FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE L'AUTOMOBILE
REGION I - EUROPE, THE MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

Eurocouncil Declaration
"Delivering smart cities to citizens"
Madrid, 27 April 2018

Rising congestion and air quality issues are serious causes for concern for both decision-makers and citizens. Citizens on the one hand, expect a certain quality of life, combining personal mobility and seamless delivery in a healthy environment. Decision-makers, on the other hand, manage a growing number of inhabitants within a constrained space and need to organise the available space in a fair and efficient manner.

Urban users need seamless door to door mobility, which is why the personal car remains the mode of choice for many in urban centres. Politicians have designed various incentives to shift demand towards other modes of transport with limited success so far. In doing so, they have created a maze of different measures with different – and sometimes contradicting - objectives: diesel vehicle bans, congestion charges, restricted zones etc. Burdensome procedures and general uncertainty is weighing heavily on the freedom of mobility and tourism.

While these issues are not new, they have become more pressing due to the high level of motorisation in cities and the high level of pollution linked to the weaknesses of vehicle test procedures, combined with a lack of real life compliance. Recent scandals have increased the political drive to improve infrastructure and develop a shared vision of mobility. Citizens are becoming increasingly aware of the environmental impact of their daily mobility. New technologies are making alternative transport modes more convenient and allowing for better informed decisions amongst users.

FIA Region I calls for safe, green and accessible cities, with sustainable transport options. These smart cities should be based on a user centric vision, allowing for a fair distribution of space, and be built around these three pillars:

> **A strong and consistent political will to foster sustainable mobility**

Urban planning is a process involving multiple stakeholders. A lot of the issues of today are the direct result of former decisions. Unfortunately, there is often a mismatch between the political drive, requiring quick solutions and the reality on the ground, which requires more time and fact finding.

We therefore call on decision-makers to:

- Invest in infrastructure and town planning, which are crucial for the safe coexistence of transport modes, instead of playing one mode against the other. Allow time for reflection based on facts and consultation with citizens before any long-term decisions are made and regularly assess measures once in place. It is also essential to consider local issues and to avoid implementing a one-size-fits all approach if the benefits to mobility are unclear;

- Foster more concerted and harmonised actions at all levels of governance, based on thorough research into the environmental and health impact of mobility. The focus should be on efficiency and spreading good practices. In the long term, it should lead to sounder policies and also improve connections between different modes in a city, a given country and within the EU.

> **Optimal use of technology**

Technology is a great asset to support daily mobility choices. It should be utilised to optimise the user experience and give accessible information to citizens on a daily basis.

We therefore call on decision-makers to:

- Incentivise the use of technology to improve existing transport modes. Numerous opportunities exist from offering a single ticket for multiple transport modes to offering a fully-fledged "MaaS" user subscription, granting a pre-defined level of access to various modes for a set fee. It is essential that public transport authorities open up access to ticketing and scheduling data in order to allow for intermediaries to develop MaaS solutions;
- Make simple information available for tourists in various languages. Public and peer-to-peer sharing schemes should be encouraged, as a way to fight traffic congestion and improve the sustainability of transport;
- Intelligent Transport Systems should be used to optimise traffic conditions, increase safety, lower congestion and reduce emissions whilst at the same time ensuring that mobility remains affordable and competitive. Furthermore, they could be used to provide consistent safety and traffic related information cross border within the European Union.

> **Getting citizens onboard**

As personal modes of transport make up most of the traffic, many of the measures taken today impact citizens' daily mobility. Increasing pressure on the use of personal cars mostly derives from high-level, societal decisions. In order to get citizens onboard, and build confidence and trust with users, we call on decision makers to:

- Inform citizens on schemes in place, their objectives and the use of collected revenue to tackle identified challenges. Inform citizens about the assessment of the measures in place on a regular basis and better inform them about the impacts of using alternative transport modes;
- Propose sound testing of vehicles for both CO_2 and pollutants, which perform on the bench and on the road. Avoid "picking" a winning technology, but rather make sure to match adequately the users' needs with the technology;
- Ensure that the use of new technologies goes hand in hand with sound privacy and data protection rules and that all citizens, whatever their socioeconomic status or age, have equal access to benefit from such technologies;
- Increase the coherence of the transport users' rights across modes and ensure compliance.