



## **Permanent Scientific and Technical Committee (PSTC) of CODATU**

### **INTRODUCTION NOTE ON PSTC**

**PSTC Session, CODATU XVI, Istanbul, 4 Feb 2015**

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- CODATU established the Permanent Scientific and Technical Committee (PSTC) in order to develop its technical and scientific activities apart from the conferences.
- The PSTC acts in an advisory role to the Board of CODATU and is co-chaired by two of its members who are also Vice Presidents of CODATU.
- The PSTC currently has 23 members representing the academic world, researchers and consultants of international standing, with good geographical balance, diversity of experience and knowledge and a mix of gender and age. The committee is mostly composed of colleagues from developing and transition economy countries and includes members from the developed world with knowledge of research and practice in developing countries.
- The committee focuses on identifying critical issues, as they emerge over time, for both research and practice, and facilitating both the transfer of research into applicable policy and the identification of policy-makers' research needs in the focus on developing countries and emerging/transition economies.
- This will be achieved directly by the discussions within the committee, through seminars bringing together researchers and policy makers and through small scale research projects in cities in the target countries.
- Among its supporting role to the Board, the committee is working on identifying the main issues of urban mobility in developing countries in addition to initiating activities to promote the transfer of results among those countries. In its early work, the committee has focused on investigation of the lack of interaction between researchers and practitioners in the development of effective transport policies in developing country cities, and the underlying causes of lack of commitment and lack of trust.

- Currently the PSTC is working on identifying examples of good practice in such interactions at local, national and international levels and drawing lessons for transfer of experience. It then plans to initiate a number of pilot projects focusing on the use and interpretation of information, and the development of policy guidance, to be undertaken in different geographical regions of the world. These projects will be submitted to CODATU Board for approval and deciding on budget and sources of finance.
- The PSTC, furthermore, aims to investigate how the recommendations/guidance on sustainable urban mobility given in reports of international recognition being observed, or not, by policy makers and researchers in targeted countries and drawing lessons on the underlying reasons, through the pilot projects.
- Finally, the PSTC will develop its role and activities as the experience is gained and as the learned lessons from its activities might dictate. In doing so, the committee welcomes any ideas and suggestions from CODATU members and partners and from the international transport community and the audience of its seminars and special sessions including the session of today.

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