

Background

- The adoption of the Aichi 2030 Declaration constitutes an unprecedented regional commitment with time-bound targets toward safe, secure, reliable, affordable, efficient, people-centric, clean, and low-carbon passenger and freight transport in Asia.
- The Aichi 2030 Declaration, if fully implemented, will act as a catalyst for transformational change in the transport sector in Asia.
- The implementation of the Aichi 2030 Declaration will require enabling changes to policy, institutional frameworks, financing models, data management approaches, and the application of state-of-the-art new technologies.

Our appeal

- Given the ambition of the Aichi Declaration and the starting point of many of our countries, with the limited resources and capacities at our disposal, and only six years left for the implementation of the goals of the Aichi 2030 Declaration, speaking on behalf of the countries participating in the EST Initiative, we cannot accomplish these laudable but ambitious goals of the Aichi 2030 Declaration just by ourselves.
- In line with SDG 17 on a Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Goals, we appeal to our international partners - international organisations, multi- and bilateral development banks as well as international NGOs and foundations, academic and the private sectors - to support us towards achieving the Aichi 2030 Declaration, and with it, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement,

Strengthening the provision of financial support in line with the Aichi 2030 Declaration (1)

We acknowledge that our appeal for greater international financial assistance needs to be paired with a greater mobilisation of domestic financing. In addition, we will need to ensure the availability of supportive legal and institutional frameworks and strong institutions.

We encourage our international development partners:

- To better align and increase their financial assistance with the goals of the Aichi 2030 Declaration to help expand transport infrastructure and services more sustainably and thereby facilitate the full implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and other global and regional agreements on sustainable development, climate change and bio- diversity preservation and ecosystem restoration.
- Take account of the need that all countries, including the least developing, landlocked countries, and small-Island countries, are in need of financial assistance for the development of their transport systems.

Strengthening the provision of financial support in line with the Aichi 2030 Declaration (2)

We encourage our international development partners: continued

- To work with the countries participating in the EST Initiative to develop and implement innovative financing
 approaches which can scale up the impact of financial assistance from development agencies.
- To develop so-called blended financing models that will accelerate the inflow of private sector funding, including from institutional investors, especially in sustainable transport infrastructure and investments
- To expand international climate finance in line with international commitments and ensure that a fair share of international climate finance is allocated to the transport sector in Asia and the Pacific
- To work with countries participating in the EST Initiative countries in the definition and use of suitable Environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investing indicators to define and demonstrate the sustainability of infrastructure investments
- To assist countries participating in the EST Initiative in the collection of robust data so that we can appreciate efforts and identify outstanding gaps

•To coordinate well in the planning and delivery of transport-related capacity building and policy development support.

Strengthening capacity building and policy support in line with the Aichi 2030 Declaration

We understand that communicating our needs for capacity-building and policy support more proactively can help our development partners to gear their support accordingly.

We encourage our international partners:

- To substantially scale up their activities in capacity building and policy support in support of the Aichi 2030 Declaration Goals.
- To strive towards a better geographical balance among countries in the provision of transport-related capacity building and policy development support.
- To ensure that all Goals of the Aichi 2030 Declaration are fully supported through the provision of transport-related capacity building and policy development support.
- To coordinate well in the planning and delivery of transport-related capacity building and policy development support.
- To ensure that inclusion and equity are incorporated into our ambitious development of the transport sector.

Conclusion

- In order to achieve the Aichi 2030 Declaration, national action and international support in finance, capacity building, and policy development needs to be aligned; substantial support for the development of the sector as well as for its sustainability must be balanced and combined; national circumstances and commitments need to be reflected adequately.
- Many of our international partners have had a long-standing commitment to the region, and we are looking forward to strengthening the collaboration. We also hope for the community of international supporters to grow.
- We believe that by joining our efforts, we can achieve the Goals of the Aichi 2030 Declaration, and along with them, the Sustainable Development Goals' and the Paris Agreement's transportation-related ambitions.
- We call on UNCRD, acting as the Secretariat of the EST Initiative, to follow up on this call for Greater international support to the implementation of the Aichi 2030 Declaration and report on this in coming EST Forums