



**Meeting
proceedings**

**15th Annual
General Meeting**



**Paris
Wednesday, 4 April 2012
3:30 pm – 5:00 pm**



MEETING PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MOT, 4th April 2012

On Wednesday 4th April the 15th Annual General Meeting of the Operational Transfrontier Mission (Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière - MOT) was held in Paris. It brought together its partners: French and neighbouring countries' public authorities, States, cross-border cooperation structures, large private companies and various observers concerned by cross-border issues.

To date, the association counts 67 members¹ among them 5 natural persons and 4 founding partners.

MEMBERS PRESENT	REPRESENTATIVE(S), Function of the representative
Agence Transfrontalière de l'Eurocité Basque Bayonne San Sébastian	Roke AKIZU, Co-director
Association pour la Conférence Atlantique Transpyrénées	Agustin AROSTEGI, Coordinateur
CCI de Bayonne Pays Basque	Peio OLHAGARAY, Director of economic development
CCI Guyane	Jean-René MATHURIN, President of the Territorial commission of Eastern French Guiana, CCI Guyane
CNFPT	Chantal FRYDMAN, Responsable of the Pole Competences Europe
Communauté Urbaine de Dunkerque	Michel DELEBARRE, President
Conférence transfrontalière Mont-Blanc	Serge TUAZ, Policy officer
Conseil Général de Haute-Savoie	Raymond MUDRY, Vice-President Philippe ATHANE, Responsable of the service of cross-border cooperation
Conseil Général de l'Ain	Guy LARMANJAT, Vice-President
Conseil Général du Haut-Rhin	Charles BUTTNER, President
Conseil Général Pas-de-Calais	Emmanuelle WILLMANN, Chief of mission European affairs
Conseil Régional Champagne-Ardenne	Jean-Paul BACHY, President
Conseil Régional de Lorraine	Etienne MULLER, Director of sector
Conseil Régional Nord-Pas de Calais	Anne WETZEL, Director Europe Valentine CATRYSSSE, Policy officer - capitalisation projects
Conseil Régional Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur	Joël GIRAUD, Vice-President
EURODISTRICT REGIO PAMINA	Patrick HARSTER, Director General
Eurodistrict SaarMoselle	Isabelle PRIANON, Director
Fédération des Parcs Naturels Régionaux de France	Daniel MIO, President of the Parc Naturel Régional Scarpe Escaut

¹ Since the end of 2011 two members have joint (Conseil Général de Haute-Savoie, Métropole Nice Côte d'Azur) and four members have left (ACFCI, Communauté d'Agglomération Perpignan Méditerranée, ADZM Roumanie, Commune de Coustouges) the MOT network.

Generalitat de Catalunya	Alexandre PUIGNAU, Responsable for cross-border relations
Grand-Duché de Luxembourg	Jean-Claude SINNER, Government Counselor
Groupement transfrontalier européen	Michel CHARRAT, President
Lille Métropole Communauté Urbaine	Gilles PARGNEAUX, Vice-president LMCU
Métropole Nice Côte d'Azur (NCA)	Muriel MARLAND-MILITELLO, Deputy Mayor of Nice in charge of cultural policy of the city
Région Wallonne	Alain GUILLOT-PINGUE, Attaché at the Ministry of the Wallonia Region
République et Canton de Genève	Anna-Karina KOLB, Director, Direction of Economic affairs (DARES)
SNCF	Rémi ROSAT, Policy officer on cross-border subjects
Syndicat Mixte de la Côte d'Opale	Michel DELEBARRE, President
Ville de Mulhouse	Christiane ECKERT, Deputy mayor
Adhérente individuelle	Sylvie BANCOD MOGLIA
Adhérent individuel	Charles RICQ-CHAPPUIS
Adhérente individuelle	Marie-Thérèse SANCHEZ-SCHMID
Caisse des Dépôts	Marthe STEFFANN, Treasurer of MOT
DATAR	Jean-Luc FRES, Regional development and European politics Policy officer cross-border politics
Ministère de l'Intérieur, de l'Outre-mer et des Collectivités territoriales, DGCL	Marie-Christine BERNARD-GELABERT, Chief of Bureau, territorial structures
Ministère des Affaires étrangères et européennes (DAECT)	Michel GARDAS, Policy officer to the Delegate
Entitled statutory auditor Cabinet F.-M. RICHARD et Associés	Stéphane PRACHE

