



THE METREX NICE CONFERENCE RESOLUTION.

The Delegates attending the Metrex Nice Conference concluding session on Saturday 28 March 1998, many of whom attended the 1996 Metropolitan Regions Conference in Glasgow, having been able to draw on the experience of over 50 Workshop presentations from metropolitan regions across Europe and having heard keynote speakers on European spatial planning and development, resolved to,

1 European, National and Metropolitan spatial planning

Recognise that spatial planning at the Metropolitan level has a central role to play in giving effect to the emerging Spatial Planning Perspectives, and Urban Policies, at the European and National levels.

2 Administration

Commend to European and National Governments the benefits of administrative arrangements to ensure effective spatial planning and development at the Metropolitan level.

3 Sustainability

Recognise that effective spatial planning and development at the Metropolitan level has a key role to play in achieving a more sustainable way of life.

4 Metropolitan roles and visions

Recognise that, in a changing Europe, each Metropolitan region and area will wish to determine the role which best suites its heritage and its vision for the future.

5 Common issues

Recognise that within these varied aspirations Metropolitan regions and areas will find many issues in common. These issues provide a basis for networking and the continuing exchange of knowledge and include:

- **Strategy**

The need for a Strategy which establishes the overall direction for urban renewal and



development, including infrastructure, and environmental sustainability which will realise the role and the vision being pursued.

- **Planning process**

The need for a planning process, and administrative and technical capability, that will enable the effectiveness of the Strategy to be regularly monitored, reviewed and subject to public participation.

- **Key issues**

The need for Metropolitan spatial plans to address the following key issues that can be most effectively addressed at this level,

A competitive supply of opportunities for investment.

A competitive and sustainable environment.

Balancing urban land reuse and release.

Sustaining city and town centres.

Environmental impact of strategic options.

Transportation and infrastructure systems.

Social exclusion.

6 Networking

Continue to recognise the value of networking between Europe's Metropolitan regions and areas through Metrex and its programme of activities.

7 Cohesion

Recognise the need for cohesion between Metropolitan regions and areas across the wider Europe and the particular obligation on those areas with practical knowledge and experience to share this with others.

8 European recognition



Commend to the European inter Governmental Committee of Ministers with responsibility for Regional Planning, the European Parliament, the European Commission and the Committee of the Regions the value of liaison with the Metrex Network which is in a position to contribute a metropolitan dimension to the debate on spatial planning and urban policy at the European level.

9 European support

Recognise that whilst Europe's Metropolitan regions and areas can promote more effective spatial planning through networking there are unavoidable costs in providing the language services required to ensure that this is inclusive and cohesive.

In consequence, commend to the European Commission the virtue of providing financial support for this aspect of Metropolitan networking.

To also further commend to the European Commission the value of giving support through EU programmes, whenever possible and appropriate, to Metropolitan initiatives which address the common issues identified in Point 5 of this Resolution.

10 Action

Commend this Resolution to the Metrex Network and recommend that it should be taken into account in its activities over the two years until its next biennial Conference.

Recommend that the Network should report back to the next biennial Conference on the action taken and the progress achieved.