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**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 3.12.2021**

**on setting up the Multimodal Passenger Mobility Forum**

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## on setting up the Multimodal Passenger Mobility Forum

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 91 of the Treaty assigned the Union the task of ensuring that common rules are applicable to international transport to or from the territory of a Member State or passing across the territory of one or more Member States.
- (2) With a view to enhancing sustainable multimodal passenger mobility in the Union, in accordance with the Commission's Communication 'Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy – putting European transport on track for the future'<sup>1</sup> calling for decisive action to transform the transport sector into a truly integrated and seamless multimodal system of sustainable and smart mobility services, the Commission calls upon the expertise of public and private specialists in an advisory body.
- (3) Enhancing sustainable multimodality for passengers and shifting more activity towards more sustainable transport modes can only be achieved through the combination of an array of policy initiatives, including establishing a framework for the development of multimodal digital mobility solutions enabling sustainable alternatives to be widely available to passengers, as well as, supporting the development of a high-quality multimodal network. This also requires significant cross-border investments in research, innovation, deployment and scaling-up of sustainable multi-modal solutions which should be facilitated by enhanced cooperation between different funding and financing programmes at EU, national and regional level.
- (4) Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1926<sup>2</sup>, establishes the necessary specifications to ensure that multimodal travel information services are accurate and available across borders to users. Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1926 supports the development of multimodal travel information services by mandating the accessibility, exchange and reuse of static travel and traffic information data. Services facilitating payment and booking of mobility products are not covered by the current scope of that Delegated Regulation. The development of multimodal digital mobility services, facilitating passengers' access to information, booking and payment of mobility, is limited by a lack of cooperation in the market. This is particularly acute in cross-border regions where short-distance public transport have to cope with the complexity of international transportation. Enhancing cooperation

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<sup>1</sup> COM(2020) 789 final.

<sup>2</sup> Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1926 of 31 May 2017 supplementing Directive 2010/40/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the provision of EU-wide multimodal travel information services (OJ L 272, 21.10.2017, p. 1).

between operators and multimodal digital mobility services, while establishing safeguards to ensure that these new services underpin the transport policy objectives outlined in the Commission’s Communication ‘The European Green Deal’<sup>3</sup>, is essential to shift more activity towards more sustainable transport modes and seamless multimodality for passengers.

- (5) It is therefore necessary to set up a group of experts on sustainable multimodal mobility for passengers, the Multimodal Passenger Mobility Forum (MPMF), and to define its tasks and structure, in compliance with Commission Decision C(2016) 3301 establishing horizontal rules on the creation and operation of Commission expert groups (‘the horizontal rules’).
- (6) The MPMF should help the Commission to facilitate the implementation of Commission Communication “Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy – putting European transport on track for the future”<sup>4</sup> on aspects related to multimodal passenger mobility, including in cross-border regions and in the context of urban mobility, which should help reach the objective of at least 100 climate neutral cities by 2030 set by the Strategy and the EU mission on climate-neutral and smart cities.
- (7) The MPMF should be composed of Member States' authorities, as well as of public and private organisations with relevant expertise in multimodality for passengers, including in the specific case of cross-border regions and with a genuine interest in collaborating towards achieving a sustainable and smart Union transport system.
- (8) Rules on disclosure of information by members of the group should be laid down.
- (9) Personal data should be processed in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>5</sup>.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

#### *Article 1*

##### **Subject matter**

The Multimodal Passenger Mobility Forum, (hereinafter referred to as ‘the MPMF’), is set up.

#### *Article 2*

##### **Tasks**

1. The MPMF’s tasks shall be:
  - (a) to assist the Commission in the preparation of policy initiatives in the field of sustainable multimodal mobility for passengers;
  - (b) to establish cooperation and coordination between the Commission and Member States or stakeholders on questions relating to the implementation of Union legislation, programmes and policies in the field of sustainable

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<sup>3</sup> COM(2019) 640 final.

<sup>4</sup> COM(2020) 789 final.

