceeding and has been extended from 2009 to 2010 to cope with current funding problems. The revised Programme is now as follows.

- Interactive METREX data-base on urban information (1.2 in the Programme)
- Meeting in Moscow with Zurich (RZU) on the subject transport
- Training courses for young planners from Moscow and exchange of experience with Paris and Amsterdam/Rotterdam (5.2 and 5.3 in the Programme)

5 EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

5A Brussels Open Days

The Brussels Open Days will take place from 5-8 October 2009. The four themes are,

- Restoring growth - Innovation in Europe's regions and cities
- Regions and climate change - Europe's way
- Territorial cooperation - Working together across borders
- Achieving results, looking ahead - EU cohesion policy's evaluation and future prospects.

The Metropolregion Nürnberg has taken a welcome and successful initiative to form an Open Days Regional Partnership and to hold three Workshops under the title of Urban-rural alliances - METREX plus. The partners in these Workshops include Nürnberg, Bayreuth, Glasgow, Göthenburg, den Haag and Wien. The Workshops are as follows.

- Territorial cooperation - Working together across borders
- Sustainable development - regional responses to climate change
- Territorial cohesion - Metropolitan regions as new forms of urban-rural partnership and territorial governance models

The Urban-rural alliances - METREX plus Workshop programme is one of 24 such Regional Partnerships selected for the Open Days Programme. Some 130 Workshops/Seminars will be held in Brussels, supported by 250+ local events across Europe later in October.

METREX Members are invited to attend the Open Days programme and to participate in Urban-rural alliances - METREX plus Workshops in particular

5B EU Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion

METREX was invited to participate in the Hearing on Territorial Cohesion on 15 April 2008 and made a written submission (see METREX web site). On 6 October 2008 DG Regio launched their consultation period on the Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion, which will end on 29 February 2009 (see DG Regio web site).

The main issues of the debate have been identified in the Green Paper as follows.

- Improving the way regional and local resources from all territories are used, so that they contribute to the competitiveness of all Europe.
- Focusing the policy more on results so that its impact can be measured.
- Continue simplifying the process used to implement the policy, at the same time ensuring it remains effective.
- Focusing the policy towards the future and helping regions deal with future challenges.

The final results of the public consultation on the Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion will be presented in June 2009, in the 6th Interim Report on Economic and Social Cohesion. This could then be considered further at the METREX Wroclaw autumn Meeting

5C EU Green Paper on the TEN-T review

The Commission published a Green Paper on the review of the TEN-T programme on 4 February 2009, for consultation until 30 April. The METREX Secretariat circulated a draft METREX response on Friday 20 February for consideration by Members and a final response was submitted by the due date. The final METREX response can be downloaded from the web site and includes contributions from the IET (Catalunya), Frankfurt/Rhine-Main Conurbation Planning Association and the Federal States of Berlin-Brandenburg.

Community Guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, covering network outline plans, the identification of projects of common interest and priorities, are expected in 2010

5D ESPON

The background to the new ESPON 2007-2013 Programme was set out in detail in the Amsterdam MC Agenda Notes. Professor Cliff Hague, of the RTP1 (the UK ESPON Contact Point) attended the meeting and explained the possibilities for future METREX/ESPO co-operation and relationships under the Programme.

In summer 2009 there will be a Call for Proposals from ESPON national Contact Points (ECP) for Transnational Networking Activities. Professor Hague has suggested to fellow ECP that one possibility might be a proposal for a project on the implications of ESPON studies for metropolitan areas. For example, there might be an opportunity to link with METREX on the dissemination of ESPON metropolitan area findings, to hold a joint event, or to cooperate with individual METREX Members on activities of common interest. Given that ESPON will by then

have projects running on Cities, on Territorial Indicators and also a Manchester-Barcelona-Lyons-Dublin study, there should be new material to share.

The Secretary General will continue to liaise with Professor Hague (UK ESPON contact point) on his proposed project on the implications of ESPON studies for metropolitan areas and will report on progress to the autumn Wroclaw Meeting

6 METREX INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

6A EUCO2 80/50 project on Climate change/Urban change

Members will recall that the first EUCO2 80/50 Application had administrative shortcomings, which have now been clarified and addressed in consultation with the Interreg IVC Secretariat.

