



United Nations
**Sustainable
Transport
Conference**

14-16
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Beijing



Side
Event

DRAFT Concept Note and Programme of UNCRD-ADB-MOEJ Side Event (online)

Of the United Nations Second Global Sustainable Transport Conference will be held in hybrid format from 14 to 16 October 2021 in Beijing, China

(related to overall theme “Sustainable Transport, Sustainable Development” and Thematic session 5: Policies for Sustainable Transport)

Title: Changing Course of Asia’s Transport Sector and Proposed Aichi 2030 Declaration (2021-2030) ~ Making Transport in Asia Sustainable - Sustainable Transport Goals for Achieving Universally Accessible, Safe, Affordable, Clean and Low-carbon Passenger and Freight Transport in Asia.

Co-organized by: UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA, ADB, MoE-Japan

Date & Time: 15 October 2021 / 13:00-15:00 pm. Beijing Time / 14:00-16:00 p.m. Japan Time (online)

Participation fees: No fees

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/vZ1qkE1FSb>

Background:

By 2030, it is expected that Asia in 2030 will have - 51% of the global population, 41% of GDP (in PPP), 34% of global transport CO2 emissions, and 58% of worldwide road accident fatalities. Success of various global agreements such as the SDGs and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change depends largely on the performance in Asia. There is at present no mechanism to implement the global agreements on sustainable development and climate change at the regional level and the sectoral level. It is clear that without success or transformational changes in Asia’s transport sector, it will not be possible to achieve these global agreements.

The Bangkok 2020 Declaration (2010-2020) which was adopted by the 5th Regional EST Forum in Asia held in Bangkok in 2010 was the first regional declaration on the strengthening of environmentally sustainable land transport in developing Asia. It included twenty time-bound EST goals and an extensive set of monitoring indicators (to assess progress in meeting them) embedded within an ‘Avoid-Shift-Improve’ framework. The Bangkok 2020 Declaration (2010-2020) was a unique regional initiative encouraging country commitment and action, as well as a coordination mechanism on sustainable transport regionally and globally.

The past three Regional EST Forums in Asia (11th/Mongolia/2018, 12th/Viet Nam/2019 and 13th/Virtual/2020) expressed strong support for a new EST Declaration (2021-2030), given the ongoing need for Asian countries to improve accessibility and sustainability of their transport systems. It was also

urged by the member countries that such a successor to the Bangkok 2020 Declaration would need to be aligned with a number of global agreements, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement, among others, with the opportunity for streamlining of reporting and capacity building efforts.

The proposed new EST Declaration (2021-2030) would recognize the need for greater action on sustainability in transport systems in Asia and intends to cover passenger and freight transport in both urban and rural areas whilst acknowledging the impact of pandemics and the need for greater resilience and preparedness and agreeing an increased emphasis on coordinated action to implement sustainable transport actions.

Further, the statements by country representatives, international organizations and experts confirmed that the new EST Declaration (2021-2030), with a strong tracking framework and multi-layer cooperation and aiming towards a net-zero carbon future and more country-based implementation mechanisms, should to be in the forefront of new collaborative approaches and interagency cooperation to enhance actions on sustainable transport towards achieving the SDGs and the Paris Agreement on climate change. The proposed new EST Declaration (2021-2030) is expected to be discussed and finally agreed at the 14th Regional EST Forum in Asia to be held in Aichi, Japan, from 18-20 October 2021.

The proposed new EST Declaration is expected to act as a catalyst for transformational changes in the transport sector in Asia. It also aims to provide a foundation for a future global platform and common reporting framework on transport, climate and sustainable development in an integrated manner.

This online side event of the United Nations Second Global Sustainable Transport, 14 to 16 October 2021, Beijing, China, is co-organized by UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA, ADB and MoE-Japan, with the theme of - *“Changing Course of Asia’s Transport Sector and Proposed Aichi 2030 Declaration (2021-2030) ~ Making Transport in Asia Sustainable - Sustainable Transport Goals for Achieving Universally Accessible, Safe, Affordable, Clean and Low-carbon Passenger and Freight Transport in Asia.”*

Draft Agenda Items:

1. Opening Remarks (10 mins)
 - Mr. Kazushige Endo, Director, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA (3 mins)
 - Mr. Jamie Leather, Chief of Transport, Asian Development Bank (ADB) (3 mins)
 - Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MoE-J) (3 mins)

2. Presentations (30 mins)
 - Proposed Aichi 2030 Declaration (2021-2030) ~ Making Transport in Asia Sustainable - Sustainable Transport Goals for Achieving Universally Accessible, Safe, Affordable, Clean and Low-carbon Passenger and Freight Transport in Asia – by Choudhury Rudra Charan Mohanty, Environment Programme Coordinator, UNCRD-DSDG/UN DESA (15 mins)

- Monitoring mechanism to track implementation of the Aichi 2030 Declaration (2021-2030) – Asian Transport Outlook – by Jamie Leather, Chief of Transport, Asian Development Bank (ADB) & Cornie Huizenga, Resource Person, ADB (15 mins)
3. Panel discussions (70 mins)
- Ministry of Transport, Government of Bangladesh (tbc)
 - National Environment Commission, Climate Change Department (CCD), Government of Bhutan (tbc)
 - Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology, Government of Maldives (tbc)
 - Land Transport Authority (LTA)/Ministry of Transport, Singapore (tbc)
 - Ministry of Transport (MOT), Indonesia (tbc)
 - German Technical Cooperation (GIZ)
 - BusWorld Foundation
 - International Union of Railways (UIC)
4. Q&A/Open Discussion (10 mins)