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Note to the Secretary-General

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE
OF THE SECRETARY-GENERALHigh-level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport

At the request of several members of the High-level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport who were here in New York to attend your Climate Summit, I convened an informal meeting of the Advisory Group on 24 September, to exchange views on priority areas of work, work plans and methods of work of the Advisory Group. The Meeting was attended by five members:

1. Ms. Carolina Toha, Mayor of Santiago, Chile (Co-Chair)
2. Ms. Maty Mint Hamady, Mayor of Nouakchott, Mauritania;
3. Mr. Jean Pierre Loubinoux, Director General of the International Union of Railways;
4. Mr. Len Roueche, CEO of Interferry; and,
5. Mr. Patrick Ho, Secretary-General of China Energy Fund Committee.

In addition, 11 sherpas were in attendance, representing 7 members of the Advisory Group who were unable to travel to New York in person due to schedule conflicts.

Members applauded the Secretary-General for your initiatives on climate change and sustainable transport. They conveyed deep appreciation for their appointment to the Advisory Group. Initial reflections on priorities, work plans and methods of work of the Advisory Group were discussed (see summary note attached, along with the press release on the membership of the Group). It was felt that the first formal meeting should be held during the period 10-18 November 2014, at United Nations Headquarters in New York, with the specific date and time to be determined after we have consulted your calendar. Members look forward to your personal participation at the first formal meeting of the Advisory Group.

I personally share the wish of the Advisory Group that the Secretary-General attends this crucial inaugural meeting in person, to share your vision and to hear the perspectives of members on the work ahead.

If you approve, my office will liaise with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General on a date/time/venue convenient to your schedule. The Department will also prepare a draft of your remarks as well as a scenario of your participation once details are confirmed.



WU Hongbo
25 September 2014

cc: Deputy Secretary-General

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8 August 2014



Secretary-General

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SECRETARY-GENERAL APPOINTS 12 MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT, CIVIL SOCIETY, PRIVATE

SECTOR TO HIGH-LEVEL ADVISORY GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today announced the membership of a High-level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport to provide recommendations on sustainable transport actionable at global, national, local and sector levels.

The Advisory Group, established for a period of three years, will work with Governments, transport providers (aviation, marine, ferry, rail, road, and urban public transport), businesses, financial institutions, civil society and other stakeholders, to promote sustainable transport systems and their integration into development strategies and policies, including in climate action.

This initiative represents one more step by the Secretary-General in advancing climate action and in implementing his Five-Year Action Agenda in which the Secretary-General pledged to forge consensus around a post-2015 sustainable development agenda and implement it. As an integral part of this course of action, the Secretary-General has been mobilizing the United Nations system to support global, regional and national strategies to address the building blocks of sustainable development, including sustainable transport. The establishment of the Advisory Group is also a concrete response to the call by stakeholders across a broad array of fields for a more strategic approach to transport- and infrastructure-related issues.

The Secretary-General has appointed Olof Persson, Chief Executive Officer of the Volvo Group and Carolina Tohá, Mayor of Santiago, Chile, as Co-Chairs of the Advisory Group. The full list of Panel members is available below.

"I look forward to working together with you to help fight poverty and climate change and contribute to future sustainable development goals by advancing sustainable transport across the world," said the Secretary-General in his letter to the members of the Advisory Group.

The aim of the Advisory Group is to promote accelerated implementation of sustainable transport, aligned closely with the objectives of inclusive and equitable growth, social development, protection of the global environment and ecosystems, and addressing climate change.

To accomplish this, the Advisory Group will provide a global message and recommendations on sustainable transport, including on innovative policy and multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable transport; launch a "Global Transport Outlook Report" by 2015 to provide analytical support for these recommendations; and help mobilize action and initiatives in support of sustainable transport among key actors, including Member States, development finance institutions, bilateral development partners, transport providers, urban authorities and land-use planners. The Advisory Group will also seek to promote the integration of sustainable transport in relevant intergovernmental processes, including making recommendations on the formulation and implementation of the post-2015 development agenda.

The Group will hold its first meeting in the fall of this year and is expected to submit a progress report to the Secretary-General in the second half of 2015. In its work streams, the Group will be expected to address new development challenges in climate change, transport, infrastructure, and poverty eradication, while also drawing on intergovernmental guidance from the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, contributions of the United Nations system and inputs from major groups and

other stakeholders.

Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport

Olof Persson (Sweden), Chief Executive Officer of the Volvo Group, Co-Chair

Olof Persson was appointed President of AB Volvo and Chief Executive Officer of the Volvo Group as of 1 September 2011 and became a member of the Volvo Board from the same date. He held a number of executive positions at Adtranz, Daimler-Chrysler and Bombardier Transportation. In 2006, he joined the Volvo Group as President and CEO of Volvo Aero Corporation. He took up the position of President and CEO at Volvo Construction Equipment in November 2008.