<sup>5</sup> Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39).

multimodal mobility policy and shift of more activity towards more sustainable transport modes for passengers;

- (c) to assist the Commission in the early preparation of implementing acts, before submission to the relevant committee in accordance with Regulation (EU) No182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>6</sup>;
- (d) to bring about an exchange of experience and good practice in the field of sustainable multimodal mobility for passengers, including in cross-border regions.
- (e) provide advice and technical expertise to the Commission on the development and implementation of future proof and innovation friendly legislation, policies, projects and programmes in the field of multimodal mobility for passengers and shift of more activity towards more sustainable transport modes, for example in the form of opinions, reports or analyses, and contribute towards an integrated and seamless multimodal system of sustainable and smart mobility services;
- (f) provide advice on developing synergies between EU, national and regional funding and financing opportunities in the area of research, innovation, development, deployment and scaling up of cross-border sustainable multimodal mobility solutions and modal shift towards the most sustainable transport modes;
- (g) facilitate exchanges of information on initiatives, projects and partnerships dealing with sustainable multimodal mobility for passengers;
- (h) Interact with the Mission Platform for the implementation of the EU Mission on climate-neutral and smart cities on the development and implementation of future proof and innovation friendly legislation, policies, projects and programmes as well as on developing synergies between EU, national and regional funding and financing opportunities in the field of multimodal mobility for passengers and modal shift, including urban mobility.

### *Article 3*

#### **Consultation**

The Commission may consult the MPMF on any matter relating to sustainable multimodal mobility for passengers.

### *Article 4*

#### **Membership**

1. The MPMF shall be composed of up to 100 members.
2. The MPMF shall consist of the following types of members:

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<sup>6</sup> Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

- (a) organisations established in one of the Member States, active in or working on sustainable mobility, including environmental, mobility, passenger and civil society organisations; relevant multimodal digital mobility service providers; relevant transport operators; relevant academia or research and innovation organisations; standardisation bodies; European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation;
  - (b) Member States' authorities at national, regional or local level;
  - (c) other public entities, such as third countries' authorities, including candidate countries' authorities, Union bodies, offices or agencies and international organisations.
3. All members shall nominate their representatives and shall be responsible for ensuring that their representatives provide a high level of expertise.
  4. Organisations referred to in paragraph 2, point (a) shall each nominate one representative and one alternate representative for the MPMF and one representative and one alternate representative for each sub-group of the MPMF where relevant.
  5. The following shall no longer be invited to participate in any meetings of the MPMF and may be replaced for the remainder of their term of office:
    - (a) member organisations which, in the opinion of DG MOVE, are no longer capable of contributing effectively to the expert group's deliberations;
    - (b) member organisations which, in the opinion of DG MOVE, do not comply with the conditions set out in Article 339 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union;
    - (c) member organisations which resign.

## *Article 5*

### *Selection process*

1. The selection of the organisations referred to in Article 4(2), point (a), shall be carried out via a public call for applications, to be published on the Register of Commission expert groups and other similar entities ('the Register of expert groups'). In addition, the call for applications may be published through other means, including on dedicated websites. The call for applications shall clearly outline the selection criteria, including the required expertise and the interests to be represented in relation to the work to be performed. The minimum deadline for applications shall be four weeks.
2. Registration in the Transparency Register is required in order for organisations to be appointed.
3. The members of the MPMF shall be appointed by the Director General of DG MOVE from applicants with competence in the areas referred to in Article 2 and who have responded to the call for applications.
4. Members shall be appointed for a maximum of 5 years. They shall remain in office until replaced, for any of the reasons listed in Article 4(5), or until the end of their term of office. Their term of office may be renewed.
5. If more applications are received in response to the call for applications than there are places in the MPMF, DG MOVE shall establish a reserve list of suitable

candidates that may be used to appoint replacements of the member-organisations referred to in Article 4(2), point (a). DG MOVE shall ask applicants for their consent before including their names on the reserve list.

6. The Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport ('DG MOVE') may refuse the nomination of a representative by an organisation if it considers the nomination to be inappropriate, in the light of the requirements specified in this Decision or in the related call for applications. Reasons for refusing a nomination shall include:
  - (a) previous inappropriate, rude, harmful or discriminatory written or oral comments, statements or remarks by the nominee;
  - (b) suspected or alleged (sexual) harassment, theft or other inappropriate or criminal behaviour, irrespective whether this occurred on Commission premises or in the context of execution of the tasks referred to in this Decision.
7. Where a nomination is rejected, the organisation concerned shall nominate another representative.

#### *Article 6*

##### *Chair*

The MPMF shall be chaired by a representative of DG MOVE.