It is hoped that the Application resubmitted in January 2009 will now be judged on its merits and a decision is expected in late October

Meanwhile the Lead Partner, the Metropolregion Hamburg, and 19 of the 21 project partners decided to proceed, independently, with the first stage of the project, which is the production of metropolitan greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories using the GRIP (Greenhouse gas regional Inventory Project) model. Two partners have already completed this stage through the InterMETREXplus project. An inception meeting was held in Hamburg from 13-15 January. The GHG inventory stage has now been completed through a series five Workshops during March and April and the outcomes were reported to the METREX Paris Meeting.

A full Report on the Inventory stage can be downloaded from the METREX web site

The revised Interreg IVC Application will now run for 36 months to 2012 and will include mitigation scenario and strategy, implementation and dissemination stages. The project makes provision, at the dissemination stage, for all 100 recognised European metropolitan regions and areas to begin to participate in the GRIP mitigation process. The dissemination stage will now form part of the Metropolregion Hamburg Green Capital of Europe programme in 2011.

The importance of the EUCO2 80/50 project has been emphasised on many occasions. It represents a major investment by the Network to enable Europe's metropolitan regions and areas to make effective contributions to the reduction of global GHG emissions.

All METREX Members are encouraged to keep in touch with the progress of the project through the www.euco2.org web site and to participate as actively as they can

6B Expert Group on Major Infrastructure in Metropolitan Regions

The first meeting of the Expert Group on Major Infrastructure was held in Stuttgart from 22-24 November 2006. A full Report on the meeting can be downloaded from the METREX web site together with the presentations that were made.

A further meeting of the Expert Group will be held in Berlin in November 2009

6C Expert Group on Employment location within large metropolitan areas and the impact on urban planning

IAU-Idf launched a call for participation in this Expert Group at the spring 2008 Amsterdam Meeting. Amsterdam, Frankfurt A-M, Paris (IAU-Idf) and Sofia responded and Madrid and Marseille expressed an interest as observers. The Group met during the London 2008 Conference and at the Paris 2009 Meeting.

The aim was to produce a first step report looking at employment location trends over the last 10-20 years and this has been completed for Amsterdam, Sofia and Paris. The second step will be to consider the key planning issues emerging from this analysis. Time will now be given for Frankfurt A-M and Madrid to add their contributions to the first stage report and for all partners to then contribute to the second stage discussion, findings and conclusions.

The Expert Group will then consider the relationship of its conclusions to those of the Expert Group on Intra-Metropolitan Polycentricity (see item 6D below) and which planning issues to focus on, for example, the role of airports in employment development, employment clustering policy and future metropolitan employment location policy.

The Expert Group will meet again on the Networking Day at the METREX autumn 2009 Wroclaw Meeting and report on progress to the Managing Committee meeting

6D Expert Group on Intra-Metropolitan Polycentricity (polycentricity within metropolitan areas)

The first meeting of the Expert Group on Intra-Metropolitan Polycentricity, set up through an initiative by Stockholm City Council, took place in Stockholm on 26/27 February. Colleagues from Sofia, Saxon Triangle, Frankfurt/Rhein-Main, Emilia-Romagna, Napoli, Veneto, Mazovia, Gdansk-Sopot-Gdynia, Helsinki and Stockholm expressed an interest in participating. Nordregio, the Baltic area planning agency, has been retained to facilitate the work of the group. A scoping Questionnaire was circulated by Nordregio to the group partners and the outcome discussed at the Stockholm meeting.

From the Stockholm meeting three major topics emerged.

