

Implementation of the 2011 White Paper on transport: taking stock and the way forward towards sustainable mobility

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The Committee on Transport and Tourism adopted an own-initiative report by Wim van de CAMP (EPP, NL) on the implementation of the [2011 White Paper on Transport](#): taking stock and the way forward towards sustainable mobility.

Implementation and mid-term review of the White Paper: the report welcomes the Commission's intention to carry out a mid-term review of the White Paper. It called for the evaluation of the extent to which the list of actions set out in the White Paper is sufficient to achieve its overarching goals, and to **propose additional legislative measures**. In particular, the Commission should:

- propose, in line with Parliament's [resolution](#) of 5 February 2014, measures aimed at **further reduction of transport emissions**, in order to help Member States reach the overall binding EU target of an at least 40% domestic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990;
- propose a **comprehensive strategy for the decarbonisation of transport** that will allow the achievement of the long-term target of the White Paper of an at least 60 % reduction of GHG emissions from transport by 2050.

Modal shift and co-modality: Members stressed that a European sustainable mobility policy needs to build on a broad range of policy tools to shift towards the least polluting and most energy-efficient modes of transport in a cost-efficient manner. This is why they asked that European transport policy should therefore be based on **efficient co-modality, where the use of the most energy-efficient and sustainable transport modes should be prioritised where possible**.

Modern infrastructure and smart funding: the Commission is called on:

- to submit proposals to provide for **the internalisation of the external costs of all modes of freight and passenger transport** (concrete measures to ensure a wider application of the 'user pays' and 'polluter pays' principles) and for a level playing field to be ensured between transport modes, abolishing environmentally harmful tax subsidies where appropriate, while maintaining the competitiveness of all EU regions;
- to propose a **general framework for national road charging schemes for passenger cars and light commercial vehicles**, which should be non-discriminatory for third-country residents and prioritise distance-based charging. The revenue from infrastructure charges for the building should be earmarked for the maintenance of safe transport infrastructure and the mitigation of transport-related environmental problems.

Members considered that the **completion of the Trans-European Transport Network** remains one of the preconditions for a more sustainable, efficient, seamless multimodal transport system and a more balanced distribution of freight and passengers among transport modes.

EU funding must reflect the real investment needs for completing the TEN-T core network by 2030. In this regard:

- the [Connecting Europe Facility](#) (CEF) instrument and other means of financing should stimulate investment in transport infrastructure following the criteria set out in the TEN-T guidelines and CEF, giving priority to sustainable means of transport such as rail, inland waterways and short sea shipping;
- the financing of **road infrastructure** should be encouraged through various policies and instruments of the Union, particularly in the cohesion countries;
- the [European Fund for Strategic Investments](#) (EFSI) should give priority to sustainable transport and to infrastructure projects of vital importance that deliver high societal, economic and environmental value.

Members reaffirmed their support for innovative financial instruments and stress the need for the rapid deployment of **intelligent transport systems** to allow a more efficient, sustainable and safe use of vehicles and of the existing infrastructure.

Sustainable transport and urban mobility: stressing that improving **energy efficiency** should be one of the top priorities of the European transport policy, Members called for:

- promoting **electro-mobility** and electric public transport systems (electric buses (trolleybuses), electric cars), coupled with the introduction of renewable energy sources in the electricity sector;
- promoting the introduction of **alternative fuels and propulsion systems**;
- setting a new goal of doubling **public transport** use in urban areas by 2030;
- supporting the development and promotion of **Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans** (SUMP);
- support regional programmes for creating and expanding **cycling networks** in large European regions;
- analysing the positive effects on society of new forms of mobility supported by the Sharing Economy model, including **ride-sharing**.

The Commission should require the Member States to provide **conditions of fair competition** between, on the one hand, shared transportation companies (eg, Uber) and, on the other, traditional taxi and intercity transport companies, as regards compliance with tax legislation, safety, public service obligations and employment conditions, etc.

Placing people at the heart of transport policy: with regard to road safety, a major social problem, the report calls for:

- the adoption of a 2020 target of a **40%** reduction in the number of people seriously injured as well as action to attain the road safety target of less than 15000 fatalities in 2020;
- actions to reduce accidents among **vulnerable users**, in particular users of two-wheeled vehicles, pedestrians in urban environments and older drivers;
- a review of the **Professional Drivers** Training and Qualification Directive;
- a proposal to review the General Safety Regulation (661/2009) and the Pedestrian Protection Regulation (78/2009) by 2016;
- establishing mandatory rules for heavy goods vehicles' (HGVs') cab design and safety, direct vision, crash performance and **pedestrian protection**;
- improved safety measures for trucks and cars; building safer roads; developing **intelligent vehicles**;
- strengthening **driver licensing** and training;
- a **harmonised EU blood alcohol concentration limit of 0.0** for new drivers in the first two years and for professional drivers.

The Commission should ensure that proposals on the opening-up of services in all transport markets go hand in hand with the **proper enforcement of EU social legislation** and, where necessary, with support measures to avoid disparities between social conditions in the different Member States.

A competitive, efficient, safe, integrated and interoperable transport system: emphasising that **digitalisation** is vital to improving the efficiency and productivity of the transport sector, Members called on the Commission to put the integrated approach (**interoperability, inter-connectivity and intermodality**) at the heart of the review of the White Paper. A European sustainable mobility policy must look at synergies between all transport modes, corridors and networks.

In the area of **aviation**, Europe needs to maintain its direct connectivity to all parts of the world, providing direct flights by European carriers from their hubs to overseas destinations and maintaining jobs and growth in the European aviation sector.

EU policy must ensure **an efficient and competitive feeder network to strengthen European hubs** by reducing costs to globally competitive levels and ensuring fair competition with carriers from third countries.

Members considered that the EU Member States need a coherent and common policy in order **not to further lose direct connectivity between Europe, Asia and Africa** to hubs in the Gulf and Turkey. They, therefore, asked the Commission, to implement these goals in all EU aviation legislation and to apply them in negotiations with third countries.

The EU must maintain **its leading role** in the global efforts to reduce transport emissions in the framework of the 2015 Paris Climate Conference (COP21).

The report finally makes a series of recommendations for the **integration of all transport modes** within the vision of a more efficient, sustainable, competitive, accessible, user- and citizen-friendly transport system. It recommended, inter alia:

- a revision of Regulation 868/2004 in order to safeguard fair competition in EU external **aviation** relations, completion of the internal market for aviation, coherent and effective development of an EU airport network as well as all necessary actions by the Member States to accelerate the implementation of the Single European Sky;
- the **completion of the Single European Railway Area** through swift adoption of the 4th Railway Package, as well as the adoption by the Commission, of a rail strategy proposing new measures to reach the 2030 and 2050 modal shift targets laid down in the White Paper;
- setting a global binding target in the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) to reach the objective of the White Paper for an at least 40 % reduction in CO₂ emissions from **maritime** bunker fuels by 2050;
- the establishment of an appropriate framework to optimise the internal market for **inland waterway transport** and to remove barriers that prevent its increased use.