**Annexes**

**Pact of Amsterdam**

DRAFT VERSION 2.0 / 2-3-2016

**A) List of Reference Documents**

*The presence of a document on this list should not be taken as endorsement of its content unless it is listed as being adopted at an Informal Ministerial Meeting of Ministers responsible for Urban Matters.*

* Communication from the Commission of 6 May 1997 entitled “Towards an urban agenda in the European Union” (COM(1997)0197).
* The “Lille Action Programme" adopted at the Informal Council of Ministers responsible for urban affairs held in Lille on 3 November 2000.
* The "Urban Acquis" adopted at the Informal Council of Ministers responsible for territorial cohesion, held in Rotterdam on 29 November 2004.
* The "Bristol Accord" adopted at the Informal Council of Ministers on sustainable communities held in Bristol on 6-7 December 2005.
* The “Territorial Agenda of the EU - Towards a More Competitive and Sustainable Europe of Diverse Regions” adopted at the Informal Council of Ministers responsible for spatial planning and urban development held in Leipzig on 24-25 May 2007.
* Leipzig Charter on sustainable European cities, adopted at the Informal Council Meeting of Ministers on urban development of 24-25 May 2007 in Leipzig.
* The Communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the Committee of the Regions and the European Economic and Social Committee entitled "Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion: Turning territorial diversity into strength" dated 6 October 2008 (COM(2008)0616).
* The “Marseille Declaration” adopted at the Informal Ministerial Meeting of Ministers responsible for urban development on 25 November 2008.
* The European Parliament resolution of 24 March 2009 on the Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion and the state of the debate on the future reform of cohesion policy (2008/2174(INI)); the European Parliament report of 24 March 2009 on the urban dimension of cohesion policy in the new programming period (2008/2130(INI)).
* The Treaty of Lisbon amending the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty establishing the European Community, signed at Lisbon, 13 December 2007 and entered into force on 1 December 2009.
* The Working Document of the Directorate-General for Regional Policy “Fostering the urban dimension – Analysis of the Operational Programmes co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (2007-2013)” from November 2008; and the Guide from the Commission on "The urban dimension in Community policies for the period 2007 – 2013" updated in December 2009.
* The strategy “EUROPE 2020”, approved by the European Council on 17 June 2010 following the Commission Communication “EUROPE 2020: A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth” dated 3 March 2010 (COM(2010)2020); and the renewed “EU Sustainable Development Strategy”, adopted by the European Council on 15/16 June 2006.
* Toledo Declaration, adopted at the Informal Council Meeting of Ministers on urban development of 22 June 2010 in Toledo.
* Territorial agenda of the EU 2020, agreed at the Informal Ministerial Meeting of Ministers responsible for Spatial Planning and Territorial Development of 19 May 2011 in Gödöllő.
* European Parliament resolution of 23 June 2011 on the European urban agenda and its future in cohesion policy.
* Commission’s report entitled “Cities of tomorrow: Challenges, visions, ways forward”, October 2011.
* The “Road map” for the implementation of the new Territorial Agenda was adopted during Polish presidency in November 2011.
* Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 21 September 2011 on “Metropolitan Areas and City Regions in Europe 2020”.
* Presidency Conclusions adopted at the Informal Meeting of the Directors General of Territorial Cohesion/Spatial Development and Urban Development on 21 November, 2013 in Vilnius.
* Commission’s report entitled “Cities of tomorrow: Investing in Europe”, Brussels, 17-18 February 2014.
* Presidency Conclusions adopted at the Informal Meeting of Ministers responsible for cohesion policy of 24-25 April 2014 in Athens.
* Opinion of the Committee of the Regions of 25 June 2014 on “Towards an Integrated Urban Agenda for the EU”.
* Communication from the Commission of 18 July 2014 on the urban dimension of EU policies – key features of an EU urban agenda (COM(2014)0490).
* General Affairs Council conclusions of Nov 2014 (point 32)
* Communication from the Commission of 16 December 2014 entitled “Commission Work Programme 2015” (COM(2014)0910).
* EUROCITIES strategic framework 2014-2020: towards an EU urban agenda for cities, December 2014.
* Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee of the Regions. Commission Work Programme 2015. A New Start (COM (2014)910),
* CEMR Contribution to an Urban Agenda, February 2014.
* Opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee “An EU urban agenda – strengthening the urban dimension of EU policymaking for a more effective delivery of Europe 2020”, 23 April 2015.
* Vienna Declaration by the Mayors of the EU Capital Cities “A strong voice in Europe”, 21 April 2015.
* Opinion of the European Committee of the Regions “The improvement of the implementation of the Territorial Agenda of the European Union 2020”, 17 April 2015.
* Declaration of Ministers towards the EU Urban Agenda, adopted at the informal meeting of EU ministers responsible for Territorial Cohesion and Urban Matters, Riga, 10 June 2015;
* Commission Staff Working Document / Results of the Public Consultation on the key features of an EU Urban Agenda (SWD(2015) 109 final/2);
* Report on the urban dimension of EU Policies, Committee of Regional Development, European Parliament (2014/2213(INI));
* Better regulation for better results – an EU agenda (COM(2015) 215 final);
* Presidency Conclusions of the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of the European Union on the occasion of the Informal Ministerial Meetings on Territorial Cohesion and Urban Policy (26 en 27 November 2015);
* CEMR Position Paper, “Territorial development An EU Urban Agenda should facilitate local authorities’ action on the ground”, December 2015**;**
* Opinion of the European Economic Social Committee on The future of the EU Urban Agenda seen from the perspective of civil society (exploratory opinion requested by the Netherlands presidency of the EU), February 2016;
* [Declaration of EU Mayors of Capital Cities];
* [Referral of the Committee of the Regions (requested by the future Dutch EU Presidency)];
* [Manifest of European City Makers Summit].

