

Chair's Summary
Senior Officials Meeting on Global Environment and Energy in Transport

Hakodate, Japan
June 17-18, 2009

1. Senior transport officials from major countries, with experts from international organizations, met in Hakodate, Japan, on the 17th and 18th of June, 2009, to discuss next actions to combat climate change and air pollution in the transport sector. The Meeting had frank exchanges of views from three perspectives, namely, *strategy*, *financing* and *capacity building*, in order to facilitate further concrete actions and enhance required international cooperation, in line with the directions outlined by the Ministerial Conference on Global Environment and Energy in Transport (MEET) in January 2009.

Sustainable Transport and the Way Forward

2. In keynote speeches, it was pointed out that climate change issues in the transport sector should be framed as part of a broader “transport problem,” i.e., challenges toward sustainable transport, along with air pollution, noise and other externalities; that to “Avoid” forming high-carbon transport rather than to reduce emissions is important especially for developing countries; and that managing transport as well as technological innovation is essential. In addition, a broad overview of the ongoing process of international negotiations for the post-2012 framework under the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change (UNFCCC) was also provided.

Strategic Actions to Combat Climate Change and Air Pollution

3. The Meeting shared the effectiveness of formulating a strategic transport action plan to promote measures to combat climate change and air pollution, and maintaining the function of transport to support economic and social development. It was pointed out that long-term perspectives and targets improve predictability, and help the private sector in their investment decision making. In this respect, the Meeting also shared the importance of assisting the development of such action plans in developing countries. In addition, the Meeting observed the importance of properly valuing co-benefits of transport projects such as air quality improvement, energy savings, economic efficiency, security and safety. The Meeting emphasized and shared the importance of the “Avoid-Shift-Improve” framework to grasp and formulate sustainable transport policies.
4. The Meeting noted such international partnership initiatives proposed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and other organizations, as well as the development of the

ASEAN-Japan Action Plan on Environment Improvement in the Transport Sector.

5. Specific references were made on the international aviation and maritime transport where effective measures are required to address emissions.

Financial Mechanisms for Effective Actions

6. The Meeting shared the importance of utilizing a variety of financing methods for transport projects, including private funds, climate-related funds such as the Climate Investment Funds as well as the Clean Development Mechanism, not to mention public funds. The Meeting also shared the importance of exploring, through international cooperation, the possibility of new financing mechanisms applicable to the transport sector, so that various financing methods as a whole would work effectively and complementarily for the transport sector.
7. In particular, the Meeting shared the expectation that financing mechanisms under the post-2012 framework should be more effectively applicable to the transport sector and also shared the necessity of paying careful attention to the development process of the mechanisms.
8. The Meeting shared the importance of assisting developing countries to utilize the financing mechanisms, as well as the necessity of considering financing methods and risk mitigation at local and national level, in our efforts in mitigation and adaptation.
9. Some participants pointed out that revenues from the transport sector through market-based measures should be devoted to the transport sector.

Capacity Building for Policy Planning and Implementation

10. The Meeting recognized global efforts to combat climate change and air pollution in major areas of the inland transport sector, such as system and energy efficiency improvement and public transport development including demand management measures. The Meeting shared the importance of properly facilitating capacity building for these areas as well as the importance of ensuring human resources, funds and continuous commitments when implementing such capacity building initiatives.
11. The Meeting shared the importance of sharing best practices in order to choose efficient and effective policies. The Meeting also shared the view that transport statistical data are essential to grasp the current situation, to design policy measures and to evaluate their effects and, therefore, recognized the importance of international cooperation to realize

an affordable and sustainable transport statistics database in developing countries, covering various factors. In this respect, the Meeting acknowledged the necessity of further international collaboration for best practice sharing and data development.

Toward Cooperative Actions in the Transport Sector

12. The meeting shared that the post-2012 framework toward and beyond COP15 should be formulated as more easily applicable to the transport sector, and that the efforts by countries and international cooperation should be enhanced with a focus on strategy, financing and capacity building. To this end, the Meeting recognized the necessity for sharing information and exchanging views among transport officials and experts, with utilizing the existing organizations and meetings, to foster a global transport community for climate change, in particular, fostering an informal network at various levels.
13. The Meeting welcomed Italy's hosting the second Ministerial Conference in Spring 2010, and reached consensus on expecting the Conference to provide an opportunity to further deepen discussions on the issues left by the Meeting.