POLITICO-ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT (LOCAL AUTHORITIES SESSION, 1ST PART)

Thursday 23 October 2003 (8.30 – 12.00 a.m.)

SESSION AGENDA & INTRODUCTORY REPORT

Session Agenda

SESSION THEME:

Politico-economic Integration of Transportation Infrastructure in the Urban Environment

1. TransLink: An Object Lesson in Integrated Planning

Mayor Doug MCCALLUM (Greater Vancouver Transport Authority/CANADA)

2. Urban Transport in the Face of Sustainable Development: A Case Study of Guangzhou

Mayor Yuanhe LIN (Guangzhou City/CHINA)

3. Wall-to-wall municipalities

Dr. Micael SUTCLIFFE (eThekwini Municipality/SOUTH AFRICA)

4. Discussion

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1. Programme

Part 1 of the Local Authorities session will take place in the morning of 23 October 2003. The Mayor of eThekwini Municipality, Councillor Obed Mlaba, under whose authority one of the largest Metropolitan cities of South Africa falls, will officiate and chair this session.

The discussion of this theme and topics will begin with a presentation by an invited expert. This will then be followed by comments and discussion by the Mayors and policy makers from selected countries.

A discussion session will then be open to the floor for a set period of time.

The Mayor of eThekwini Municipality will then conclude the discussions and will officially close this morning session.

2. THEME AND TOPICS

The theme of the public authorities and policy makers is "Politico-Economic Integration of Transportation Infrastructure in the Urban Environment". It provides a platform for these authorities to share views on the following topics related to the theme:

- effects of "wall to wall" municipal boundaries,
- intergovernmental relations-division and coordinating of responsibilities among the spheres of government,
- funding of municipal infrastructure (policy),
- developmental local government vs. services on demand,
- infrastructure choices in the face of sustainable development.

The Mayors, Governors and other Policy Makers from mostly large cities of the world will participate in this session.

These topics examine the synergistic and antagonistic linkages of politico-economic integration and the politico-economic rationale for state interventions in the transport sector will be outlined. A critical evaluation of the achievements and its application in the urban environment as a key to economic development will be examined. Policies will be examined and best practices highlighted.