MINISTERIAL CONCLUSIONS

From the meeting of the ministers responsible for spatial planning and regional development of the Visegrad Group countries, Bulgaria and Romania,

held on 16 April 2014 in Budapest

We, ministers responsible for spatial planning and regional development of the governments of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Poland, Romania and the Slovak Republic

Welcome the ongoing coordination of spatial development among our countries (the V4+2 countries), in which the ministerial meeting held in Budapest on 29 March 2010 was an important milestone.

Appreciate the results achieved during the cooperation of the V4 + 2 countries and the effort made whilst formulating the “Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4 + 2 Countries”, which contribute to the promotion of our spatial cooperation.

Appreciate the progress made in settling no-continuations of development axes as well as transport networks among the V4+2 countries at various levels.

State that systematic cooperation in the field of spatial development contributes to an effective coordination of spatial development of the V4+2 countries.

Express our will to continue and extend the ongoing spatial cooperation in the long-term in order to strengthen the inner cohesion and to deepen the integration of the V4+2 countries into the European Union. In future, other neighbouring countries may also be included in this cooperation if justified by common challenges and opportunities.

Consider it necessary to continue the coordination of the Steering Group composed of representatives of the relevant ministries, whose countries are involved, and we express our appreciation for work done so far.

With regard to the above stated declarations, we have agreed on the following conclusions:

1. We will make use of the knowledge, findings and experience obtained on the basis of the coordination of national spatial development policies and the formulation of the “Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4+2 Countries". We will also continue mutual exchange of information on changes in the national documents.

2. We consider it purposeful to use the results achieved whilst formulating the “Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4+2 Countries”, under the new programming period 2014-2020 and to incorporate the specific results and development needs particularly into relevant national spatial development documents.

3. We appeal to ministers of our countries, especially to those responsible for transport and energy policies, to use the “Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4+2 Countries” when formulating their national policy documents.

4. We consider it purposeful to strengthen and deepen the cooperation of cross-border areas, with special regard to those areas where three countries share a common border.
5. We call upon the Steering Group to continue the coordination of spatial development of the V4+2 countries, as well as the exchange of information on national spatial development documents and on spatial planning systems.

6. We recommend the Steering Group to consider updating the “Common Spatial Development Strategy of the V4+2 Countries” by 31 December 2018, taking into account, among others, the results of the cooperation among our countries.

Signed in Budapest, 16 April 2014 in six original copies in English.

[Signatures]

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