

**Working group meeting on Traffic and Safety: “Child-friendly traffic policies for child-friendly cities”  
November 28 and 29, 2007, Stuttgart City Hall**

**Moderation: Dr. Martin Schairer, Deputy Mayor, Stuttgart**

## **Protocol**

**Wednesday, 28th November 2007**

**Presentations by different Cities/ Discussion**

**Discussion 1; following Dr. Martin Schairer’s presentation:**

Dr. Schairer explains that the Police of Baden Württemberg (BW) is a main actor in traffic-education. Everywhere in Germany there is the same system of private traffic safety associations and the police.

In Riga the “Drunk-Drive-Factor” is very important, while one of Stuttgart’s main problems is that some people do not secure their children in their cars. Most of the accidents happen on the way to hobbies and not on the way to school.

In Stuttgart a project to improve the situation of cyclists has just started.

Only kids from 10 years on are educated in traffic behaviour.

In Stuttgart there are 27 policemen especially for traffic education. This system of education has been installed more than 50 years ago for all school children

**Discussion 2; after the presentation of Athens:**

Situation in Athens: The main problem is that the number of accidents in general is decreasing, but the number of accidents in which 14 year-old children are involved remains static. There seems to be a need to sensitise children to traffic on their way to school.

Furthermore some kids living in the suburbs are using cars to get to school without having a drivers licence.

The prevention-program is the so called “VAMOS-program” by the EU. A summer-camp to educate children in traffic matters was installed. By 2008 every school will be covered by volunteers or members of the city of Athens to educate kids from 6 years on in traffic matters. There is no official program with the police in Athens.

**Discussion 3; after Presentation by Mrs. Tomljenovic, city of Rijeka:**

In Croatia children are not allowed to ride a bike without a licence.

#### **Discussion 4; after the presentation of the city of Presov by Mr. Andrejko:**

Contact to business for financial support and media presence is very important. Street-signs in cooperation with a local bank were made in Presov. In the frame of another cooperation four new playgrounds were built.

#### **Best practise in Belgium:**

Mr. Coessens explains: Questions like: "How to turn left in streets" or "how to behave in pedestrian-zones" are answered in a book every school receives.

Every elementary school has a short version of "a safe way to school" in which they can practise the way in only an hour. Teachers are specially trained in this action.

Also parents have to be sensitised. Children may make parents change. In Riga a successful campaign called: "Safe a Friend" to avoid people drive drunken was started which refers to the following idea: A special song was created, in which children are saying to their parents not to drive drunk.

#### **Discussion 5; after the presentation of the City of Tartu by Mrs. Tikka:**

In Tartu zebra-crossing are painted with children together to sensitise them for traffic.  
*Viewing movie by children up to 18 years*

#### **Discussion 6; after Presentation of the City of Kaunas by Mr. McGeever:**

Situation in Kaunas:

The infrastructure is poor, the streets are crowded and parents prefer to take their kids to school by car. More education and engagement by citizens is necessary.

**Thursday, 29th November 2007**

#### **Results:**

- 1.) Programs for young drivers because they are our biggest problem and cause most of the accidents.
- 2.) Education -programs for kids in elementary school /Via Kids to the parents
- 3.) How can we get more regards to children's matters by adults?
- 4.) The right "driving culture" / Drivers to pay attention to kids.
- 5.) Increasing public awareness / Campaigns/ crate a public conscience/ change mentality

- 6.) Think about taking over already existing ideas/ be realistic
- 7.) Involve children in planning
- 8.) Combination our ideas with others (save streets for old and young people)
- 9.) Funding and contact to private business
- 10.) Regard to different aspects in the countries in: Prevention, punishment, infrastructure

For the next meeting:

Opinions on the workshop  
What is a best practise for you  
Discuss the topics at home  
Present the results to the network and share our experiences.  
Involving EU