

**XVIth Meeting of the METREX Managing Committee, Stockholm, Saturday 20 September 2003**

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Location Ersta Conference Centre, Stockholm

**AGENDA AND NOTES**

**SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 9.00-12.30**

**1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

**2 MINUTES OF THE METREX MANAGING COMMITTEE MEETING IN STUTTART**

The Minutes have been published in the Network languages on the METREX web site at [www.eurometrex.org](http://www.eurometrex.org) and can be downloaded using Acrobat Reader (which can also be downloaded from the web site).

The Minutes are for consideration and approval by the Managing Committee

**3 EUROPEAN AFFAIRS**

**A EU Structural policies after 2006**

The Strategy Statement of the Network of German Metropolitan Areas was considered and supported at the METREX Stuttgart Meeting. It was agreed that the Speaker of the German Network, Dr. Bernd Steinacher, and the President of METREX should make representations to Commissioner Barnier on the issue of a metropolitan dimension to European policies and programmes and the revision of the Structural Funds after 2006.

The Verband Region Stuttgart hosted a meeting in Brussels on 16 June 2003, attended by some 300 invited delegates, to promote and discuss *The role of metropolitan regions in an enlarged Europe*. The meeting was addressed by Graham Meadows, the acting Director General of DG Regio and a panel of speakers from Stuttgart, METREX, Hamburg, the OECD and Leeds University. The meeting was successful in promoting a metropolitan dimension to EU affairs and the Structural Funds.

In particular, the concept of a specific EU programme, METROPOLITAN, to take forward the metropolitan dimension in Europe, was suggested.

Following the Stuttgart and Brussels meetings a joint letter and associated Memorandum of understanding of the European metropolitan areas on EU structural policies after 2006 were sent by METREX and the German Network to Commissioner Barnier for further discussion with him in autumn 2003. These can be downloaded from the METREX web site (Bulletin Board) at [www.eurometrex.org](http://www.eurometrex.org)

## 4 METREX INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

### A InterMETREX project

The approval of the InterMETREX project by the Interreg IIC West Zone Steering Committee was reported to the Stuttgart Meeting. The first Workshop took place in Stuttgart from 25-27 June and the second Workshop will take place from 15-17 July in Stockholm.

Members are reminded that the METREX web site has been restructured as a data base to hold all project inputs in partner languages and/or EN and that all outputs in EN|ES|IT|FR|DE.

The Lead Partner, the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Planning Committee (GCVSPJC), and the METREX Secretariat, that is providing Project Co-ordination and Financial Management services to the Lead Partner, will report on progress to the Managing Committee.

### B PolyMETREXplus

The Interreg IIC South Zone Technical Secretariat (SZTS) has encouraged the reformation of PolyMETREX from a Network Application to a Regional Framework Operation (RFO) Application.

Network Applications can receive co-funding in the range €200-€1m and can run for 3 years whereas RFO's can receive co-funding in the range €500k-€5m and run for four years. RFO's are, in effect, mini Interreg IIC programmes run by partnerships of regional, or regionally supported, partners. RFO's offer the opportunity to take planning projects, such as PolyMETREX, to the feasibility and development stage - plus - and thereafter to implementation through the Structural Funds.

The Lead Partner and METREX met the SZTS in Valencia on 7 July to explore the practicalities of reforming PolyMETREX into an RFO as PolyMETREXplus. The resulting PolyMETREXplus Prospectus was produced and circulated to partners and METREX Members on 21 July. The SZTS has indicated that it regards the Prospectus as well developed and it is being produced in EN|FR|ES|IT|DE.

There was a second Call for Proposals under Interreg IIC to the SZTS on 16 June with a closing date of 26 September (although an extension to this has been sought). The Lead Partner and METREX are preparing PolyMETREXplus as an RFO Application for submission by this deadline. As part of this process it is intended to hold a partners meeting in Stockholm on Friday 19 September.

PolyMETREXplus partners now have two key issues to consider. Firstly, the project funding allocation that they can add to their existing PolyMETREX budgetary commitment and, secondly, that where partners are not regional (NUTS II level) authorities, the support of the relevant authority or authorities (as defined in the Interreg IIC Programme Manual) will be needed.