- Managing intra-polycentricity - Governance and the implementation of plans and policies (Theme for the Paris spring 2009 Meeting Networking Day)
- Intra-polycentricity as a concept to promote spatial balance and quality of life within competitive situations (Theme for the Wroclaw autumn 2009 Meeting Networking Day)
- Intra-metropolitan polycentricity as a concept to promote diversity, complementarities and growth (Theme for the Vilnius/Riga spring 2010 Meeting Networking Day)
- Intra-metropolitan polycentricity in Europe - Major findings and conclusions (Theme for the METREX autumn 2010 Berlin Conference)

A second Questionnaire was circulated by Nordregio prior to the METREX Paris Meeting and the responses discussed on the Networking Day. The discussion explored major challenges relating to governance systems and basic requirements for effective governance in polycentric metropolitan areas.

For the Wroclaw autumn 2009 Meeting Networking Day the partners who consider that their area functions on a polycentric basis will provide a table of comparative statistics, on a format to be determined, accompanied by a short statement describing polycentricity in practice in their area

6E Expert Group on Renewal of older metropolitan drainage infrastructure

Kevin Reid, of the GLA, explained at the London 2008 Conference that this is an issue within the Greater London area. The situation in the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley metropolitan area is also a key national issue in Scotland. Amsterdam has expressed an interest in participating in discussion of this issue.

The Secretariat will liaise with the GLA to arrange a first exploratory meeting of interested Members

6F METREX Hamburg Conference on Integration - 17-19 June 2009

The Metropolregion Hamburg has taken a welcome initiative to hold a Conference on Integration in metropolitan areas in June 2009. It will consider inter-related issues such as the social and economic integration of immigrants and their relationship with the housing market, particularly affordable housing. Aspects of multi-culturalism will also be considered. (The London GA regarded Affordable Housing as an issue worthy of Expert Group consideration in its own right).

The Programme for the METREX Hamburg Conference can be downloaded from the METREX web site and more details can be found on the Metropolregion Hamburg web site at metropolregion.hamburg.de

7 FINANCIAL REPORT, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT FOR 2008 AND BUDGET FOR 2009 TO 2010

7A/B Financial Report and Accounts and METREX audit for July to December 2008)

Invoices for the 2009 subscriptions were circulated in December 2008, for payment in January and not later than 31 March 2009. To date 24 subscriptions have been received amounting to some 56% of the prospective subscription income. In order to ensure that the payment of subscriptions is recorded and progressed the METREX Accountant, John Brown, issued quarterly Statements of Account to Members from 1 April this year. These record and acknowledge, with thanks, the date on which subscriptions are received or the amount outstanding. It is hoped that this procedure will enable Members to be kept better informed of their payment position and to have the necessary paper work for their internal procedures.

The Financial Report and Accounts for 2008 were circulated separately from the Agenda Notes and were presented and explained by the METREX Accountant, John Brown. There were no substantive issues arising other than the need to allocate provisional funding for the EUCO2 80/50 project, pending it's approved in October 2009.

The audit for the period July to December 2008 was carried out by the METREX Treasurer and Auditor, Olli Lahtinen of Helsinki City Council, at the METREX Glasgow office in April 2009. The Auditor and Treasurer confirmed that the METREX ledgers and accounts were maintained in a satisfactory manner by the Secretary General and the METREX Accountant

The Auditor and Treasurer advised that a new appointment to these posts should now be considered in order to maintain transparency and avoid any apparent conflict of interest now that the President also comes from Helsinki City Council.

Members are invited to write to the Secretary General to express an interest in these posts

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8A Dates for proposed Meetings/Conferences in 2009/2010/2011

2009

Hamburg Conference on Integration

- Confirmed as 17-19 June 2009

Wroclaw autumn Meeting

- Confirmed as 16-19 September 2009

South America (Santiago - Chile) Study Visit

- Confirmed as 5-8 October 2009 subject to delegate confirmations

2010

Baltic spring Meeting (Riga and Vilnius)
Berlin autumn Conference
Istanbul Study Visit

2011

Athens spring Meeting Theme - EU neighbours (to be considered further)
Hamburg autumn Meeting - Conclusions from the EUCO2 80/50 project and dissemination as part of the European Green Capital programme
St. Petersburg Study Visit

2012

Spring Meeting for further consideration and discussion
Conference location for further consideration and discussion

8B New METREX web site and the METREX networking data base

Members can now use the updated and renewed METREX web site at www.eurometrex.org.