ABSENT MEMBERS	Delegation of votes
Agence d'Urbanisme Lorraine Nord (AGAPE)	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Agence d'urbanisme et de développement de la région Flandre-Dunkerque (AGUR)	
Agglomération Maubeuge Val de Sambre	
Annemasse Agglo	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Association Sillon Lorrain	
Collectivité Territoriale de Corse	

Communauté d'agglomération de la Riviera Française	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Communauté de Communes du Briançonnais	
Communauté de Communes du Pays de Gex	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Communauté de Communes Pyrénées Cerdagne	
Communauté Urbaine de Strasbourg	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Conseil Général des Alpes-Maritimes	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Conseil Général des Pyrénées Atlantiques	
Conseil Général Pyrénées-Orientales	
Conseil Régional d'Aquitaine	
Conseil Régional Guyane	
Eurodistrict Trinational de Bâle	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Eurométropole Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai	
FNAU	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Kent County Council	
Pôle Emploi Rhône-Alpes	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Principauté d'Andorre	
Province du Limburg	
Republic of Bulgaria - Ministry of Regional Development and Public works	
SMEAG	
Ville de Thionville	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Ville de Villefranche-sur-Mer	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
VEOLIA TRANSDEV	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Ville d'Annemasse	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Ville de Bastia	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Michel CASTEIGTS	Delegation to Michel DELEBARRE
Alain LAMASSOURE	

Present members: 35 among them natural persons and founding partners

Delegations: 15

The quorum has been reached (35 + 15 = 50).

15th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Opening of the Annual General Meeting by Michel DELEBARRE, Former Minister of State, Senator and Mayor of Dunkerque, President of MOT

AGENDA

1. Validation of the proposition of agenda of the Annual General Meeting
2. Validation of the minutes of the AGM of 16th June 2011
3. Annual report of the year 2011 presented by the Director General, Jean PEYRONY
4. Financial report
 - results of the financial year 2011 presented by Marthe STEFFANN, Treasurer of MOT
 - report of the statutory auditor presented by Stéphane PRACHE, Statutory auditor
5. Debate and vote on the presented reports (among them the allocation of the year 2011 result)
6. Presentation of the triennial programme of MOT 2012-2014 and of the work programme 2012 by Jean PEYRONY, Director General of MOT - debate and vote
7. Presentation of the budget 2012 and of the membership fees for the years 2012-2013 by Marthe STEFFANN, Treasurer of MOT – debate and vote
8. Presentation of the Constitutive Convention of the Public Interest Grouping (Groupement d'Intérêt Public - GIP) of Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière by Jean PEYRONY – debate and vote
9. Conclusion by Michel DELEBARRE, Former Minister of State, Senator and Mayor of Dunkerque, President of MOT

End of the Annual General Meeting

Michel DELEBARRE thanks all of the participants for being present at Paris on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of MOT, which is organized every two years in Paris. This year, MOT meets its network at the Palais Brongniart.

He also welcomes the presence of following personalities: Joël GIRAUD, Vice-President of the Conseil Régional Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur and Vice-President of MOT, Christiane ECKERT, Deputy Mayor of Mulhouse, Jean-Paul BACHY, President of the Conseil Régional Champagne-Ardenne, Charles BUTTNER, President of the Conseil Général du Haut-Rhin, Guy LARMANJAT, Vice-president of the Conseil Général de l'Ain, Delegate for tourism, European and cross-border affaires, Gilles PARGNEAUX, Vice-President of Lille Métropole Communauté Urbaine, Muriel MARLAND-MILITELLO, Member of Parliament of Alpes-Maritimes and Deputy Mayor of Nice, Michel CHARRAT, President of the Groupement Transfrontalier Européen and Secretary of MOT, Marie-Thérèse SANCHEZ-SCHMID, Member of European Parliament, and Raymond MUDRY, Vice-President of the Conseil Général de la Haute-Savoie, Delegate for sustainable development, spatial planning, cross-border cooperation, European affairs, transport and mobility. He also welcomes the representatives of the Grand Duché de Luxembourg and of DG REGIO (European Commission). He finally thanks the representatives of DATAR and the Caisse des Dépôts, historic partners of MOT, and Jean PEYRONY, Director General of MOT.

