

XXI Meeting of the METREX Managing Committee, Madrid, Saturday 6 May 2006

Location Palacio Municipal de Congresos.
 Campo de las Naciones.
 Avda Capital de España Madrid s/n
 28042 MADRID

AGENDA NOTES

SATURDAY 6 MAY 9.30 – 12.00

1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Colleagues who are unable to attend the Managing Committee meeting are kindly requested to send their apologies in advance to secretariat@eurometrex.org

2 MINUTES OF THE GRANADA MEETING OF THE MANAGING COMMITTEE (MC)

The Minutes of Granada meeting of the METREX Managing Committee (MC), on Saturday 29 October, are for approval

3 EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

3A Talents, Tolerance, Technology – The METROPOLITAN future of Europe

METREX, through the President, the Verband Region Stuttgart and Hamburg Metropolitan Region held a joint event on 7 March 2006 at the offices of the Committee of the Regions in Brussels to highlight the role of metropolitan regions in the Lisbon Process and the need to focus on them as drivers of growth and innovation in Europe. The event also explored the opportunities available to realise the potential of metropolitan Europe.

The President will report on the outcomes and outputs of this initiative

3C METREX and Brussels Open Days 9-12 October 2006

Investing in Europe's Regions and Cities

METREX has made a successful Application to be one of the 15 Conglomerates to hold Workshops in Brussels as part of the 2006 Open Days week. The Application was made in response to a suggestion from colleagues from Frankfurt/Rhein-Main that the Open Days programme could usefully provide an opportunity for an exchange of experience and ideas on Interreg projects with a metropolitan dimension. The METREX Conglomerate comprises seven partners from Frankfurt/Rhein-Main, Rhein-Neckar, Nürnberg, Athens, Thessaloniki, Glasgow and Oradea. Oradea Metropolitan Area (Romania) has recently joined the Network (see item 7 below).

Two Workshops will be held at the METREX offices at Scotland Europa on Tuesday 10th October (see METREX web site for details). The Open Days programme will continue to offer an

opportunity for METREX to present its initiatives and to promote the metropolitan dimension to European affairs.

The Managing Committee may wish to make preparatory arrangements for the 2007 Open Days. Although their content will depend on the themes chosen in December this year, which gives very little time to formulate an Application by the deadline at the end of January, it may be possible to identify potential Member contributions for 2007

All METREX Members are cordially invited to attend the METREX Conglomerate Workshops on Tuesday 10 October and to participate in the full Open Days programme from 9-12 October (see www.cor.eu.int)

3E Resolution on Noise in urban areas

The METREX Resolution on noise in urban areas, approved at the Granada meeting of the Managing Committee, was duly sent by the President to selected target groups, including the Environment Commissioner and Directorate, the President and the parties of the European Parliament and the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC).

The President has received a response from the European Commission Directorate General for Energy and Transport that includes an overview of the most important actions that have been taken by the Commission (see METREX web site). The President has been invited to participate in the discussions with the rail sector and to participate in the next UIC (International Union of Railways) rail noise Workshop (see www.uic.asso.fr)

4 METREX INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

4A InterMETREX – the revised METREX Benchmark

InterMETREX has continued with the remaining Workshop in Valetta in January 2006 and will conclude with a Workshop in Szczecin in June 2006. The METREX Szczecin Conference in September will provide an opportunity for the presentation and dissemination of the final outcomes and outputs of the project (the revised METREX Practice Benchmark).

The InterMETREX Lead Partner, the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee (GCVSPJC) will report on the outcomes and outputs of the project

InterMETREX was programmed to end in March 2006 but an application has been made to extend the project to 31 December 2006 to enable the dissemination process to include the Szczecin Conference. This will also enable the project extension, referred to in item 4D, to be progressed.

4B PolyMETREXplus

PolyMETREXplus reached the end of its first phase (analysis and synthesis) at the Veneto Workshop in October 2006 and the programme of Representative Inter-regional Networking Activities (RINA) was discussed at the Granada Steering Committee meeting. The METREX Secretariat has produced an Interim Report on the first phase of the project, the Planning Component, and this has been circulated to all Members for information. The Interim Report and its nine supporting Diagrams can be downloaded from the METREX web site as pdf's.