The Secretariat will update the METREX Contact data-base, following the Meetings and Conferences of recent years and the registration data available through these, and circulate an updated version for Member verification

8C METREX video conferencing facility

METREX has now set up a Network video conferencing facility for the use of Expert Groups and all Members wishing to network with colleagues.

Members are invited to contact Tim Page, Head of Communications and METREX Webmaster, should they wish to use the METREX video conferencing service

8D London/Paris booklet

The Secretariat, IAU-Idf and the GLA will produce a comparative booklet on London and Paris metropolitan planning issues and policy responses, following the METREX London Conference and the Paris Meeting

8E Membership

The effect of the global financial crisis on the membership of METREX is not yet clear. However, the Provincia di Genova has written to say that it will regrettably have to withdraw from membership for the time being (from 2010). A new Genova Metropolitan Authority is being considered and the President of the Provincia has indicated that, in due course, it may be in a position to take up membership. The Øresund Committee has also written to clarify that its terms of reference have changed to place a greater emphasis on promotion and less on strategic spatial planning. In these circumstances it does not feel justified in continuing membership of METREX. However, the Secretariat is in discussion with Copenhagen about the possibility of it taking over membership of METREX from the Øresund Committee.

The Managing Committee noted the changing circumstances in Genova and the Øresund area

The Managing Committee noted with pleasure that Vilnius and den Haag have now joined

METREX. Rotterdam and den Haag will share membership as the Rotterdam/den Haag metropolitan area. Istanbul and Marseille are actively considering membership.

8F Bernd Steinacher Fellowship

The Secretary General presented a proposal for the establishment of a Bernd Steinacher Fellowship. This might support the participation of a young planner from a Member authority in the activities of METREX over the two years between biennial Conferences. Travel and subsistence might be offered up to 1% of METREX subscription income or €2500. Colleagues from Stuttgart Region and the Northern Virginia Regional Council (NVRC) have expressed an interest in supporting the idea of such a Fellowship. The terms of the Fellowship could be considered initially by the President's Steering Group (see item 3) and the Fellow might then be chosen at the METREX Berlin autumn 2010 General Assembly.

The Managing Committee supported the idea of a Bernd Steinacher Fellowship and the possibilities will be considered further at the Wroclaw Managing Committee meeting in autumn 2009, following the meeting of the SG (see item 3)

Appendix 1

Sederunt

1 John	BROWN	METREX
2 Max	COWAN	METREX
3 Genevieve	DANCHIN	IAU-Idf
4 François	DUGENY	IAU-Idf
5 Jesus Maria	ERQUICIA	Pais-Vasco
6 Rolf-Barnim	FOTH	Metropolregion Hamburg
7 Vincent	FOUCHIER	IAU-Idf
8 Francesca	FRANZIN	Regione Veneto
9 Ramón	GALAN	Junta de Andalucia
10 Rodice	GHEORGE	Bucharest
11 Vincent	GOODSTADT	METREX
12 Douglas	GORDON	Helsinki
13 Silvia	GRASSI	Regione Emilia-Romagna
14 Mike	HARLAND	METREX
15 Hans	HEDE	Stockholm County Council
16 Reinhard	HENKE	Frankfurt Rhein-Main Region
17 Ines	JERCHEN	Stuttgart Region
18 Irma	KARALAINEN	Helsinki Metropolitan Area (YTV)
19 Donald	KELLER	Regionalplanung Zürich (RZU)
20 Thomas	KIWIT	Stuttgart Region
21 Alexander	KOLONTAY	IGP Moscow
22 Ewa	KURJATA	City of Szczecin
23 Marco	LAHTI	City of Helsinki
24 Ari	LAINEVUO	Uusimaa/Helsinki Region
25 Alberto	LEBORIERO	Comunidad de Madrid
26 Jürgen	LUDWIG	Stuttgart
27 Gerald	McGRATH	Honorary President, METREX
28 Janis	McLAREN	METREX
29 Dale	MEDIARIS	Northern Virginia Regional Commission
30 Krzysztof	MICHALSKI	Spatial Planning Office Szczecin
31 Alberto	MIOTTO	Regione Veneto
32 Francesco Domenica	MOCCIA	Provincia di Napoli
33 Mariana	NICA	Bucharest
34 Mariella	OLIVIER	Regione Piemonte
35 Tim	PAGE	METREX
36 Jim	PARKE	METREX
37 Hannu	PENTILLA	President of METREX
38 Thierry	PETIT	IAU-Idf
39 Georgette	RAFAILOVA	Sofia Municipality, Sofproect
40 Roger	READ	Secretary General, METREX
41 Jakob	RICHTER	Metropolregion Hamburg
42 Phil	ROBINSON	Bournemouth Borough Council
43 Xiaocun	RUAN	Rotterdam ds+v
44 Miliza	RYOTI	City of Helsinki
45 Peter	SCHIRMER	Berlin-Brandenburg
46 Sylvia	SCHREIBER	Stuttgart Region
47 Magdalini	SE GKOUNI	Thessaloniki
48 Albert	SERRATOSA	IET - Ctalunya
49 Linas	SINKEVICIUS	Vilnius
50 Christa	STANDECKER	Nürnberg Metropolitan Region
51 Ewa	TOBIS	Municipality of Wroclaw
52 Claudio	TOLOMELLI	Regione Emilia-Romagna
53 Valeria	VANELLA	Provinci di Napoli
54 Jussi	VUORINEN	METREX
55 Reinhard	WOELPERT	Saxon Triangle/Leipzig
56 Alastair	WYLLIE	METREX