PolyMETREX has the potential to develop from a €1.5m project to PolyMETREXplus with an added project budget in the range €1.5m to €7m taking the overall project budget to €3-€8m+. The project as submitted is more likely to be at the lower end of this range but there will be scope for further RFO submissions to extend the project with additional partners and project co-funding.

Members are asked to consider the PolyMETREXplus Prospectus. The Lead Partner and the METREX Secretariat will report on progress to the Managing Committee following the Stockholm project partners meeting.

### **C SocioMETREX project**

The seven Reports on the project Workshops and the Stuttgart SocioMETREX outcomes Report can be downloaded from the METREX web site. The 4 new SocioMETREX Benchmarks have been incorporated into the InterMETREX Practice Benchmark and will be considered by all 32 partners as part of this project. The 20 related indicators of sustainable spatial planning practice will also form part of the project. This aspect of the outcome of the SocioMETREX project is therefore being applied in practice.

Because of the work required on the PolyMETREXplus project it has not been possible to produce the final Report on the SocioMETREX project for circulation before the Stockholm Meeting, as anticipated in the Minutes of the Stuttgart Meeting. The Secretary General will now produce and circulate this after the Meeting.

### **D Expert Group initiatives**

The issue of METREX Expert Groups was discussed at length in Stuttgart and the outcome summarised in the Minutes of the Managing Committee. (paragraph 4C). The Secretary General e-mailed all Members on 10 June to assess the interest in participating in the 6 Groups envisaged. The outcome is summarised in Appendix 1.

A meeting of all Expert Group partners has been arranged prior to the Reception at the Stockholm Meeting. Expert Group lead partners have been asked to prepare short Briefing Notes on the issues to be addressed and the proposed procedural arrangements. The example of the Expert Group on Strategic Planning for retailing has been circulated as an example.

A meeting of the Expert Group on Planning for Major Events has been provisionally arranged for Friday 10 October in Torino. It is hoped that the Stockholm Expert Group partners meeting will be able to confirm the arrangements for the work of the other Groups.

The METREX Secretariat will report to the Managing Committee on the outcome of the Stockholm Expert Group partners meeting.

## **5 BARCELONA CONFERENCE 2004**

*Future trends in Spatial Planning and Development. New methodologies and Planning Tools*

The outline arrangements for the Barcelona Conference are set out in Appendix 2 of the Stuttgart Meeting Minutes.

Colleagues from Catalunya will update the Managing Committee on the Programme and other arrangements

## 6 REVIEW OF METREX SERVICES TO MEMBERS

The METREX programme of activities and events supports the two general objectives of the Network to,

- 1 foster the exchange of knowledge on metropolitan spatial planning and development issues between practitioners, and
- 2 contribute the metropolitan dimension to planning at the European level.

The programme now includes the following activities and events.

- A Biennial Conferences hosted and co-funded by Members on themes proposed by the host
- B Biannual Meetings hosted and co-funded Members on themes proposed by the host
- C EU programme projects such as InterMETREX , to foster the development of effective practice *within* metropolitan regions and areas, and PolyMETREXplus to foster and development effective polycentric relationships *between* metropolitan regions and areas
- D The METREX e-Atlas that is now being extended and developed through the InterMETREX project to provide the background information needed for informed networking between Members
- E Networking between METREX Members on issues of common interest
- F Expert Groups to explore key issues of common interest and disseminate findings and conclusions
- G Representations to European institutions, such as the Parliament, Commission and Committee of the Regions (COR) on issues with a metropolitan dimension
- H The METREX web site has been restructured as a data base to hold and provide access to the inputs and outputs of the METREX programme as a whole and the InterMETREX and PolyMETREXplus projects in particular. The Members web pages and the Bulletin Board allow information and knowledge to be disseminated and exchanged between Members
- I The METREX Newsletter is now being published three times year on the web site and circulated to Member
- J A METREX Brochure has been produced for Member use and for the promotion of the Network. It is intended to take steps to reach the Network target of 50 Member metropolitan regions and areas by the Barcelona 2004 Conference

This is quite an ambitious programme for a Network with a subscription income of some €215-250k even though this is supplemented by support in kind from Members, through their hosting of meetings and Conferences, of the order of €75-125k a year. The InterMETREX project also brings co-funding of €85k to METREX as a partner, over 3 years, from the Interreg IIC programme. PolyMETREX plus had the potential to bring co-funding of €65k+ over 4 years.