**B) Priority Themes**

The themes were selected based on the following selection criteria:

- Themes must require integrated action at the EU-level and multi-level cooperation.

- Clear support of Member States, European Commission and Urban Areas.

- Themes address the major challenges of Urban Areas.

- Themes have the potential to generate concrete results in a reasonable timeframe.

- Themes which promote the EU 2020 objectives.

The list was established based on a survey among Member States and representatives of Urban Areas in July 2015 organised by the Netherlands. It was combined with the Commission Staff Working document (“Results of the Public Consultation on the key features of an EU Urban Agenda, SWD(2015) 109 final/2), published on 27 May 2015. Furthermore three thematic workshops on this matter were organised by the European Commission in September 2015.   
The list was presented to the DG meeting on Urban Development in Luxemburg in October 2015.

**C) Description of actions under the EU Urban Agenda**

The different actions, aimed at improving the urban dimension of EU-policy through the three policy instruments, are:

1. Partnerships (see Annex E);

2. In line with the Commission Staff Working Document[[1]](#footnote-1), improvement of the coordination by the European Commission of existing instruments and initiatives with a view of:

a. Mapping the urban related Commission initiatives in the selected Themes of the EU Urban Agenda with a view to identify gaps, overlaps and synergies;

b. Identifying the main actors, networks and platforms within the selected themes with a view to streamline cooperation and exchange of good practice.

3. Alignment of the Urban Innovative Actions with the selected Themes for the EU Urban Agenda;

4. Contribution of URBACT to the Priority Themes with its activities of exchange and learning through transnational networking, capacity building, capitalisation & dissemination of urban knowledge and know-how;

5. Alignment of the work of the Urban Development Network to the framework of the EU Urban Agenda.

6. The scientific work of the Joint Programming Initiative Urban Europe will be used to promote and exchange evidence based proposals for urban policy.

7. Contribution of specific research activities of the European Observation Network, Territorial Development and Cohesion (ESPON) to the selected Themes, where deemed relevant;

8. Organisation by the Presidency of the Informal Ministerial Meeting of Ministers for Urban Matters about the progress of the EU Urban Agenda, to be held at least once during every Trio Presidency, together with the Commission, the European Parliament, European Consultative Bodies, representatives of Urban Areas and relevant stakeholders.

