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Transport Ministers to Combat Climate Change in Tokyo

22 major countries and 9 international organizations, will join hand in hand to combat climate change in the transport sector next January 14-16, at the “Ministerial Conference on Global Environment and Energy in Transport” (MEET), hosted by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), Government of Japan. Joint press conference is scheduled to immediately follow the Conference.

Transport is Growing

The CO₂ emissions from transport sector currently account for 23% of the world’s total and are expected to grow further, particularly in developing countries due to their rapid economic growth. At the same time, the transport sector is a foundation of economic growth.

It is imperative for the transport sector across the world to accelerate its international efforts to pave the way for future transport systems that achieve both economic growth and environmental protection.

Major Countries Stand UP

Attendance from major developed and developing countries that cover in total 75% of the world CO₂ emissions from transport makes the conference a valid venue for delivering strong political messages on the future direction of international cooperation in the transport sector to tackle climate change and air pollution. Especially, assistance to the efforts of developing countries would be one of the highlights among the messages from the Conference.

The result of the Conference will contribute to discussions and efforts in international organizations and fora including UNFCCC, ICAO and IMO.

Joint press conference: scheduled to be held from 11:45am-12:15pm, Jan 16(Fri), 2009, at Tokyo Prince Hotel Park Tower.



<FACTS>

1. Date and Venue

January 14 (Wed.) – 16 (Fri.), 2009

Tokyo Prince Hotel Park Tower, Tokyo, Japan

2. Participating Countries and Organizations

22 countries and 9 organizations in total: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, French Republic, India, Japan, Kingdom of Cambodia, Kingdom of Thailand, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, People's Republic of China, Republic of Indonesia, Republic of Italy, Republic of Korea, Republic of Singapore, Republic of the Philippines, Russian Federation, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Union of Myanmar, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, European Commission (EC), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Energy Agency (IEA), International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Transport Forum (ITF), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe/World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (UNECE/WP.29), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat, and the World Bank