The project management arrangements for the 19 prospective Representative Inter-regional Networking Activities (RINA) in the PolyMETREXplus project (see Interim Report and Diagrams 9 and 10) were explored at the Steering Committee meeting in Granada.

The second phase of the project, the Practice Component, will begin with an Inception Meeting in Barcelona from 3-4 April 2006

4C Expert Groups

METREX/IAURIF and economic affairs

The Institut d'Aménagement et d'Urbanisme de la Région d'Ile-de-France (IAURIF) joined METREX in 2005 and was formally welcomed to the membership of the Network at the Granada Meeting. IAURIF is probably the foremost planning body in Europe at the metropolitan region level with a staff of over 200 (see www.iaurif.org). Dominique Lecomte represents IAURIF within METREX.

IAURIF kindly invited METREX to Paris on 27 January to explore issues of common interest and to consider ways in which future collaboration might be arranged. Appendix 1 sets out the projects and studies that are at present in the process of definition within IARIF and are a very helpful indicative list of the key issues being faced by one of Europe's global cities.

The President, Secretary General and Jürgen Ludwig, from the Verband Region Stuttgart, met the General Manager of IAURIF, Francois Dugeny, the Director, Gilles Antier and colleagues from the five IAURIF Divisions for Regional and Urban/Local Planning, Urban and Rural Environment, Transport and Infrastructure, Economics and Local Development, Demography and Housing. IAURIF also has a very considerable commitment to projects outside Europe, particularly in the French-speaking world. This wider global dimension can be brought to METREX affairs. METREX also met the two Vice Presidents from the Région Ile de France with responsibility for spatial planning and development.

Appendix 1 summarises the provisional IAURIF agenda for the coming years. It provides a basis on which the Members of METREX and the Managing Committee can consider the scope for networking and collaboration

In particular, the possibility of a METREX Meeting in Paris in 2007 is being considered and Appendix 1 gives an introduction to some of the issues that might be discussed

IAURIF has expressed a particular interest in economic affairs and the possibilities for collaboration on this issue are being explored with the Verband Region Stuttgart

Planning for Major Events

The Provincia di Torino kindly invited the Expert Group on Planning for Major Events to meet *After the Games*, from 23-25 March 2006, to see the Winter Olympics installations and post games legacy.

The Report of the meeting of the Expert Group can be downloaded from the METREX web site

4D Projects after 2006/2007

The Secretary General reported to the Granada Managing Committee meeting that the West Zone Secretariat of Interreg IIIC had under spent the budgetary provision available for the programme in the period to 2007 and that the InterMETREX partnership was one of 12 projects

that were eligible to apply for a project extension, subject to this having evolved from the original project.

InterMETREX partners from Glasgow (Lead Partner), METREX, Stockholm, Andalucia and the South Coast Metropole (SCM) duly applied for an extension of InterMETREX (InterMETREXplus) to develop the METREX Benchmark to include consideration of the issue of Climate change/Urban change and how metropolitan regions and areas can reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by the necessary 60-80% by 2050. The deadline for Applications was 30 November 2005 and discussions are continuing with the West Zone Secretariat on revisions to the Application to ensure that it fully meets the eligibility criteria. A final decision is expected in June/July 2006.

InterMETREXplus will be a pilot project to provide a means by which all Europe's 120 recognised metropolitan areas can complete the following process of assessment and action.

Phase 1 - developing and applying the GRIP (Greenhouse gas regional inventory programme – see www.grip.org.uk) model of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change (see www.tyndall.ac.uk)
Phase 2 - running carbon audits and assessments
Phase 3 - considering targeted action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
Phase 4 - developing scenarios and integrated strategies in response

It is hoped to be able to move to the application of the outputs of the project (additions to the METREX Benchmark, Climate change/Urban change priorities and a Manual) through the revised EU Structural Funds for 2007-2013, which include *One thematic inter-regional co-operation programme focusing on Lisbon and Gothenburg*.

