

January 16, 2009

Toward A Low-Carbon & Low-Pollution Future for Transport

Today, transport ministers and representatives from 21 major countries and 9 international organizations expressed their strong determination to combat climate change and air pollution in the transport sector.

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, was convened on January 15-16. Over 200 participants across the world brought a variety of perspectives, reflecting the seriousness of challenges that the transport sector faces and the diversity of circumstances, which made the two-day ministerial discussions more vigorous and fruitful. Transport ministers finally adopted the Ministerial Declaration that emphasizes future actions in the sector to tackle climate change and air pollution.

Major Countries and International Organizations MEET Together

With the participation of major developed and developing countries that discharge in total around 70%¹ of the world’s CO₂ emissions from the transport sector, the MEET Conference discussed the issues and future prospects of all modes of transport and delivered political messages for enhancing international cooperation in the transport sector.

And We Will ACT Together...

The highlights of the Ministerial Declaration include:

Sharing Long-Term Vision. Transport ministers shared the global long-term vision of **low-carbon and low-pollution transport systems to be realized**, toward which the countries and the international organizations will make every effort.

¹ including international aviation and maritime shipping.



Strengthening Domestic Transport Policies. The Declaration proposes a menu of effective policy measures for domestic transport, from which each country will employ best policy mixes according to its own circumstances. Most notably, **the Declaration sheds a light upon facilitating developing countries' efforts** through utilizing the experiences and expertise of developed countries: it proposes, for example, *sharing best practices; enhancing capacity building; mobilizing various financing methods such as the Climate Investment Funds (CIF); and improving transport statistics.*

Boosting Efforts for International Aviation and Maritime Shipping. Ministers reaffirmed, toward the end of 2009, the importance of expeditious discussions in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to address emissions from international aviation and maritime shipping.

Continuing Dialogue and Enhancing International Cooperation. Ministers shared the need to **further enhance international cooperation in the transport sector**, and they agreed on continuing their dialogue among countries and organizations, especially on the support for developing countries. In this regard, ministers welcomed the offer of Japan to host a follow-up meeting for the senior officials in this coming June, and that of Italy to host the 2nd Ministerial Conference around the end of this year.

The transport ministers invite all countries to participate in their collective endeavors, as outlined in the Declaration, to achieve sustainable mobility for all. Additionally, Mr. Kazuyoshi Kaneko, Japan's Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, announced his initiative to expedite Japan's actions to support the efforts of developing countries in the transport sector.

For further information and reference documents about the Conference, please see:

http://www.mlit.go.jp/kokusai/MEET/index_en.html, or contact:

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<FACTS>

1. Date and Venue

January 14 (Wed.) – 16 (Fri.), 2009

Tokyo Prince Hotel Park Tower, Tokyo, Japan

2. Participating Countries and Organizations

21 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, 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

Fact Sheet

Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism

Government of Japan

January 16, 2009

Japan's New Initiative to Support Developing Countries in Transport

Japan launches a new initiative to support systematic and organized efforts of developing countries to address climate change and air pollution issues in the transport sector. Taking a multifaceted approach and making the most of Japan's experiences and expertise, the initiative will contribute to effective policymaking and implementation of policy measures of developing countries. In particular:

1) Japan will support developing countries in formulating Action Plans for their transport sectors to address climate change and air pollution:

- The Action Plans are encouraged to be comprehensive, covering all modes of transport, and mobilizing a variety of measures, ranging from statistics development, improvement of vehicle fuel efficiency and traffic flow management to RD&D of new technologies, from capacity building including human resources development to application methods of best practices.
- As the first step, ASEAN member countries, the ASEAN Secretariat and Japan will collaboratively formulate the *ASEAN-Japan Environmental Action Plan* (provisional title) by fall 2009 under the ASEAN-Japan Transport Partnership.

2) Japan will support developing countries in implementing their policy measures according to their Action Plans, including measures for :

➤ **Individual Motor Vehicles**

- To provide Japan's know-how for institutional design and implementation of such policy measures as fuel efficiency regulations, tax incentives and eco-driving.

➤ **Public Transport**

- To assist the development of urban railway systems and other public transport networks, for example, through the dissemination of the Asian Standard for urban railways formulated by Japan.

➤ **Low-carbon Logistics Systems**

- To assist human resources development as well as infrastructure development such as ports, to build efficient logistics systems and promote modal shift in freight transport.



➤ **Statistics Development and Other Foundational Measures**

- To encourage the development of transport statistics as well as the provision of one-stop services for statistical data, for example, through the establishment of the ASEAN-Japan Transport Information Platform, and to provide capacity building for estimating CO₂ emissions.

➤ **Greening Transport in Asian Countries**

- To facilitate such environmentally friendly measures as the participation in the Voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme, the introduction of energy-saving equipment and advanced technologies into port facilities, and the introduction of the RNAV (Area Navigation) for aviation.

➤ **Introduction of Environmentally Friendly Technologies**

- To support the introduction of Japan's advanced environmentally friendly technologies in the transport sector, along with continuous dialogue to deepen the understanding on the actual conditions in developing countries.

