



Information Note

Second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference

14-16 October 2021, Beijing, China

I. Introduction

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/212, the Secretary-General will convene the second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference, from 14 to 16 October 2021, at the China National Convention Center, No.7 Tianchen East Road, Olympic Green, Chaoyang District, Beijing, China. Due to the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, the Conference will be held in a "hybrid format" with both virtual and in-person participation. The in-person participation will be limited to delegations and other participants who are already in Beijing, China, subject to the prevailing COVID-19 protocols.

Theme

2. The theme of the Conference will be "Sustainable Transport, Sustainable Development." It will focus attention on the opportunities, challenges and solutions towards achieving sustainable transport worldwide, and indicate a way forward for sustainable transport to help achieve the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change in the Decade of Action to Deliver the SDGs.

Programme

3. The Conference will feature opening and closing ceremonies, three plenary sessions, a Ministers' Forum, a Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Transport, a Forum on the Role of Business in Advancing Sustainable Transport, as well as six thematic

sessions¹. A schedule of events, including their format, is available on the [Conference website](#) as well as contained in the Annex of the present note.

Side events

4. The Conference will also feature a number of virtual side events organized by Member States, UN system entities and other eligible stakeholders on themes related to the Conference.

A full list of approved side events and their connection details is now available on the Conference website: <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/transport2021/side>.

Interpretation

5. Interpretation in all (6) official languages of the United Nations will be available for the opening and closing ceremonies, the Ministers' Forum and the three plenary sessions. The Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Transport, the Forum on the Role of Business in Advancing Sustainable Transport, as well as the six thematic sessions will be available in English and Chinese.

Documentation

6. The Conference will be informed by an inter-agency [report](#) prepared by the United Nations. All three Forums and the six thematic sessions are also informed by concept notes. Delegations are also invited to share documents and background papers with the Secretariat (GSTC2@un.org) to be posted on the Conference website.

Outcome

7. The outcome of the Conference will be a forward-looking, visionary statement calling for global action to further advance sustainable transport worldwide. This will be complemented by a summary report of the Conference. In addition, Governments, UN system entities, the private sector, local and regional governments, and other stakeholders are invited to use the Conference as an opportunity to announce and share information about voluntary commitments, partnerships and other initiatives that seek to raise ambition on sustainable transport, including by registering them through a dedicated [online platform](#).

¹ Thematic session 1: Sustainable transport, poverty, livelihoods and growth;

Thematic session 2: Sustainable transport and regional development;

Thematic session 3: Sustainable transport and connectivity, including rural areas and countries in special situations;

Thematic session 4: Sustainable transport and green development: climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience;

Thematic session 5: Policies for sustainable transport;

Thematic session 6: Sustainable transport and sustainable cities.

Website

8. The full programme, concept notes and other background documentation are available on the Conference website at <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/transport2021>.

Participation

9. The Conference is open to participation by representatives of Member States of the United Nations; representatives of States members of Specialized Agencies; officials of Specialized Agencies and related United Nations organizations; representatives of intergovernmental organizations that have received standing invitations to participate as observers in the sessions and work of the General Assembly; representatives of other intergovernmental organizations; representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations; and representatives or observers from the private sector, civil society, and members of the scientific and technological communities. The meetings of the Conference are also open to representatives of information media accredited by the United Nations.

List of participants (Member States/IGOs/UN agencies)

10. Member and Observer States, and organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as Observers in the sessions and work of the General Assembly are requested to indicate the full composition of their delegation through the e-List of participants module in the e-deleGATE system (edelegate.un.int), which can be accessed by New York-based permanent missions.

11. Representatives of intergovernmental organizations and the United Nations system, including funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, that do not have access to the e-List of Participants module on the e-deleGATE platform (edelegate.un.int) should send their delegation lists in both Word and PDF format to GSTC2@un.org.

Registration for in-person participation

12. Registration for in-person participation for all categories of participants is open online from **1 September to 9 October 2021** at <https://indico.un.org/event/1000216/>. There will be **no on-site registration** for in-person participation during the Conference.

13. More details about registration of in-person participants for all categories of participants are available on <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/transport2021/registration>.

14. The maximum number of in-person participants that will be allowed to enter the Conference premises will depend on the COVID-19 protocols in effect at the time of the Conference. Additional details, including about the distribution of possible secondary passes, will be published ahead of time on the [Conference website](#).