An InterMETREXplus Inception Meeting took place at the Greater London Authority (GLA) from Thursday 9 March to Friday 10 March 2006. The Lead Partner and the METREX Secretariat will report on the outcome and the project form, content, programme and anticipated outputs to 2007

5 The Way Forward for METREX

5A Action on the Presidents Barcelona paper

The President will report on the outcome of the Questionnaire sent to all Members at the turn of the year

6 Budget and Accounts for 2005 and Audit for 2005

6A Financial report

The METREX Accountant, John Brown, presented the Financial Reports for the six months ended 30 June 2005 to the Granada meeting of the Managing Committee. At this date METREX was still due €19,000 from the InterMETREX project, €51,000 from the PolyMETREXplus project, because applications for co-funding had not been submitted to the Southern Zone by the Lead Partner, and almost €22,000 from the reimbursement of PolyMETREXplus project operational costs from other project partners. The total due to METREX at 30 June 2005 was therefore €92,000. John Brown reported that the delays in receiving co-funding were distorting the financial affairs of the Network and this problem would have to be addressed when the Financial Reports are prepared for the full year to 31 December 2005.

The President and the Secretary General have been liaising with the PolyMETREXplus Lead Partner, the Generalitat de Catalunya, in order to resolve the current financial problems with the project and will report to the Meeting on the current position

6B METREX audit for 2005

The METREX Treasure/Auditor (Helsinki City Council) has reported that the audit of METREX income and expenditure for the financial period July to December 2005 had been carried out satisfactorily.

7 MEMBERSHIP

The Managing Committee welcomed the Institut d'Aménagement et d'Urbanisme de la Région d'Ile-de-France (IAURIF) and the Ayuntamiento de Zaragoza to membership of METREX at the Granada Meeting. METREX was invited to Hamburg in November 2005 to present METREX to the Steering Committee of the new Metropolitan Region of Hamburg and thereafter to also present METREX at the inauguration of the new HafenCity University, which includes spatial planning on its curriculum.

The Secretariat is pleased to be able to report that the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, has joined METREX. Hamburg is a city state, as are Berlin and Bremen, and is one of the 16 German Lander (states). The City of Hamburg (population 1.7m) will represent the wider Metropolitan Region of Hamburg (population 3.5m) within the Network. The Hamburg state parliament consists of 121 representatives, who are elected every four years under a system of proportional representation. There are 9 departmental authorities, each headed by a Senator. One department is responsible for City development and the environment.

The Secretariat is also pleased to report that Oradea Metropolitan Area (OMZ), in Romania, has also joined METREX. The City of Oradea and 7 surrounding communes formed the OMZ in 2001 to improve the economy, the environment and public services in the city region (population 260k plus).

Valencia Metropolitan Area (population 740k plus) has also joined the Network as an Observer.

Hamburg, Oradea and Valencia have been welcomed to METREX and invited to make short presentations to the Managing Committee of the key issues that are on their agendas for 2006 and beyond. This will help Members to consider the networking opportunities that there may be with these new colleagues

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8A Dates for Meetings/Conferences in 2006/2007/2008/2009

The programme for the METREX 10th Anniversary year in 2006 includes the International Congress hosted by the Comunidad de Madrid on the theme of the *State of the Art – Metropolitan and capital regions spatial planning*, from 2-6 May 2006.

This will be followed by the METREX 10th Anniversary Conference in Szczecin on the *State of Practice - the body of knowledge A conversation - Looking back/Looking forward*. The dates for the Szczecin Conference are 27-30 September 2006. Colleagues from Szczecin will take the opportunity offered by the Madrid International Congress to invite METREX colleagues and past associates to the 10th Anniversary Conference.

The Szczecin Conference will provide an opportunity for the Network, and associated colleagues, to review the progress and activities of the Network over the past decade and to plan for the future. To assist in this process the Conference Programme (attached as Appendix 2) has been

structured to allow Members to report on the key issues with a metropolitan dimension that they have been dealing with recently and those that they foresee dealing with in the future.

This will then help the Managing Committee to consider the form and content of the METREX programme to the next Conference in 2008

During the Granada Meeting colleagues from Zaragoza, Veneto and Wroclaw kindly confirmed an interest in principle in hosting a METREX Meeting. The possibility of hosting a Meeting has also been raised, informally, with colleagues in Prague. In consequence, the METREX Programme to 2009 might be as follows.