9. Continuation the organisation of a biennial CITIES Forum to debate and report progress on the EU Urban Agenda to a wider audience;

**D) EU Urban Agenda Board**

In addition to Part III of the Pact about the EU Urban Agenda Board, this annex gives a further description of the EU Urban Agenda Board:

Composition: The EU Urban Agenda Board is comprised of Member States, the European Commission, the European Parliament, the EU Advisory Bodies (CoR, EESC), representatives of Urban authorities (CEMR, EUROCITIES), and other stakeholders (EIB, URBACT, ESPON). The EU Urban Agenda Board builds on the DGs meetings (Member States), whilst extending full membership to the European Commission, the European Parliament, the EU Consultative bodies, Urban authorities (CEMR, EUROCITIES), and other stakeholders (EIB, URBACT, ESPON)[[2]](#footnote-2).

Chair: The EU Urban Agenda Board will be organised by the Presidency who will co-chair the meeting with the Commission.

Decision: Ideally, decisions are taken by consensus. If a consensus cannot be found amongst the members, the position of each disagreeing party should be recorded. If the number and importance of these disagreements is limited, the decision is still valid but does not commit those disagreeing (as the participation to the EU Urban Agenda is voluntary).

Preparation: The EU Urban Agenda Board will be prepared during the regular Urban Development Group (UDG) meetings.

**E) Working method of the Partnerships**

***I ORGANISATION***

1. Membership: Each Partnership is made up of Urban Areas (cities), the Commission (which facilitates the process), Member States, experts, European Organisations (e.g. EUROCITIES, EIB, URBACT), and stakeholders (NGOs, business, etc.). Participation is voluntary and open to all those interested, politically committed and ready to dedicate resources. The size of a Partnership is about 15 partners (balanced composition[[3]](#footnote-3)). It is important that all members of the Partnership have extensive experience and expertise on the topic.

Composition of the Partnership: Depending on the topic the composition of the partnership can be between 15 and 20 partners.

1. Five Urban Areas to be nominated by the following parties:

a. URBACT;

b. EUROCITIES;

c. CEMR;

d. the Committee of the Regions;

e. the Partnership itself. The coordinator will make a final decision, after consulting with other partners, on which fifth Urban Areas (and its network) will be invited to join the partnership.

1. Five Member States to be selected through the DG meeting on urban matters.[[4]](#footnote-4)
2. Commission representatives of the relevant DGs (number of representatives depends on number of DGs which need to involved on the specific theme).
3. EUROCITIES and CEMR can nominate one representative of their own organization.
4. The partners of the Partnership may ask others to join the Partnership such as:
   1. Managing Authorities of ESIF and/or EIB;
   2. Experts (e.g. URBACT-experts, Universities etc.);
   3. NGOs/ economic and social partners (at European level).

Regions, city consortiums or national city umbrella organisations can also be nominated as partner in the partnership by one of the European umbrella organisations.

If a Partnership is not complete at the start, during their first meeting, partners will decide on how to proceed on finding the additional partners.

1. Duration: The timeframe of each Partnership to achieve results is about three years. After these three years, the Partnership will be assessed by the DG meeting. Thematic Partnerships may then be terminated or continued.
2. New Partnerships:  
   New themes may be added to the list which will lead to new Partnerships in addition to existing ones.
3. Coordinators:   
   A Partnership will choose one or two of its members as coordinator. The coordinator will chair the meetings of the Partnership. Coordinators are the key actors to make the EU Urban Agenda operational. They are the main point of contact for Urban Areas, the Commission and Member States. Partnerships may ask the Commission to facilitate the process and to provide assistance for Secretariat duties and for expertise at EU level.  
   The coordinators are expected to cover the cost of their work.

