



EUROPEAN
SHANGHAI 2010
欧盟上海 **UNION**

EU-CHINA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WEEK
14-19 JUNE 2010

Programme - 日程

SESSION 2 - THE WORLD IN 2050 & THE CITIES OF TOMORROW

15 June 2010, 14.30-15.30



Introduction - The World and Europe in 2030/2050

Jean-Michel BAER,

Director for "Science, Economy and Society",
Directorate General for Research, European Commission



The city of tomorrow - A planner's view

Pierre LACONTE,

President of the Foundation for the Urban Environment
and Board member of The Club of Rome-EU



Current and future urbanisation - An environmental outlook

Zhong MA,

Dean and Professor at the School of Environment
and Natural Resources, Renmin University of China



EU forward looking activities - Next steps

Pierre VALETTE and Domenico ROSSETTI,

Directorate General for Research, European
Commission



"The World and Europe in 2030/2050" and "EU Forward Looking Activities"

Presented by Jean-Michel BAER, Pierre VALETTE and Domenico ROSSETTI

Forward Looking Activities (FLA, which include foresight, modelling, technology assessment, horizon scanning, forecasting, etc) help in the early identification of future developments and emerging issues that could have, in the long run, far reaching implications in the domain under scrutiny. FLA could also help to evaluate the impacts of certain policies and measures ("what if"). The European Commission has been stimulating FLA across successive Framework Programmes (FP).

Under FP7, within the Socio-economic Sciences and Humanities Programme (SSH), the European Union funds collaborative research projects and expert groups like "The World in 2025" aiming at providing policy makers (at regional, national and European Union level) with the knowledge for an early identification of long term challenges and areas of common interest.

Among them, AUGUR, on Europe and the world in 2030, SESTI, on methods for the early identification of emerging issues (horizon scanning), FARHORIZON, a pilot foresight to align strategic and applied research with longer-term policy needs in Europe, IKNOW, on the mapping of "wild cards" and "weak signals" relevant to the future of the ERA, CIVISTI, on incorporating citizens views in research policy-making, MEDPRO, on the future challenges in the Mediterranean area and SANDERA, concerning the priorities in the security research domain. In addition, several other projects dealing with the so-called "post carbon society" and the link between energy, environment, transport and land-use have a strong FLA component (cf. PACT, GILDED, PASHMINA).

"The city of tomorrow - a planner's view"

Presented by **Pierre Laconte**

The UN estimated world population in 2050 will be 9 billion compared with 6.5 billion today. Another estimated 2.5 billion inhabitants will need shelter by 2050. The majority of this growth will be in urbanised areas. Meanwhile the oil production peak will reduce fossil fuel energy supply, while natural resources will be under growing stress. Climate change mitigation and adaptation will generate additional constraints. These issues are intrinsically linked to spatial development patterns. City and regional planners need to be poised to help address them. Traditional models serving as time-tested examples for future developments, allied to new technologies may help generate innovative planning tools for sustainable urbanisation and low energy cities. But governance is the prerequisite for implementation.

Comparative studies about the size and population of the world's largest conurbations like Istanbul, New York, London, Mexico and Shanghai, suggest a common quest for a governance blueprint, including a framework for adaptation to demographic growth and climate change. The regions of fast demographic growth, triggering urban development pressures, will compete for scarce open land.

By contrast areas of old industry and services will be faced by a growing oversupply of built space, a combination of urban sprawl and shrinking population. In both situations most of today's built stock and infrastructures should still be there in 2050. Besides energy savings in new constructions, with the help of "low-energy" and recycling-friendly materials, the saving of the energy stored in existing constructions and neighbourhoods, beyond any heritage considerations, is making a case for refurbishing. The implementation of both emissions cuts and energy supply, and related demand management, will require a new form of "planning with nature", a long-term exercise.