- 2006 Madrid spring international Conference on the State of the Art
Szczecin autumn METREX 10th Anniversary Conference on the State of Practice
- 2007 Paris spring global city Meeting with IAURIF
Zaragoza autumn Meeting on the 2008 International Expo
- 2008 Prague spring Meeting
London autumn Conference, possibly on integrated metropolitan strategies
- 2009 Veneto spring Meeting
Wroclaw autumn Meeting

8B Any other business

Appendices

- 1 An introduction to some of the issues for possible networking with IAURIF
- 2 METREX Szczecin 10th Anniversary Programme
- 3 METREX Financial Reports for the period July to December 2005

Appendices

Appendix 1 An introduction to some of the issues for possible networking with IAURIF

Projects and studies in the course of definition

Urbanism and planning

- The Ile-de-France and the city network in the north west of Europe
- Major urban projects and metropolitan strategies

Transport

- The development of city entrance tolls in Europe (congestion charge)
- How to take care of people with disabilities in public transport
- Public transport in the suburbs (low density areas)
- Innovative road management in European cities

Environment

- Big cities, climate change and the shortage of energy
- Air pollution and health in cities
- Regional indicators and annual tables of sustainable development

Economy

- Economic development strategies from European cities
- Observation of world clusters
- Design of business parks with international standards
- Competition position of Ile-de-France in economy
- Economic Workshop with the METREX Network
- Economic tools for diagnosis in European cities

Housing and social questions

- Social and urban segregation
- Ownership, public and private rental sectors in European cities

Security

- Security in urban planning and development in European cities and city regions

Other themes

- City governing and co-operation in city regions around the world

Appendix 2 METREX Szczecin 10th Anniversary Programme 27-20 September 2006

Wednesday 27 September

Delegates arrive

19.00 – 20.00 **Conference Reception**

Thursday 28 September

09.00 – 9.30 Opening

9.30 - 10.00 **Keynote address. DG Regio**
1996 - 2006+. Looking back/Looking forward

10.00 - 10.30 Coffee break

10.30 - 13.00 **Metropolitan responses**
Polish and German metropolitan directions and Case Studies

13.00 - 14.30 Lunch

Parallel Workshops

14.30 - 16.30 Metropolitan strategies, projects and initiatives
Representative European core area Overview and Case Studies
(Netherlands, Belgium, France, UK)

Randstad metropolitan areas, Brussels, Paris, London,
Glasgow, SCM

Moderated Forum

14.30 - 16.30 Wider European transnational/interregional visions and strategies
Representative Baltic Sea area Overview and Case Studies
(Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Latvia)

Copenhagen, Stockholm, Helsinki, Riga

Moderated Forum

16.30 - 17.00 Tea

17.00 – 18.00 **Looking back.** Review of METREX initiatives and projects, outcomes
and lessons for the future including dissemination of the outcomes and
outputs of the InterMETREX and PolyMETREXplus projects

GCVSPJC and Catalunya (IET)

20.30 – 24.00 **METREX 10th Anniversary Party in Café 22 in the Radisson SAS
hotel** (on the 22nd floor with panoramic views over the city)

Reflections from METREX founders

	Buffet supper and entertainment
Friday 29 September	
9.30 - 10.30	Szczecin presentation - Urban renewal and regeneration Revitalisation of urban fabric and housing, environmental protection, nature within the urban environment, waterfront economic development and tourism development
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 - 13.00	Szczecin orientation tour
13.00 - 14.30	Lunch
	Parallel Workshops
14.30 - 16.30	Metropolitan strategies, projects and initiatives Representative Mediterranean Overview and Case Studies (Spain, Portugal, Italy) Andalucia, Ebro Valley/Pyrenees, Lisboa/Porto, Napoli/Roma, Po Valley Moderated Forum
14.30 - 16.30	Metropolitan, strategies projects and initiatives Representative Danubian/Aegean Overview and Case Studies (Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece) Prague, Budapest, Bucharest, Sofia, Athens, Thessaloniki Moderated Forum
16.30 - 17.00	Tea
17.00 – 18.00	Looking forward. Implications for METREX activities and projects over the coming decade
20.00 – 22.30	Conference dinner
Saturday 30 September	
9.30 – 13.00	METREX Managing Committee meeting All delegates welcome
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 17.00	Afternoon and evening free
Sunday 1 October	Delegates depart

3 METREX Financial Reports for the period July to December 2005

RR/13/2/2006