Member States/Observers to the UN/Intergovernmental Organizations accredited to the UN/UN Specialized Agencies

15. Registration of official delegations of Member States and Observers, as well as Intergovernmental Organizations that are accredited to the United Nations and United Nations Specialized Agencies and related organizations who are attending the Conference in-person is handled by the United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service via the online registration system “INDICO” at <https://indico.un.org/event/1000216/>. The United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service has circulated a [Note Verbale](#)² with detailed information about the registration procedures. *N.B. Registrations for these categories can only be submitted by the designated eRegistration focal points of the Permanent/Observer missions and Liaison Offices to the United Nations who have been pre-approved by the Protocol Office.*

16. Embassies or consulates in Beijing or in the region are encouraged to collect the Conference badges for their respective delegations who will be attending the Conference in person. For this purpose, a Note Verbale (with official stamp) from the Permanent Mission of the delegation to the United Nations in New York, indicating the name and contact telephone/cellphone number of the representative authorized to collect the conference badges for the delegation, must be presented at the Badging Centre (see information below) along with a government photo ID of the representative in order to collect the conference badges.

UN Secretariat, Entities, Departments and Offices

17. Registration is required for all UN staff members who have been designated to support the Conference onsite and those representatives of United Nations Funds and Programmes, Regional Commissions and UN Secretariat who wish to attend the Conference in person in Beijing, via the **online registration system “INDICO”** at <https://indico.un.org/event/1000216/>. Please use your official UN email for the registration otherwise your application may be denied.

Media

18. Media accreditation is strictly reserved for members of the press – print, photo, radio, TV, film, news agencies and online journalists – who represent a bona fide media organization, and official media of participating delegations. Representatives of media wishing to attend the Conference in-person are requested to submit their registration through the INDICO platform at: <https://indico.un.org/event/1000216/>.

19. All members of the press are required to register online for the Conference. Confirmation of your accreditation will be sent to the email address provided in the form.

20. Double accreditation (e.g., both as a journalist and a delegate) is not allowed.

21. Enquiries should be sent to: malu@un.org

² PRO/NV/2nd GSTC-2021

ECOSOC-accredited NGOs

22. Representatives of ECOSOC-accredited NGOs who are currently based in Beijing can request pre-registration to participate in-person as observers in the Second Global Sustainable Transport Conference through the INDICO platform: <https://indico.un.org/event/1000216/>.

23. Please note that a request of pre-registration does not guarantee in-person participation in the Second Global Sustainable Transport Conference. Approved participants will receive confirmation from the United Nations.

24. For questions related to registration of representatives of ECOSOC-accredited NGOs, please contact: GSTC2@un.org

Civil society, private sector, scientific and technological communities and other stakeholders

25. Representatives or observers from the private sector and civil society, members of the scientific and technological communities, and other stakeholders whose work is relevant to the Conference and who are currently based in Beijing can request to be pre-registered to attend the Conference in person through the INDICO platform at: <https://indico.un.org/event/1000216/>

26. Please note that a request of pre-registration does not guarantee in-person participation in the Second Global Sustainable Transport Conference. Approved participants will receive confirmation from the United Nations.

27. For questions related to registration of representatives or observers from the private sector and civil society, members of the scientific and technological communities, and other stakeholders, please, contact: npls@un.org

Collection of Conference badges

28. Participants that have been registered and approved for in-person participation by the United Nations under all categories can collect their Conference badges from the Badging Centre located at the first level of the China National Convention Center. To receive a badge, the email approving the registration issued by the United Nations and a passport or a valid government ID with photo must be presented.

29. The badges can be collected on 13 October 2021, between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m. (CST, UTC+8).

Seating arrangements in the Plenary Hall

30. The delegation of each State participating in the Conference and duly registered intergovernmental organizations as observers will be assigned two seats in the Plenary Hall: one at the table and one behind the table. Seating will also be specifically assigned for other participants at the Conference.

31. The maximum number of persons allowed inside the Plenary Hall will depend on the COVID-19 protocols in effect at the time of the Conference. Exact numbers by category will be published ahead of time on the [Conference website](#). Space in the Plenary Hall will be very limited and delegations will be requested to take this into consideration when deciding how many members of each delegation will be entering the Convention Center. A secondary access pass will be required to enter the Plenary Hall. Further details on the distribution of the secondary access passes will be made available on the Conference website.

Virtual participation

Participants without speaking role

32. All Conference proceedings will be available to all participants via live stream to enable broad virtual participation. The live stream can be followed on [UN Web TV](#) and on the [Conference website](#).