The Managing Committee may wish to review this broad programme of activities and events, having regard to the resources available to the Network and consider whether there are any other initiatives that it would like to take

## **7 BUDGET, ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT FOR 2002**

The procedural Memorandum approved at the Rotterdam Meeting confirmed a requirement for the Secretary General to give a Financial Report for the first six months of the financial year, to 30 June 2002, and the accountant to provide an Income and Expenditure Account for this period.

The Report, Income and Expenditure Account (see Appendix 2 which also contains a Profit and Loss account) and the supporting detailed accounts were e mailed to the Treasurer/Auditor and items of expenditure/income selected for interim audit were forwarded to him for inspection.

### **A Financial Report**

Appendix 2 shows the income and expenditure for the period 1 January to 30 June 2003. It is based on the Adam and Company cumulative bank statements for this period and includes cheques that have been written but not yet paid from the bank account. Points arising are as follows,

- 1 Subscriptions of €249,000 were due on 1 January, for payment by 31 March, for the year ending 31 December 2003. €7000 was received before 1 January 2003 and €147,000 between 1 January and 30 June 2003. €95,000 was outstanding as of 30 June 2003.
- 2 The early payment of subscriptions this year, and the payment of some member subscriptions for past years, has made the financial management of the Network much easier over the first six months of the financial year. Expenditure has been kept within the available income and it has not been necessary to use the bank overdraft facility of up to one subscription.
- 3 An InterMETREX Euro bank account has been opened for the InterMETREX project. The Lead Partner, the GCVSPJC through Renfrewshire Council, will formally use the services of the METREX Secretariat/Interpretariat. Alastair Wyllie will act as Project Co-ordinator, John Brown CA will provide project accounting services, Tim Page web services and the Interpretariat language services. METREX will invoice Renfrewshire Council for these services and it will pay the Secretariat/Interpretariat monthly, through the InterMETREX account.
- 4 The InterMETREX project makes provision for the purchase of an Apple laptop computer and a 20 headset Sennheiser interpretation kit. The cost of €14688 has been paid from the METREX budget for 2003 and co-funding of 50% will be claimed by METREX, as a partner in InterMETREX, in early 2004. This equipment will remain in the ownership of METREX after the project ends in 2006.
- 5 The European Commission has indicated that Interreg IIIC pre Application costs from 12 October 2001 for InterMETREX and 6 December 2001 for PolyMETREXplus can be included for 50% co funding. The Secretary General has prepared a report to accompany the Applications and this justifies a co-funding repayment of €15714 for InterMETREX and €14773 for PolyMETREX.

The InterMETREX payment will be made in 2003 but €7k has to be repaid to the City of Rotterdam and the Generalitat de Catalunya for the co-funding of the Schiphol partners meeting in 2002.

Pre Application costs up to €50k are eligible for co-funding for an RFO and it is anticipated that METREX and the Generalitat de Catalunya will incur costs within this limit in preparing and submitting the PolyMETREXplus RFO Application (see 4B above). If the project is approved a co-funding payment in the range €15-20k could be paid to METREX in 2004.

## **B METREX budget for 2004 and 2005**

The autumn Meeting before a METREX spring Conference normally considers the budget for the coming two years to be able to propose this to the General Assembly. The Barcelona Conference was put back from the spring to the autumn of 2005 to allow the outcomes of the InterMETREX and PolyMETREX projects to be reported and to allow the Conference to relate better to the 2004 Barcelona Forum of Cultures.

In these circumstances it is proposed that the Managing Committee should agree that the budget for 2003 (see Appendix 2) should be continued for 2004/2005 as there are no circumstances to require any significant changes either in terms of income or expenditure

It should be noted that the budget is, in reality, authorisation for expenditure up to the figures shown, subject to this funding being available from subscriptions or other forms of income. The Secretary General manages the budget within the cash flow available, or in prospect, during the financial year.

