

EMTA supports initiative for a European Policy on Urban Mobility

EMTA welcomes the action plan initiative for a European urban mobility policy presented by MEP Gilles Savary on January 21 2009.

EMTA sees the report as a document that reflects the debates held at the EMTA Conference - on sustainable mobility and the financial challenges - held in Paris on 27 November 2008¹, during which MEP Gilles Savary explained his views and strategy for a European policy on urban mobility while transport authorities coming from all parts of Europe expressed their concerns and the challenges they face.

EMTA points out measures of particular importance in the action plan:

- the development of CIVITAS III programme [5] with call for projects related to intermodality, integration and innovation, *provided entities wider than cities corresponding to metropolitan areas can apply*;
- the stepping up of ITS research and development programme [6] with application to the provision of most relevant information related to mobility services at large with a view to achieve social inclusion as well as sustainable mobility and the provision of integrated, fast and easy to use electronic ticketing;
- the development of integrated sustainable urban travel plans [7] with recommended aspects to take into account, *however leaving it to local authorities to select the measures that are most likely to achieve the goal of sustainable mobility* ;
- the study of the feasibility of a European financial instrument [13] in the type of URBAN-T enabling co-financing of surveys on urban travel plans and of a proportion of investments in sustainable modes of transport.

EMTA however reiterates a warning signal on the financial challenges that lay ahead if urban transport services are to bring a significant contribution to an efficient climate change policy in metropolitan areas and comply with the proposals of the action plan.

Finally EMTA reminds to European Parliament its willingness to participate into the drawing of a sustainable mobility policy for European metropolises and share for the common good ten years of knowledge and good practice.

¹ Proceedings are available on EMTA website www.emta.com

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