Participants with a speaking role

33. Only those participants who will address the sessions virtually live will be provided with details to access a dedicated zoom platform. Other participants can view the proceedings via livestream on [UN Web TV](#) or through the [Conference website](#).

34. The Chrome browser is recommended when accessing the virtual platform link. Detailed technical guidance will be shared with speakers in advance.

35. When connecting to the platform, speakers will be requested to enter their name and email address. In order to assist the presiding officer in identifying participants on the virtual platform, participants are requested to follow the following naming convention: Delegates should use the “FIRST NAME” field to enter the name of their delegation/organization/affiliation and the “LAST NAME” field to enter their full name (i.e., first and last names).

Familiarization “onboarding” sessions

36. All participants who are designated to speak during the virtual meetings are required to attend one of the familiarization sessions that will be organized in advance of the Conference and to test their equipment and connection from the location at which they intend to intervene.

37. On the days of the meetings, participants intending to speak must join the virtual platform up to 30 minutes in advance of the start time of the meeting in order to confirm that their equipment and connection is working properly. Additional guidance will be provided in advance.

Inscription to list of speakers

Plenary

38. Member States and Observer States wishing to inscribe in the list of speakers for the plenary sessions should do so via the e-deleGATE platform (edelegate.un.int), which can be accessed by NY-based permanent missions, from Monday, 20 September 2021, at 10 a.m. New York time, until Monday, 4 October 2021, at noon New York time. An automated email acknowledgement will be sent within one hour of receipt of the request. Observers with a standing invitation to participate as Observers in the sessions and work of the General Assembly, wishing to participate in the plenary sessions should do so contacting the General Assembly Affairs Branch (galindo@un.org, with copy to quiogue@un.org).

39. Inscription in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings shall be on a first-come, first-served basis. **Submissions should indicate the “mode of delivery”: either “in person”, “virtual live” or “pre-recorded statement”.** All three modes of delivery will be treated equally, without giving priority to in-person statements. The order of statements will follow the customary protocol of the United Nations General Assembly.

40. To enable maximum participation within the limited time available, statements in the plenary meetings should not exceed three [3] minutes (approximately 300 words) for individual delegations and five [5] minutes (approximately 500 words) for statements on behalf of groups of States.

41. A provisional list of speakers that have expressed an interest in speaking during the plenary sessions will be circulated prior to the opening of the Conference.

Virtual (live) statements

42. Those delegations that indicate their preference to deliver a virtual (live) statement in their inscription on e-speakers will be provided with the details to connect to the virtual platform and to conduct a test of the connection prior to the meeting.

Submission of pre-recorded videos

43. The deadline for the submission of pre-recorded statements for the plenary sessions is **6 October 2021** using the following link: <https://un-mam.cimediacloud.com/file-request/G8P0JIBU>. All video files must be accompanied by a corresponding transcript in PDF or Word File. Detailed instructions for preparation of pre-recorded statements can be found [here](#). For technical reasons, it will not be possible to guarantee the acceptance of a pre-recorded video if received after this date.

44. Regarding video file specifications, standard video file formats (.MOV, MPEG-4) are acceptable with HD resolution of 1920x1080 (preferably) or 1280x720pixels (as a minimum) in an aspect ratio of 16:9.

45. Please use the following name convention: [Delegation or Country or Presenter Name][Date]_GSTC.[extension] (please exclude the brackets).

46. The length of the pre-recorded statement should be consistent with previous time limits of 5 minutes for statements on behalf of groups, and 3 minutes for individual statements. Delegations will also be asked to share the contact information of the technical focal point at their mission.

47. *IMPORTANT: All delegations submitting a pre-recorded video or delivering a statement (including virtually (live) at the plenary sessions are requested to provide a written text of the statement (preferably in Microsoft Word, as well as in PDF format) by email to unov.conference@un.org at least two hours in advance of delivery in order to ensure proper interpretation. The subject line of the email should clearly identify the date and time of the meeting at which the intervention will be delivered. Remarks that are in the form of talking points or drafts may also be submitted to the said email address. To enable accurate interpretation, please ensure the speaker speaks clearly and at a moderate pace.*

Ministers' Forum

48. Participation in the Ministers' Forum will be limited to Ministers invited by the host country. Details for participation will be directly shared with the selected countries and a full programme will be made available on [the Conference website](#). All participants will be able to follow proceedings via live stream made available on [UN webtv](#) and [the Conference website](#). Those Member States who have been invited to address the Ministers' Forum should not be inscribed in the list of speakers for the plenary.

Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation; the Forum on the Role of Business in Advancing Sustainable Transport and six thematic sessions

49. These will be moderated panel discussions with invited speakers. The programmes and concept notes for each event will be made available on [the Conference website](#).

Secretariat of the Conference

50. Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, serves as the Conference Secretary-General. The Division for Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs functions as the Conference Secretariat, in coordination with the United Nations Department of General Assembly and Conference Management. The Conference Secretariat can be contacted at GSTC2@un.org. Additional information is also available on the [Conference website](#).

Protocol for Prevention and Control of COVID-19 for in-person participants at the CNCC

51. **Nucleic acid testing**-Proof of negative nucleic acid test within 48 hours prior to the Conference must be provided to attend the Conference. In case there are associated cases contracted outside of Beijing and community transmission occurs in Beijing, in-person participants will attend the Conference online instead of offline.

52. **Vaccination**-Those who have no contraindications to vaccination should all be vaccinated. In principle, in-person participants can only attend the Conference after completing the whole vaccination process 14 days before the Conference.

53. **Health monitoring**-Health monitoring, daily temperature measurement should be conscientiously carried out, and record should be made and kept for future reference. In case of fever, fatigue, cough, sore throat, dry throat, diarrhea, vomiting, loss of smell or taste, and other suspected symptoms, medical treatment should be sought promptly.

54. **Information verification**-The vaccination, nucleic acid test, health code, travel code and other information of in-person participants will be checked through the "Health Kit"(Beijing Jiankang Bao) big data. Those who have not registered the "Health Kit" must meet the requirements that they and their co-residents have no travel history in medium-high risk areas, no contact history of confirmed cases, suspected cases or asymptomatic infected persons within 14 days (or 21 days if local cases occur in China), and can provide relevant certificates and test results.

55. **Strict prevention and control**-The requirements of Beijing for regular epidemic prevention and control should be strictly implemented. In-person participants can only enter the venue by certified vehicles, and vehicles can only be parked in designated areas. Visits to crowded places during the Conference should be refrained to minimize the risk of epidemic prevention and control.

Annex: Schedule of Meetings

(BJT: China Standard Time; CEST: Central European Standard Time; EDT: Eastern Daylight Time)

Thursday, 14 October

BJT	CEST	EDT	Segment	Format	Interpretation
8-8.30 pm	2-2.30 pm	8-8.30 am	Opening ceremony United Nations Secretary-General and President of China	Hybrid, Statement only	Yes
8.30-9.30 pm	2.30-3.30 pm	8.30-9.30 am	Plenary session Statements by Heads of State and Government	Hybrid, Statement only	Yes

Friday, 15 October

BJT	CEST	EDT	Segment	Format	Interpretation
3-4 pm	9-10 am	3-4 am	Plenary session Statements by Ministers and Heads of delegation	Hybrid, Statement only	Yes
4-5 pm	10-11 am	4-5 am	Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for sustainable transport	Virtual, Moderated Panel discussion	No
5-6 pm	11-12 pm	5-6 am	Thematic session 1: Sustainable transport, poverty, livelihoods and growth	Virtual, Panel discussion	No
6-7 pm	12-1 pm	6-7 am	Thematic session 2: Sustainable transport and regional development	Virtual, Panel discussion	No
7-8 pm	1-2 pm	7-8 am	Thematic session 3: Sustainable transport and connectivity, including rural areas and countries in special situations	Virtual, Panel discussion	No
8-9.30 pm	2-3.30 pm	8-9.30 am	Ministers' Forum: Sustainable transport, poverty eradication and economic recovery– direct exchange of views and sharing of national experiences	Hybrid, Statement only	Yes

Saturday, 16 October

BJT	CEST	EDT	Segment	Format	Interpretation
3-4 pm	9-10 am	3-4 am	Plenary session Statements by Ministers and Heads of delegation	Hybrid, Statement only	Yes
4-5 pm	10-11 am	4-5 am	Forum on role of business in advancing sustainable transport	Virtual, Panel discussion	No
5-6 pm	11-12 pm	5-6 am	Thematic session 4: Sustainable transport and green development: climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience	Virtual, Panel discussion	No
6-7 pm	12-1 pm	6-7 am	Thematic session 5: Policies for sustainable transport	Virtual, Panel discussion	No
7-8 pm	1-2 pm	7-8 am	Thematic session 6: Sustainable transport and sustainable cities	Virtual, Panel discussion	No
8-9 pm	2-3 pm	8-9 am	Closing ceremony Announcement of Beijing Declaration	Hybrid, statement only	Yes