Responsibilities of the Coordinators:

1. Organisation of the Partnership meetings: preparing the agenda, sending the invitations, providing the meeting rooms (in their Ministry, City Hall, etc.), inviting speakers where appropriate, drafting the minutes, etc.;
2. Chairing the Partnership meetings;
3. Organisation of the work between Partnership meetings (e.g. written consultation, asking for contributions, preparing documents, etc.);
4. Being the link between the Partnership and a wider range of interested parties such as Urban Areas, Member States and other stakeholders (in particular inform on the progress and offer the possibility to contribute e.g. through consultations, e-mails, updates, a conferences, etc.);
5. Being the link between the Partnership and the Urban Areas, the Commission and Member States (including drafting an annual report);
6. Coordinating with the other Partnerships;
7. Participating and contributing to other working groups/ networks;
8. Drafting the Action Plan;
9. Monitoring  and reporting on progress;
10. Coordinating the work (e.g. ensuring that the contributions are prepared on time and at a good quality, mediating if there are different positions with the view to arrive at an acceptable position, etc.)
11. Communicating on actions and results (visibility).
12. Responsible for transmitting results from the Partnership to the Regulatory Fitness and Performance (Refit) Programme and Platform, urban impact assessments, council proceedings and informal council meetings and/or other relevant platforms.

5. The Role of Partners:

The partners in a Partnership have specific roles and responsibilities:

1. Participate in the technical work of the Partnership with own resources;
2. Contribute to the Partnership through their own individual expertise but also the wider knowledge of the organisation they represent;
3. Assist to the debate about the Partnership within their territory.

***II PHASES & DELIVERABLES***

Step n°1- Stocktaking:

In the first step, the members of the Partnership would identify the existing work carried out on the Priority Theme (strategies, actions and working groups/ networks covering these issues at EU level). As the aim is to avoid duplication but rather ensure coordination and reinforce what is already being done, this step is crucial to decide how to move forward in building the Partnership (for example: adjust the topic of the Priority Theme; limit the scope of the Partnership; organise active participation to existing strategies, actions and working groups/ networks to ensure that the urban dimension is taken into account; etc.). In this stocktaking step, the members of the Partnerships would also identify the sources of funding and expertise which could be made available for the functioning of the Partnership. The Commission will contribute by providing the stocktaking at EU level.

Step n°2- Identify the bottlenecks and the potentials

In the second step, the members of the Partnership would identify the bottlenecks and the potentials to identify the areas where the Action Plan should focus. These could be at EU, national or local level.

Step n°3- Define the objectives and deliverables

In the third step, the members of the Partnership would agree on a set of actions that address the issues of the Priority Theme (Action Plan). The proposed actions need to respect the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality. This should be done in the first 6-12 months of the Partnership. A model Action Plan is available for each Partnership and should include:

a)    Actions which could be, for example:

a. Developing a proposal to better use of or adaptation of existing legislation and funding instruments (EU/ national/ local);

b. Implementing a research project to find possible solutions and/or fill EU wide knowledge gaps.

b)    Roadmap of each action indicating deliverables, target dates and the responsible (e.g. Commission, Member States, Urban Areas, etc.).

c)    If appropriate, indicators and targets could be set (but only if there is a direct link between the Action Plan and the target).

Step n°4- Implementation of the Action Plan

In the fourth step, the members of the Partnership should coordinate the work on the implementation of the Action Plan with the interested parties i.e. other Member States, Urban Areas and existing Urban Networks concerned, etc. (once the Action Plan has been designed and agreed). It is important that the members of the Partnerships develop links with the relevant authorities/ organisations/ enterprises.

Step n°5- Evaluation of the Partnership.

The partners should evaluate their work after three years. The evaluation will provide input for other existing and new Partnerships.

***III PRACTICALITIES***

1. Meetings & Gatherings: Each Partnership will decide how often it convenes. During the stocktaking phase, the Partnership may meet once every two months. In other stages, the Partnership could meet at least every six months to debate progress on the Action Plan. Meetings should preferably be held back to back with other meetings or events (for example a thematic event organised by one of the working groups of EUROCITIES) in order to generate synarchy with other initiatives and to inform a broad public on the state of play of the partnership.