Appendix 2

Updated South America (Santiago-Chile) Study Visit Programme

Summary

Promoters

Planning Department, Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning; Directorate of Urban Development and of the Metropolitan Regional Government of Santiago, Planning and Regional Development Division

Venue

Sala de CEPAL
Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean ECLAC United nations
Av. Dag Hammarskjöld 3477.
Santiago
Chile

Programme

Monday 5 October 2009

Study visit within the Santiago Metropolitan Region (municipalities visited and issues to discuss yet to be decided)

Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7 October

International Conference in the offices of the Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean), CEPAL

Thursday 8 October

Internal Workshop.

The participation of Latin American cities has not been decided yet, but it is intended to invite the most representative cases from countries such as Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, among others.

Main themes and focus of the Congress

The main issues that concern us are reflected in the questions suggested in the proposal below. We hope that answers to these will be found through the contributions made by all the speakers, from both Europe and Latin America, and the debate that will follow.

	Main theme	Description of focus
Day 1 Morning	<p>Module 1 Current situation and perspectives for metropolitan regions and cities</p>	<p>Focus objective:</p> <p>To discuss a new <u>paradigm</u> associated with the economic and social development that incorporates territorial and environmental development models in metropolitan cities and regions. Our idea is to start the Conference with a discussion which, through a comparison of case studies, will lead to a high level debate on the paradigm of specialized economic and social development in the metropolitan context of metropolitan cities from Latin America and Europe.</p> <p>Suggested questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) What are the implications of sustainable development for metropolitan cities and regions? b) What are the associated risks for the current metropolitanizing trends in these territories and what would be the main processes for overcoming them? c) How vulnerable are systems within metropolitan areas and how is risk distributed between their urban areas and among the various age groups, social and territorial sectors, etc.? d) What firm hypotheses or ideas can be drawn from this diagnosis? What barriers or obstacles can be identified, from an economic, business and services, funding, institutional, community relations and regulatory perspective, amongst others, for the promotion of the sustainable development of metropolitan cities and regions?

