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The **MOVE TOGETHER** launching conference, held in Brussels last 16th June at the **EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL**



COMMITTEE,

represents the first real project result on one hand and the project starting point on the other hand.

In fact, a part the successful

outcome of the Conference that saw speeches, among others by Andràs Siegler of the European Commission's DG RTD Transport Directorate, Stephane Buffetaut (EESC), Eleni Kopanezou, Head of the Unit for Clean Transport and Urban Transport, European Commission, and various stakeholders, the Conference saw the citizens active participation and commitment on one of the EU main issue, the sustainable urban mobility.

In the new programming period, where the European Union urges and fosters the direct involvement of citizens also in the full respect of subsidiarity, at the Conference the group of 27 lay citizens presented **THE STATEMENT** on their appreciation on the EU research on urban transport and recommendation on how to raise awareness of European citizens. This comprehensive document also expresses the mobility

freedom concept, which identify problems that damages the quality of life in the city:

"we believe mobility freedom means having more options, more services, more information, more comfort and safety. We wish not to be forced to use our own cars because there are no other options, but to have the choice to walk, cycle, travel on buses or trains, or to share car rides".

Mr. Siegler underlined the priority of the European Commission to 'create a citizens' ownership of EU policy and that the Move Together citizens recommendation are very useful both for the 'analysis of the current European research project' and because the Commission needs 'the research and users feedback to set the policy target'.

THE NEXT STEP

Following the experience and brilliant outcome of the 27 EU citizens, a group of 25 selected citizens living in metropolitan area of Rome will take part in two panel workshops. The aim is to experience and strengthen at regional basis what it has already been achieved at European level, focusing on specific urban mobility problems.

The citizens and stakeholder Conference will be held in Rome next in autumn, organized by the Municipality of Rome. www.move-together.net

PROJECT PARTNERS



ISIS, Lead Partner (IT)