#### *Article 7*

##### *Operation*

1. The MPMF shall act at the request of DG MOVE, in compliance with the horizontal rules.<sup>7</sup>
2. Meetings of the MPMF shall, in principle, be held on Commission premises or virtually depending on the circumstances.
3. DG MOVE shall provide secretarial services, where required with the assistance of one or more contractors. Commission officials from other departments with an interest in the proceedings may attend meetings of the MPMF and its sub-groups.
4. In agreement with DG MOVE, the MPMF may, by simple majority of its members, decide that deliberations shall be public.
5. Minutes on the discussion on each point on the agenda and on the opinions delivered by the MPMF shall be meaningful and complete. Minutes shall be drafted by the secretariat under the responsibility of the Chair.
6. As far as possible, the MPMF shall adopt its opinions, recommendations or reports by consensus. In the event of a vote, the outcome of the vote shall be decided by simple majority of the members. Members who have voted against or abstained shall have the right to have a document summarising the reasons for their position annexed to the opinions, recommendations or reports.

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<sup>7</sup> See Article 13 (1) of the horizontal rules.

## Article 8

### **Sub-groups**

1. DG MOVE may set up sub-groups for the purpose of examining specific questions on the basis of terms of reference defined by DG MOVE. Sub-groups shall operate in compliance with this Decision and the horizontal rules and shall report to the MPMF. They shall be dissolved as soon as their mandate is fulfilled.
2. The members of sub-groups that are not members of the MPMF shall be selected via a public call for applications, in compliance with Article 5 and the horizontal rules.<sup>8</sup>

## Article 9

### **Invited experts**

DG MOVE may invite experts with specific expertise regarding a subject matter on the agenda to take part in the work of the MPMF or sub-groups on an *ad hoc* basis.

## Article 10

### **Observers**

1. Individuals, organisations and public entities other than Member States' authorities may be granted an observer status, in compliance with the horizontal rules, by direct invitation.
2. The organisations and public entities appointed as observers shall nominate their representatives in the MPMF or relevant sub-group.
3. Observers and their representatives may be permitted by the Chair to take part in the discussions of the MPMF and provide expertise. However, they shall not have voting rights and shall not participate in the formulation of recommendations or advice of the MPMF.

## Article 11

### **Rules of procedure**

On a proposal by and in agreement with DG MOVE, the MPMF shall adopt its rules of procedure by simple majority of its members, on the basis of the standard rules of procedure for expert groups, in compliance with the horizontal rules.<sup>9</sup>

## Article 12

### **Professional secrecy and handling of classified information**

The members of the MPMF and their representatives, as well as invited experts and observers, are subject to the obligation of professional secrecy, which by virtue of the Treaties and the rules implementing them applies to all members of the institutions and their staff, as well as to the Commission's rules on security regarding the protection of Union classified information,

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<sup>8</sup> See Article 10 and Article 14 (2) of the horizontal rules.

<sup>9</sup> See Article 17 of the horizontal rules.

laid down in Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443<sup>10</sup> and (EU, Euratom) 2015/444<sup>11</sup>. Should they fail to respect these obligations, the Commission may take all appropriate measures.

### *Article 13*

#### ***Transparency***

1. The MPMF and its sub-groups shall be registered in the Register of expert groups.
2. As concerns the MPMF and sub-groups composition, the following data shall be published on the Register of expert groups:
  - (a) the name of the Member States' authorities;
  - (b) the name of the other public entities, including third countries' authorities;
  - (c) the name of the organisations referred to in Article 4(2), (a); the interest represented shall be disclosed;
  - (d) the name of observers.
3. All relevant documents, including the agendas, the minutes and the participants' submissions, shall be made available either on the Register of expert groups or *via* a link from the Register to a dedicated website, where this information can be found. Access to dedicated websites shall not be submitted to user registration or any other restriction. In particular, the agenda and other relevant background documents shall be published in due time ahead of the meeting, followed by timely publication of minutes. Exceptions to publication shall only be foreseen where it is deemed that disclosure of a document would undermine the protection of a public or private interest as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 of 13 March 2015 on Security in the Commission (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 41).

<sup>11</sup> Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 of 13 March 2015 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information (OJ L 72, 17.3.2015, p. 53).

<sup>12</sup> Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43).



*Article 14*

***Meeting expenses***

1. Participants in the activities of the MPMF and sub-groups shall not be remunerated for the services they offer.
2. Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the MPMF and sub-groups shall not be reimbursed by the Commission.

Done at Brussels, 3.12.2021

*For the Commission*  
*Adina-Ioana VĂLEAN*  
*Member of the Commission*