	Main theme	Description of focus
<p style="text-align: center;">Day 1 Afternoon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 2 Models of Governance</p>	<p>Focus objective:</p> <p>To discuss and analyse national and international experiences in the light of systems of governance which integrate at least four axes of feasibility (legislation, institutions, funding and participation), while promoting a network type of government (horizontal), compared to the traditional “bottom up” and “top down” forms.</p> <p>What are the weaknesses-threats and strengths-opportunities that emerge from metropolitan cities for sustainable urban development considering possible systems of governance? Analysing them in terms of the four axes already mentioned: funding, legislation, participation and institutions.</p> <p>Suggested questions:</p> <p>a) What type of strategies (characteristics) need to be activated in order to make the urban system compatible with sustainable development?; what feasibility terms should they meet? More specifically,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ With what instruments or tools? ▪ With what funding? ▪ With what kind of institutions and under which political/administrative conditions? ▪ With what backup or shielding regulations? ▪ With what participation mechanisms? ▪ With what dissemination, information and training mechanisms? <p>b) Along the same lines as the question above, what portfolio of potential programmes and projects need to be activated in order to make the urban system compatible with sustainable development and what feasibility terms should they take into account?</p> <p>c) How can the interrelations between cities and their metropolitan regions (hinterlands) be dealt with, assessed and conceptualized within the processes of global change?</p>

	Main theme	Description of focus
<p>Day 2 Morning</p>	<p>Module 3 Approaches and alignments in Spatial Planning and Development Models</p>	<p>Focus objective:</p> <p>To discuss and analyse approaches, models, tools and successes in national and international experiences of spatial planning and development which include at least <u>five feasibility axes</u>: i) legislation, ii) institutions, iii) spatial planning and development tools, iv) funding, and v) effective participation, with a view to comparing their strengths and their weaknesses-challenges.</p> <p>Suggested questions:</p> <p>Taking into account the five feasibility axes above, we suggest the development of the following thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Evaluation of effects such as the type of relationships between planning tools, with either a different territorial scope and/or different degrees of binding and/or compulsion in their guidelines, for public and/or private decision-making in investment and urban development for metropolitan cities. Coherence between prioritization and development of investment in relation to spatial planning instruments. b) Role of city actors in the design, approval and implementation of the spatial planning and development tools. Experiences of “effective participation” between political and social actors and stakeholders in the design and application of the planning tools. Experiences of models and/or mechanisms for the solution of conflicts. c) Impact analysis of the type of economic models in relation to the scope and types of planning tools associated with these: emphasis on regulation or allocation by the market. Experiences and results of “planning by conditions” models.

	Main theme	Description of focus
<p style="text-align: center;">Day 2 Afternoon</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Module 4 Infrastructure for the development of metropolitan cities and regions ...</p>	<p>Focus objective:</p> <p>To analyse the development and impact of infrastructure services for an integrated and sustainable urban development in metropolitan cities, from the perspective of <u>three levels of intervention</u>: i) the city level, ii) the sectorial level and iii) the programmes and projects level. This analysis should consider how to progress effectively towards the appropriate provision of infrastructure services for the development of cities, considering the three levels of intervention already pointed out and their impact on the conditions of habitation and quality of life of its citizens. To this end, the various types of infrastructure that should interact harmoniously in cities and the territories in which they are located will be considered: roads; transport and urban mobility; production activities; waste management; water and energy distribution networks; communications networks; waste water treatment; public buildings; parks and green spaces; facilities and services (education, health, public spaces, amongst others).</p> <p>Suggested questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) What is the state-of-the-art as regards the current infrastructure and collective urban services (design and construction) system in metropolitan cities and regions from the point of view of the inclusion of eco-efficiency criteria in the projects already implemented and the measurement of their impacts? b) What are the main challenges facing the development of infrastructure services with regard to urbanization? (Car ownership and congestion?, effective and renewable use of energy?, water scarcity?, resilience against natural disasters and climate change?). How can we achieve the kind of infrastructure that is more apt to meet these challenges in a sustainable fashion? c) What is the scope or approach for infrastructures nowadays? Are they simply considered as transport routes, aqueducts, etc, or rather as “transport systems”, “energy systems” etc? Is infrastructure “a system to facilitate the distribution of services” rather than the delivery of a “final product”? Show models of integrated infrastructure services. d) What are the limitations of the current infrastructure development standards or models? (do they encourage sprawl?, are there any other infrastructure development standards or models available that are more sustainable than the current ones?) e) What is the potential for private investment through public-private partnership mechanisms and how could these provide social, economic and environmental productivity, including consideration of the demands of citizens and the poorest sectors of the population? f) What is the optimal modal participation in the city with a view to improving the urban environment?