



Future of Public Transport in Middle-East and North Africa

**An opening for many further
developments**

Dubai, 15 January 2003

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Some figures on the workshop

- More than 120 participants
- 15 countries represented
- All PT actors: authorities, operators, supplying industry, consultants, academics
- Approx. 30 speeches on key PT issues: organisation, planning, financing, technology, ticketing and information, human resources, quality, sustainable development, etc.

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Increasing awareness of mobility issues

- Link between land-use and mobility
- Rapid growth of car ownership levels and increased traffic congestion
- Environmental problems
- Better use of public funds and financing capacities
- Need for institutional co-ordination, regulation
- Addressing inefficiencies in PT operations and traffic management
- Satisfying customers and improving image



→ Development of efficient and attractive public transport is a priority issue in all countries of the region

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On-going developments (1)

- Improving regulation and co-ordination
- New authorities
- Professionalisation of authorities and operators
- Contracting of services, private sector investment and public/private partnerships

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On-going developments (2)

- Development of new local and regional bus services and light rail systems
- Introduction of innovative technologies (e.g. electronic ticketing, travel information, GIS, modern buses)
- Better services for targeted customers (e.g. Hajj & Umrah travellers, tourists, students, people with reduced mobility)

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On-going developments (3)

- Improved knowledge of customers (qualitative and quantitative)
- Improved quality (e.g. service standards, quality assurance, improved information, punctuality of services, customer relationship management)
- Training of human resources
- New revenue sources (e.g. advertising, cargo, targeted contracts)

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**→ The region has innovative
and promising
developments in public
transport**

**→ World-class benchmarks
exist in the MENA area**

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UITP conclusions

The MENA region merits:

- International publicity and promotion of successful developments
- A maximum of exchange of experience and knowledge at regional level
- Link with international best practices

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In this context, UITP would be honoured to offer its support by developing the relevant structures and activities which could contribute to:

- Creating a permanent MENA platform for exchange of information and experience between PT actors**
- Increasing awareness on the importance of mobility issues and public transport in the region**
- Promote MENA good practices world-wide**
- Develop targeted activities and programmes for knowledge development**

UITP Structures for MENA Region

(target: 2005)

- **MENA Division** for all members of the region (one Assembly per year: forum for liaison, exchange of knowledge and professional discussions on all regional issues)
The Chairperson is a UITP Vice-President and sits on the Executive Board.

- **MENA Committee** composed of a limited number of members (It implements the strategy and the objectives of the Division and is responsible for coordinating, planning and follow-up the activities. It holds two meetings per year). The Chairperson sits on the UITP Policy Board.

- **MENA Regional Office**

Permanent staff managing daily affairs of division

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UITP commitment in short-term

- Publicise results of this event within international public transport community
- Make papers available on Mobi+
- Send special invitation to all participants for UITP membership and the Madrid World Congress
- Work with UITP members in region to take steps to establishing a permanent structure

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First activities

- **Regional training programme** (2nd half of 2003) for PT decision-makers, managers and planners
- **Document** summarising the main PT issues and developments in the region
- **Arab-language edition** of the UITP brochure on “Better urban mobility”

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Potential activities for the future

- UITP Regional Congress and exhibition
- Regional workshops on specific issues
- Benchmarking programme
- UITP Committee and Commission meetings in region (eg. UITP waterborne committee meeting, Dubai, March 2003)

and much more...

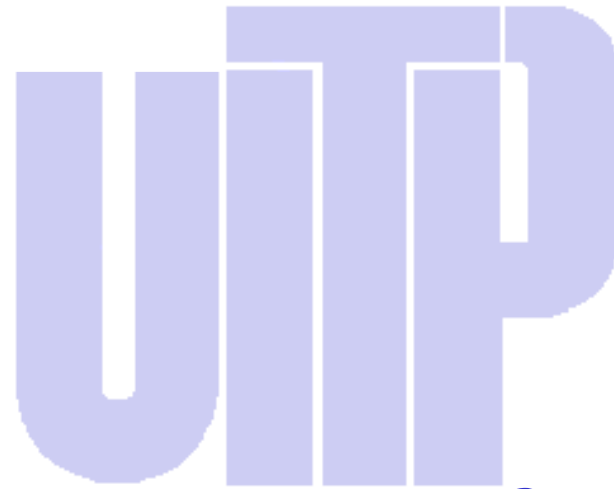
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Steps to taking part in this process

1. Become a UITP member and/or part of the launch committee
2. Participate in UITP's World Congress in Madrid, 4-8 May 2003
3. Get involved in UITP Committees and Commissions

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**We thank you for your
valuable participation at
this event and look forward to
working with you!**

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Please stay in touch!

mohamed.mezghani@uitp.com

petra.mollet@uitp.com

www.uitp.com

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