Michel DELEBARRE is pleased to see the network grow: it now has 58 members, all "activists" of cross-border questions. MOT is present in the French and European debate, gives impulses by the work of its permanent team and promotes projects for the future of the European Union.

Michel DELEBARRE explains that the Annual General Meeting this year does not follow its usual format. For reasons of "reserve" (banning for French civil servants before elections from participating in public events) related to the next elections in France, the conference-debate will not take place. The technicians' platform will meet on Thursday, 5th April 2012.

A couple of weeks before the presidential and legislative elections, **Michel DELEBARRE** points out the great knowledge of the elected representatives within the MOT network in regard with issues in border regions. He wants that cross-border questions, independent from the election results, become the central concern of those who will decide about future territorial development.

The Parliamentary Mission in France helped to reveal existing questions, to revive the interest of ministries at national level and decentralized State services towards cross-border cooperation. However, the Interministerial Steering Committee on cross-border questions has difficulties to get launched. At the time of the redefinition of policies and new regulations of the cohesion funds, the support of cross-border cooperation is particularly followed by MOT. MOT plays an active role of addressing the cross-border matters, and tries to bring a number of changes on the way.

For the 2014-2020 period, **Michel DELEBARRE** points out several objectives: a sufficient budget and a cohesion policy which respects the objectives of Europe 2020, while keeping the necessary flexibility.

The involvement of stakeholders in the field on cross-border cooperation is essential. In the context of future partnership contracts, stakeholders in charge of border territories have to be involved and listened to. Cross-border cooperation concerns all levels: European, national, regional and local, and requires a multi-level governance approach. The EGTC have to be taken into account. 27 EGTC have been created in Europe, representing 22 to 23 million people. MOT will continue to support the setting up of EGTC, especially among its members, via the "bon-à-tirer"-voucher for members.

Membership fees and grants allow the current team of MOT to carry out its missions. In its phase of transformation into a Public Interest Grouping (GIP), MOT must be able to rely on the ministerial agreements necessary for this development, and count on the support of its entire network. The scale of membership fees will not be changed in the following two years. The structure of GIP MOT will consolidate long-term relationships with the ministries and the Caisse des Dépôts. Thanks to a multiplicity of partnerships (the CESCO in Hungary, the CECICN, AEBR), MOT strengthens its action at the service of cross-border cooperation in Europe.

MOT also works on the development of decentralized cross-border cooperation. It provides technical support for the implementation of cross-border actions in countries where French regions are themselves partners of the regions there.

Opening of the Annual General Meeting by Michel DELEBARRE

1. Validation of the agenda

2. Approval of the meeting proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of the 11th June 2011

The meeting proceedings of the 2011 Annual General Meeting are approved unanimously.

3. Activity Report for 2011 presented by the Director General of MOT

Jean PEYRONY gives an account of the major elements of the 2011 Activity Report of MOT. The report handed out to the participants is presented following four stands:

1. Life of the association
2. Communication and networking
3. European and international activities
4. Overall strategies and pre-operational assistance to projects

Life of the association

At the end of 2011, the association of the Transfrontier Operational Mission had 61 members².

Three new organisations have become members in 2011:

- ≡ The Agglomération Maubeuge - Val de Sambre
- ≡ The Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de la Guyane
- ≡ The Conseil Général de l'Ain

Two structures have become members of MOT instead of former members:

- ≡ The Province of Limburg (The Netherlands) (formerly: Euregio Meuse Rhin)
- ≡ VEOLIA TRANSDEV (formerly: Transdev 1998 / Veolia Transport 2009)

The technical team remained stable in number with the departure of Ludivine SALAMBO and the arrival of Adela SPULBER as policy officer European programmes and projects.

Communication and networking

Among the communication tools, 10 newsletters have been published as well as a MOT guide on civil society. The Internet site has 50 000 visits per year. A press review is published every two weeks. The new "voucher"-service for members had a significant success. Various networking activities have been carried out and the work within the technicians' platform has been continued.