Carolina Tohá (Chile), Mayor of Santiago, Chile, Co-Chair

Carolina Tohá was elected Mayor of Santiago in October 2012. She was elected Deputy for the Congressional District of Santiago in December of 2001, and became a member of the Standing Committees of Economy, Education, Culture, Sports and Recreation; Finance, Government of the Interior, as well as of the Special Youth Committee. Re-elected Deputy in 2005, Ms. Tohá served on several committees, including the Standing Committee of Education and the Special Inequality and Poverty Committee. In 2009, President Michelle Bachelet nominated her Minister Secretary-General of Government.

Frank Appel (Germany)

Frank Appel serves as Chief Executive Officer of Deutsche Post DHL. Prior to joining Deutsche Post DHL, he began working with McKinsey & Co as a consultant in 1993, becoming a partner in 1999. He joined the Group in 2000 as Managing Director of Corporate Development and became a member of the Board of Management in 2002, holding various positions before being appointed as CEO in 2008.

Milica Bajic-Brkovic (Serbia)

Milica Bajic-Brkovic is currently President of the International Society of City and Regional Planners. She has dedicated her professional life to the built environment and has extensive professional experience as a university educator, researcher, university executive, editor, planning commissioner and planning practitioner.

Morten Engelstoft (Denmark)

Morten H. Engelstoft was appointed in January 2014 CEO of Services & Other Shipping, consisting of the four businesses — Maersk Tankers, Maersk Supply Service, Svitser and Damco. At the same time, he was appointed CEO of Maersk Tankers. Mr. Engelstoft has over 25 years of extensive experience in the shipping industry, holding various positions within the Maersk Group. Prior to assuming his current position, he was Chief Operating Officer in Maersk Line.

Alain Flausch (Belgium)

Alain Flausch was selected Secretary-General of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) in September 2011 by the UITP Executive Board. He was previously Chairman of the Finance and Commerce subcommittee of the UITP Metro Committee (2001-2009); a member of the UITP Executive and Policy Boards (2004-2009); an Executive Member of the UITP International Metro Committee (2001-2009); a member of the Transport Management Committee; and Chairman of the Design and Culture Platform.

Maty Mint Hemady (Mauritania)

Maty Mint Hamady began her career in 1991 as a manager in the finance department of the city of Nouakchott. In 1999, she became an auditor of the Court of Auditors. From 2007, she became a member of the Monetary Policy Council of the Central Bank of Mauritania. From January to August 2009, she served as Deputy Director of SONIMEX. She was appointed Minister for Public Services and Administration Modernization in March 2011. She has been the mayor of Nouakchott since 2014.

Patrick Ho (Hong Kong, China)

Ho Chi Ping Patrick is the Deputy Chairman and Secretary-General of China Energy Fund Committee, a non-governmental organization with special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council. Under his leadership, the China Energy Fund Committee conducts energy-related research, prepares periodical publications, and organizes international energy conferences and forums to address issues related to energy and sustainability. He served as Secretary for Home Affairs of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government from 2002 to 2007.

Victor Kiryanov (Russian Federation)

Victor Kiryanov is Deputy Minister of Interior of the Russian Federation. After serving in the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union, he joined the State Traffic Inspectorate and served first as Deputy Head, and then Head of the State Traffic Police Inspectorate. In his current role as Deputy Minister, as well as Colonel General of Police, he is responsible for transport safety. He also holds the post of the President of the Russian Automobile Federation.

Jean Pierre Loubinoux (France)

Jean-Pierre Loubinoux was appointed Director-General of the International Union of Railways, the worldwide association representing the rail sector and encompassing 240 railways across all the continents. His mandate was renewed in June 2010 and is set to run until December 2015. He joined French railways SNCF in 1978, where he held various managerial positions. He was appointed Chief Executive of SNCF Freight International (2001). From 2001 to 2009 he served as Chairman and CEO of SNCF International and SNCF Director of International Development.

Tanya Müller García (Mexico)

As Secretary of Environment of Mexico City, Tanya Müller García has played an essential role in the environmental public policy of Mexico City. She has strengthened intermodal transportation and fostered bicycle mobility programmes in an effort to contribute to the sustainable development of Mexico City. She is also founder and Vice-President of the World Green Infrastructure Network, a worldwide association that promotes green infrastructure around the world.

Len Roueche (Canada)

Len Roueche is the Chief Executive Officer of Interferry, a shipping association representing the world-wide ferry industry. Interferry has 239 member companies representing almost 600 individuals from 38 countries. Prior to joining Interferry, Mr. Roueche was with BC Ferries for 25 years where he was responsible for strategic planning.

For further information, contact Nikhil Seth, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, tel.: 212 963 1811; e-mail: seth@un.org. For details about the post-2015 process, visit: <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>.

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For information media • not an official record

Secretary-General's High-level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport

Summary notes of the Informal Meeting

New York, 24 September 2014

Background

In response to the suggestions of several members of the Advisory Group who were scheduled to be at UN Headquarters in New York for the Secretary-General's Climate Summit on 23 September 2014, an informal meeting of the Advisory Group was convened on 24 September 2014, attended also by a number of Sherpas representing the members who were unable to attend the Climate Summit.

The list of members and sherpas present at the meeting is attached as an annex to this note.

