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**COMMISSION DECISION**

**of 28.7.2022**

**setting up the Commission expert group on urban mobility**

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### setting up the Commission expert group on urban mobility

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission communication *The New EU Urban Mobility Framework*<sup>1</sup> sets out the need to strengthen sustainable urban mobility in the EU.
- (2) According to the communication above, the drive towards climate neutrality in the EU requires a multi-level and integrated governance to manage urban mobility. To this end, a strengthened dialogue is required in view of the implementation of the new EU urban mobility framework and the ambition to ensure a stronger engagement of Member States and a better cooperation with cities, regions and stakeholders on all urban mobility issues. In view of achieving those objectives, the Commission needs to call upon the expertise of specialists in an advisory body.
- (3) As a result, it is necessary to set up an expert group on sustainable urban mobility and 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').
- (4) The group should help develop urban aspects of transport and support implementing the new EU urban mobility framework, focusing on the priority areas set out in the communication. The group should advise and provide expertise to the Commission in these areas and be a forum for dialogue, exchange of technical knowledge, cooperation and coordination between Member States – including local and regional authorities – and other stakeholders.
- (5) The group should be composed of appointed representatives of Member States' authorities at national, regional and local level, as well as other public entities and private organisations with expertise in urban mobility. Experts and observers should be invited to the group's meetings when necessary.
- (6) Rules should be laid down on disclosing information by members of the group.
- (7) Personal data should be processed in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> COM/2021/811 final.

<sup>2</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).

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

***Subject matter***

The Expert Group on Urban Mobility ('the group') is set up.

*Article 2*

***Tasks***

The group's tasks shall be:

- (a) to assist the Commission in implementing the new EU urban mobility framework;
- (b) to advise and provide technical expertise to the Commission on developing and implementing future-proof and innovation-friendly legislation, policies, projects and programmes in the field of sustainable urban mobility, for example through recommendations, opinions, reports or analyses, contributing to a healthy urban environment;
- (c) to develop cooperation and coordination between the Commission, Member States and stakeholders on questions relating to the implementation of EU legislation, programmes and policies in the field of urban mobility, including sustainable urban mobility planning, transport contingency preparedness and energy efficiency;
- (d) to foster exchanges of experience and good practices in the field of sustainable urban mobility, including in cross-border regions;
- (e) to advise the Commission on how to develop synergies between EU, national and regional funding and financing opportunities in research, innovation, development and deployment of safe, healthy, energy efficient and sustainable urban mobility solutions for a better quality of life;
- (f) to facilitate exchanges of information on initiatives, projects and partnerships on sustainable urban mobility, including the EU mission on climate-neutral and smart cities<sup>3</sup>.

*Article 3*

***Consultation***

1. The Commission may consult the group on any sustainable urban mobility matter.

*Article 4*

***Membership***

1. Members of the group shall be:
  - a) organisations in Member States or at EU level, active in or working on sustainable urban mobility, including environmental, mobility, safety, public health, passenger, consumer and civil society organisations, mobility services providers, transport operators, social partners, transport industry

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<sup>3</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/climate-neutral-and-smart-cities\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-innovation/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/climate-neutral-and-smart-cities_en)

organisations, academia, research and innovation organisations, and European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation<sup>4</sup>;

- b) Member States' authorities at national, regional and local level;
  - c) other public entities where necessary, such as third countries' authorities (including candidate country authorities), as well as EU bodies, offices or agencies, and international organisations.
2. All members referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall each nominate one representative and one alternate representative to the group and one representative and one alternate representative to sub-groups referred to in Article 8, where relevant. They shall be responsible for ensuring that their representatives provide a high level of expertise.
  3. The Commission may refuse the nomination of a representative by an organisation if it considers the nomination to be inappropriate in light of the requirements specified in this Decision or in the related call for applications. Where a nomination is rejected, the organisation concerned shall nominate another representative.
  4. Members shall no longer be invited to participate in meetings of the group and may be replaced for the remainder of their term of office if they: (i) are no longer capable of contributing effectively to the expert group's deliberations; (ii) in the opinion of the Commission, do not comply with the conditions set out in Article 339 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union; or (iii) resign.