## **8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **A Dates for Meetings in 2004**

The dates for the San Sebastian METREX spring Meeting and the METREX Barcelona Conference have yet to be confirmed

**METREX EXPERT GROUPS**

APPENDIX 1

**LEAD PARTNERS  
and Partners**

**1 PLANNING FOR  
MAJOR EVENTS**

**2 MAJOR URBAN  
RESTRUCTURING  
PROJECTS**

**3 URBAN  
REQUALIFICATION**

**4 STRATEGIC  
PLANNING  
FOR RETAILING**

**5 AGRICULTURE IN THE  
HINTERLANDS OF  
METROPOLITAN AREAS**

**6 METROPOLITAN  
GOVERNANCE**

**1 PROVINCIA DI TORINO**

- 1 TORINO
- 2 Zaragoza
- 3 Catalunya
- 4 Thessaloniki
- 5 Athens
- 6 Lisboa
- 7 London
- 8 Stuttgart
- 9 Wroclaw
- 10 Andalucia/Sevilla

**2 CITY OF ROTTERDAM/  
ROTTERADM DOCKLANDS  
AGENCY**

- 1 ROTTERDAM
- 2 Helsinki
- 3 Athens
- 4 Stuttgart
- 5 Torino
- 6 Catalunya

**3 REGIONE EMILIA-ROMAGNA**

- 1 EMILIA-ROMAGNA
- 2 Athens
- 3 Lombardia

**4 GCVSPJC**

- 1 GLASGOW
- 2 Stockholm

**5 VERBAND REGION STUTTART**

- 1 STUTTART
- 2 Athens
- 3 Torino
- 4 Catalunya

**6 PRESIDENT OF METREX**

- 1 TORINO/METREX
- 2 Lisboa
- 3 Stuttgart
- 4 Glasgow
- 5 London
- 6 Athens
- 7 Catalunya

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**APPENDIX 2**

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**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

for the period ended 30 June 2003

	€	€	€
OPENING BANK BALANCE			(38,758)
MANAGEMENT			
Income			
Subscriptions	154,050		
Interest received	1		
Project co-funding	<u>—</u>		
		154,051	
Expenditure			
Secretary General	14,631		
Communications & management	7,730		
Project support	22,538		
Interpretation & translation	24,092		
Travel, accommodation & subsistence	12,764		
Printing & copying	—		
Postage, stationery & telephone	3,179		
Accountancy	1,852		
Miscellaneous expenses	<u>5,415</u>		
		<u>92,201</u>	
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		61,850	
CONFERENCE			
Income	—		
Expenditure	<u>—</u>		
		<u>—</u>	
NET INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) OF FUNDS			61,850
EXCHANGE DIFFERENCE			<u>474</u>
<b>CLOSING BANK BALANCE</b>			<b><u>23,566</u></b>

**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT**  
for the period ended 30 June 2003

	Budget for year		Actual for period	
	€	€	€	€
<b>MANAGEMENT</b>				
Income				
Subscriptions	250,000		209,800	
Interest received	-		29	
Project co-funding	<u>-</u>	250,000	<u>-</u>	209,829
Expenditure				
Secretary General	49,600		17,603	
Communications & management	26,500		9,372	
Project support	53,000		29,617	
Interpretation & translation	25,000		20,853	
Travel, accommodation & subsistence	28,000		13,378	
Printing & copying	2,000		-	
Postage, stationery & telephone	5,000		3,000	
Accountancy	5,300		1,852	
Miscellaneous expenses	<u>12,000</u>		<u>5,516</u>	
		<u>206,400</u>		<u>101,191</u>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>		43,600		108,638
<b>CONFERENCES</b>				
Income	-		-	
Expenditure	<u>20,000</u>		<u>-</u>	
		( 20,000)		-
<b>CURRENCY FLUCTUATION</b>		<u>-</u>		<u>1,584</u>
<b>PROFIT/(LOSS)</b>		<u><b>23,600</b></u>		<u><b>110,222</b></u>

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APPENDIX 3

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**METREX BUDGET**

for the years 2004 and 2005

	€	
<b>MANAGEMENT</b>		
Income		
Subscriptions	250,000	
Interest received	-	
Project co-funding	<u>-</u>	
Expenditure		
Secretary General	49,600	
Communications & management	26,500	
Project support	53,000	
Interpretation & translation	25,000	
Travel, accommodation & subsistence	28,000	
Printing & copying	2,000	
Postage, stationery & telephone	5,000	
Accountancy	5,300	
Miscellaneous expenses	<u>12,000</u>	
		<u>206,40</u>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>		43,600
<b>CONFERENCES</b>		
Income	-	
Expenditure	<u>20,000</u>	
		(20,00)
<b>CURRENCY FLUCTUATION</b>		<u>-</u>
<b>PROFIT/(LOSS)</b>		<u>23,600</u>