European and international activities

In the year 2011, MOT continued its role in the promotion of cross-border cooperation at the European level by participating in the work of CECICN (Conference of European Cross-border and Interregional City Networks) and the Budapest platform, network of support structures for cross-border cooperation at the national level. MOT also participates in the TEIN network of Euro-Institutes, and cooperates with the AEBR (Association of European Border Regions). Finally, MOT and its Hungarian counterpart, the CESCO (Central-European Service for Cross-border Initiatives), work together with Initiative France-Hungary in bringing French and Hungarian regions closer to one another concerning cross-border questions.

Overall strategies and pre-operational assistance to projects

MOT helps in the implementation of EGTC or other legal structures facilitating cross-border cooperation. The topics of transport, mobility, employment or territorial observation are strategic fields for MOT. These studies allow MOT to keep an important connection with the problems encountered by local authorities.

Realised studies in 2011

- ≡ Study co-funded by EUROP'ACT: Definition of an overall strategy for governance of cross-border territories
- ≡ Compared study and statistical observation of cross-border agglomerations together with the FNAU on behalf of the DATAR
- ≡ Study on cross-border mobility between France and Italy on behalf of Pôle Emploi

² Without natural persons and founding partners.

- ≡ Study on flows of cross-border workers between France and Wallonia on behalf of Pôle Emploi
- ≡ Study on cross-border transports between France and Spain on behalf of the Region Midi-Pyrénées together with INGEROP
- ≡ Study of cross-border transports between France and the United Kingdom on behalf of the Region Nord-Pas de Calais together with INGEROP

Conclusion 2011

The year was marked by the introduction of new services for members ("bon-à-tirer"-voucher, technicians' platform) and the process launching of the transformation of the MOT association into a Public Interest Grouping (Groupement d'Intérêt Public – GIP).

For more details about the four strands see the activity report of MOT 2011.

4. Financial report

[Results of the financial year 2011 presented by Marthe STEFFANN, Treasurer of MOT](#)

Marthe STEFFANN, Treasurer of the association, presents the accounts of the year 2011 and notes a surplus result of 73 811 Euros.

[Report of the statutory auditor presented by Stéphane PRACHE, statutory auditor](#)

Stéphane PRACHE, Statutory auditor, presents the report of the statutory auditor.

The MOT Board proposes to the Annual General Meeting to allocate the surplus of the financial year 2011 to the carry forward.

5. Debate and vote on the reports presented (including the allocation of the results for the year 2011)

[Debate and vote](#)

The 2011 Activity Report presented by Jean PEYRONY is unanimously approved by the General Meeting.

The 2011 Financial Report presented by Martha STEFFANN is unanimously approved by the General Meeting.

The Auditor's Report presented by Stéphane PRACHE is adopted unanimously by the General Meeting.

The allocation of the 2011 result proposed by the Bureau is adopted unanimously by the members of the General Meeting.

6. Presentation of the triennial work programme of MOT 2012-2014 and of the work programme 2012 - debate and vote

[Triennial work programme 2012-2014](#)

Jean PEYRONY, Director General of MOT, presents the triennial work programme 2012-2014, validated by the Bureau of the same day.

cf. for further detail, see triennial work programme of MOT 2012-2014

[Work programme for the year 2012](#)

Jean PEYRONY, Director General of MOT, presents the annual work programme 2012, validated by the Bureau of the same day.

cf. for further detail, see annual work programme of MOT 2012

[Debate and vote](#)

The General Assembly validates the work programme 2012-2014 and the work programme 2012.

7. Presentation of the 2012 budget by Marthe STEFFANN, Treasurer of MOT - debate and vote

The Budget

Marthe STEFFANN presents the 2012 forward budget. The budget is 1 218 370 Euros for revenues and 1 174 475 Euros for expenditure.

Debate and vote

The General Meeting unanimously accepts the 2012 budget.

The membership fees for the years 2012-2013

Marthe STEFFANN presents the membership fees for the years 2012-2013.

Debate and vote

The General Meeting unanimously accepts the membership fees for the years 2012-2013.