Additionally, once a year, the Commission will organise a meeting with all the Coordinators to discuss the progress of the work, identify synergies between Partnerships and raise organisational issues which the Commission and Member States could facilitate.

Also, the Commission will facilitate a yearly gathering where all partners of the Partnerships and others interested in the EU Urban Agenda will meet to exchange views and to network.

1. Website: A website will be created where general information on the EU Urban Agenda can be found as well as information on each Partnership, like participating partners, working documents, gatherings, outcomes of actions, news, dates of meetings, etc.   
   It is imperative that each Partnership keeps this website up to date to guarantee transparency.
2. Financial support for the Partnerships: In 2016 the Netherlands has financially supported the first four (pilot) Partnerships: Air Quality, Housing, Urban Poverty and Inclusion of Migrants and Refugees.

The Netherlands reserved € 50.000,- for each partnership to support the work of the pilot Partnership (for example hiring of experts, conducting research a.o.). Even though travel and accommodation costs should be at the expense of each partner itself (i.e. participation should be seen as their normal tasks and is a condition for a real commitment to do some work), the pilot Partnerships revealed that some partners find it difficult to participate without financial reimbursement. If needed, the supporting budget can be used to (partly) reimburse partners.

In the Pact of Amsterdam the Member States call upon the European Commission to finance technical assistance to the Partnerships from 1 January 2017 onwards.

Some actions in the Action Plan may require funding. Therefore, it is important that the members of the Partnerships decide on their funding sources and maintain close links with the Funding Authorities (banks, public authorities, EIB, Managing Authorities of ESIF etc.) and keep a close eye on EU calls for projects such as under the Urban Innovative Actions, the European Structural and Investment Funds etc.  If actions in the Action Plan require funding, the way of funding should be described in the Action Plan.

***IV CROSSCUTTING ISSUES***

In line with the competences and responsibilities of the different participants and taking into account that the EU does not have competences on these issues, the Partnerships may consider the relevance of cross-cutting issues for the selected priority themes. Partnerships may consider the following issues:

* 1. Good urban governance;
  2. Governance across administrative boundaries and inter-municipal cooperation: urban-rural, urban-urban and cross-border cooperation; link with territorial development and Territorial Agenda;
  3. Sound and strategic urban planning (link with regional planning and balanced territorial development);
  4. Integrated approach;
  5. Innovative approaches;
  6. Impact on societal change, including behavioural change;
  7. Challenges and opportunities of small- and medium-sized Urban Areas;
  8. Urban regeneration;
  9. Adaptation to demographic change;
  10. Availability and quality of public services of general interest;
  11. International dimension: link with the New Urban Agenda (Habitat III), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN and the climate Paris Agreement (COP21).

1. Commission Staff Working Document, 27 June 2015 (SWD(2015) 109 final/2) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In line with paragraph 5 of the Pact of Amsterdam, the EU Urban Agenda will make use of existing European platforms and programmes. The EU Urban Agenda Board will therefore be convened together with the meeting of the Directors General responsible for urban matters. The EU Urban Agenda Board will take place directly before or after the meeting of the Directors General responsible for urban matters at the same location with the same participants. The only difference is that in addition to the Member States the representatives of the European Commission, the European Parliament, the EU Consultative bodies, representatives of Urban authorities (CEMR, EUROCITIES), and stakeholders (EIB, URBACT, ESPON) would become member (not only observers as in the meeting for the Directors General responsible for urban matters). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Balanced geographically and between Commission, Member States, urban areas and other stakeholders. With regards to the urban areas, there should be a representation of both 'bigger' and 'small and medium' cities. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. It should not be the members of the UDG, but persons from the Member State with expertise in the Priority Theme and sufficient authority to take decisions (typically someone from a Ministry which is in charge of the theme concerned). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)