#### *Article 5*

##### *Selection process*

1. The selection of the organisations referred to in point (a) of Article 4(1) 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'). The call for applications may also be published elsewhere, including on dedicated websites. The call for applications shall clearly outline the selection criteria, including the required expertise and the interests to be represented for the work to be performed. The minimum deadline for applications shall be 4 weeks from the date of publication.
2. Organisations must be registered in the Transparency Register in order to be appointed.
3. The member organisations of the group shall be appointed by the Director-General of the Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) from applicants with competence in the areas referred to in Articles 2 and 3 and who have responded to the call for applications.
4. Member States' authorities and other public entities shall be appointed as members following a direct invitation.
5. Members shall be appointed for 5 years. They shall remain in office until replaced or until the end of their term of office. Their term of office may be renewed.

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<sup>4</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/en/policy/cooperation/european-territorial/egtc/](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/en/policy/cooperation/european-territorial/egtc/)

6. DG MOVE shall draw up a reserve list of suitable candidates that may be used to appoint members' replacements. DG MOVE shall ask applicants for their consent before including their organisations' names on the reserve list.

#### *Article 6*

##### ***Chair***

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

#### *Article 7*

##### ***Operation***

1. The group shall act at the request of DG MOVE, in compliance with the horizontal rules.
2. Meetings of the group shall, in principle, be held on Commission premises or online, depending on the circumstances.
3. DG MOVE shall provide secretarial services. Commission staff from other departments with an interest in the proceedings may attend meetings of the group and its sub-groups.
4. In agreement with DG MOVE, the group 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 group shall be meaningful and complete. Minutes shall be drafted by the secretariat under the responsibility of the Chair.
6. As far as possible, the group 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.

#### *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 and after consulting the group. Sub-groups shall operate in compliance with this Decision and the horizontal rules and shall report to the group. They shall be dissolved as soon as their mandate is fulfilled.
2. The members of sub-groups that are not members of the group shall be selected via a public call for applications, in compliance with Article 5 and the horizontal rules.

#### *Article 9*

##### ***Invited experts***

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

## *Article 10*

### ***Observers***

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

## *Article 11*

### ***Rules of procedure***

On a proposal by and in agreement with DG MOVE, the group 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. Sub-groups shall operate in compliance with the group's rules of procedure.

## *Article 12*

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

The members of the group and their representatives, as well as invited experts and observers, shall be 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, laid down in Commission Decisions (EU, Euratom) 2015/443<sup>5</sup> and 2015/444<sup>6</sup>. Should they fail to respect these obligations, the Commission may take all appropriate measures.

## *Article 13*

### ***Transparency***

1. The group and its sub-groups shall be registered in the Register of expert groups.
2. The following data about the group and sub-groups' composition shall be published on the Register of expert groups:
  - a) the names of Member State authorities;
  - b) the names of other public entities, including the names of non-EU country authorities;
  - c) the names of member organisations referred to in point (a) of Article 4(1); the interest represented shall be disclosed;

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<sup>5</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>6</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).

- d) the names of observers.
3. All relevant documents, including meeting agendas, minutes and participants' submissions, shall be made available on the Register of expert groups. In particular, the agenda and other relevant background documents shall be published in due time ahead of the meeting, followed by the timely publication of the minutes. Exceptions to publishing a document shall only be possible where it is deemed that disclosing it would undermine the protection of a public or private interest as defined in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001<sup>7</sup>.

#### *Article 14*

##### *Meeting expenses*

1. Participants in the activities of the group and sub-groups shall not be remunerated for the services they offer.
2. When the activities of the group and sub-groups are not held exclusively via digital means, travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants shall be reimbursed by the Commission. Reimbursement shall be made in accordance with the provisions in force within the Commission and within the limits of the available appropriations allocated to the Commission departments under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

Done at Brussels, 28.7.2022

*For the Commission*

*Adina-Ioana VĂLEAN*

*Member of the Commission*

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<sup>7</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). These exceptions are intended to protect public security, military affairs, international relations, financial, monetary or economic policy, privacy and integrity of the individual, commercial interests, court proceedings and legal advice, inspections/investigations/audits and the institution's decision-making process.