8. Presentation of the Constitutive Convention of the Public Interest Grouping (Groupement d'intérêt public - GIP)

Jean PEYRONY presents the Constitutive Convention of the Public Interest Grouping (Groupement d'intérêt public – GIP) of the Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière and explains the context of the transformation of MOT into a GIP.

Foreseen since the creation of the MOT in 1997, the Public interest grouping (GIP) has however not been adopted as MOT status at that time, because of the impossibility to create a GIP dedicated to the networking of stakeholders in cross-border cooperation. Therefore MOT had become an association. In May 2011, the French law 'Warsmann' reformed the status of GIP, and its implementing decree was promulgated in January 2012. In the continuity of the activities of MOT and following the recommendations of the report of the Parliamentarian mission Blanc-Keller-Sanchez-Schmid in June 2010 on cross-border issues, it was decided by the Annual General Meeting of MOT in 2011 to launch the process of transformation of the association into a GIP.

The transformation into a GIP will confirm its multi-level positioning: be at the service of its local and regional members, strengthen the link with the national level, and strengthen the cooperation with European institutions and the visibility of partnerships at European level.

In accordance with the article 103 of the French law No. 2011-525 of simplification and improvement of the quality of the law from 17 the May 2011, any legal personality following a mission of public service, located in France or abroad may join the GIP (extract of the law in French: *"les personnes morales de droit public et les personnes morales de droit privé chargées d'une mission de service public doivent détenir ensemble plus de la moitié du capital ou des voix dans les organes délibérants. Les personnes morales étrangères participent à un groupement d'intérêt public dans les mêmes conditions que les personnes morales françaises de droit privé."*)

Foreign authorities are able to become members of the GIP. Nevertheless, foreign States will not participate directly as French local authorities cannot sign an agreement with a foreign State (article L.1115-5 CGCT – French "Code général des collectivités territoriales"). However the GIP is created by an agreement between its members. If foreign States will not be able to be members in the strict sense, they will be part of a college of States which may include the Luxembourg, Andorra, Bulgaria and other States wishing to join this college. In this way, MOT continues the dialogue with the States. This college will participate in the AGM of the GIP, and specific agreements between MOT and the States may be taken.

The MOT network is intended to be extended to local authorities, non-members of MOT, and further French ministries.

The MOT bodies will change slightly. The Annual General Meeting will be maintained. The Advisory Committee will replace the Board of Directors. It will be responsible for the monitoring and the implementation of the work programme. The Bureau will be the MOT body responsible for the regular monitoring of the structure.

The parity between the local and regional level on the one hand, and the national level on the other hand, is affirmed. The Presidency of the GIP will be hold by a local or regional authority.

Private management is maintained, which allows to keep the current staff of the association. Amounts of membership fees will remain stable for the next two years, on the basis of 2012.

The transformation will be done in several steps:

- Step 1: Each member has to confirm its intention to become member of the GIP MOT.
- Step 2: The list of members will be closed and passed on to the MOT Board for validation.
- Step 3: The constitutive convention with the definitive list of members of the GIP will be passed on to the members, whose Assemblies have to deliberate to approve the participation in the GIP.

In 2013, an Extraordinary General Meeting will meet to create the GIP.

The Annual General Meeting validates unanimously the principal of transformation of the MOT association to a Public Interest Grouping (Groupement d'intérêt public – GIP) and the project of the constitutive convention of the GIP. The AGM also accepts the procedure proposed for this transformation.

9. Any other business

- The request of Métropole Nice Côte d'Azur to take part in the Board of Directors of MOT is accepted.

- **Jean-Paul BACHY**, President of the Région Champagne-Ardenne stresses that the GIP transformation should not be used for a recentralization of cross-border issues; MOT needs to remain a multi-scalar tool at the service of all stakeholders of cooperation. **Michel DELEBARRE** reminds that the transformation into GIP is practical exercise of multi-level governance. The steps undertaken within MOT are almost always at the initiative of local authorities. If the GIP appears more structured than the association at the first sight, it remains flexible, the statutes will be editable. The state of mind will remain the same.

10. Conclusions by Michel DELEBARRE, Former Ministry of State, Senator and Mayor of Dunkerque, President of MOT

Michel DELEBARRE closes the meeting by thanking all the participants.