The meeting was chaired by Under-Secretary-General Wu Hongbo, representing the Secretary-General as ex-officio member of the Group. Members/sherpas heard a background briefing by Nikhil Seth, Executive Secretary of the Advisory Group, on challenges relating to sustainable transport, results of recent intergovernmental deliberations (Rio+20 and the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals), and the initiatives of the Secretary-General on climate change and on sustainable transport, as contained in his Five-Year Action agenda.

While no agenda was circulated at the meeting, members/sherpas were invited to share views and perspectives on priority areas of work, work plans and methods of work of the Advisory Group, as well as a possible roadmap for deliverables for its three-year term.

The meeting also discussed issues relating to the Trust Fund in support of the activities of the Advisory Group, the dates and the agenda of the first formal meeting of the Advisory Group.

Priorities and Scope of Work

Members/sherpas expressed deep appreciation to the Secretary-General for appointing them/their Principals to the Advisory Group. They exchanged views on the priority areas and scope of work for the Advisory Group, highlighting the social dimension of transport, especially the inequality aspect, and its impact on economy, productivity and the daily lives of people. Urbanization figures prominently in meeting the growing challenges of transport, and the example of Nouakchott was cited illustrating the scale and magnitude of the challenges ahead and the urgent need for a new urban policy, new urbanization and in that context sustainable transport.

The importance of railways in meeting the transport challenge was stressed, along with its contributions to economy and climate action. The development and livelihood dimensions of ferry, as well as its safety challenges, especially in developing countries, were underscored.

Members/sherpas agreed that given its broad social, economic and environmental dimensions, its increasing share of CO2 emissions, and the importance of intermodal transport, transport must be addressed through a holistic, integrated and balanced approach at the strategic level.

In this regard, it was emphasized that the role and function of transport of “tangibles”, in terms of mobility of people and transport of cargo/goods, should be considered together with the role and function of transport of “intangibles”, such as services, information, capital, etc. The idea is to tap into information and service technologies to reduce the requirements and impacts of transport. This will help avoid taking trips, shift transport modes to cleaner and environmentally friendly ones and improve the efficiency and environmental performance of transport.

In this regard, members/sherpas highlighted the contributions of public transport and the ambitious targets announced at the Climate Summit, along with announcements of commitments by the railway sector, urban electric mobility and aviation.

There was a convergence of views that transport has a huge impact on environment, climate, economy and society. Few other economic sectors have as strong a human dimension as transport. The Advisory Group should keep an open mind and be ready to work at several levels and across sectors, engaging multi-stakeholders.

To achieve sustainable transport, the society needs nothing less than a real paradigm shift, committed to changing unsustainable consumption patterns and consumer culture and behavior.

Members further recognized the value of the diversity of the Group’s membership, with constituting members from the public and private sectors, governments and local authorities, civil society, as well as representatives from different modes of transportation. This unique combination also brings together different expertise, knowledge and experience, which enables sharing of ideas, outreach and engagement with a wide network of actors at international, national and local levels.

Members/sherpas also cautioned that this advantage could turn into weakness if members push for their respective interests, work in silo and are unable to adopt an integrated and holistic approach to tackle the transport challenge.

Work Plans

Members believe that the Advisory Group should look ahead at its three-year term and develop a roadmap, including time lines and its expected deliverables.

The Group should strive to complement and build upon existing initiatives and avoid duplication of efforts, focusing on promoting dialogue, developing actionable recommendations and realistic policy proposals which recognize financial viability of transport systems, good practice and the need for public policy and private action to go hand in hand to achieve sustainable development solutions in both the near and longer-terms.

Recognizing the multiple actors engaged in transport and mobility decisions, members/sherpas noted the importance of moving beyond technical considerations to a multi-stakeholder, interdisciplinary, intermodal approach which should be reflected in its messaging and initiatives to be undertaken.

To this end, members/sherpas also noted possible areas of engagement for the Advisory Group, including climate goals, education, road safety, access to affordable and clean transport, rural transport, intermodal mobility, investment and finance, safety of current and future transport systems.

Members/sherpas further underscored the importance of encouraging innovation and using intelligent and smart technologies. A proposal was made to support innovation through the creation of a special initiative or fund, recognizing the current gap in funding and education for innovation in the transport sector.

Methods of Work

The Secretary-General appointed Co-Chairs of Advisory Group, Ms. Carolina Toha, Mayor of Santiago, Chile, and Mr. Olof Persson, Chief Executive Officer of the Volvo Group.

The Advisory-Group will be supported by a secretariat, led by Nikhil Seth, Executive Secretary and Director of the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs. The United Nations system, as well as members of the Advisory Group itself, will be encouraged to second staff to the secretariat, on a non-reimbursable loan basis.

An inter-agency Technical Advisory Group at the working level will be established to help support the work of the High-level Advisory Group. The Technical Advisory Group will be open to participation and contributions from transport experts and groups outside the United Nations system.

A voluntary Trust Fund will be established to support the work of the Advisory Group, including facilitating participation of Advisory Group members from developing countries. The Secretary-General will approach Member States to seek contributions, as well as solicit contributions from the Advisory Group membership itself.

First Formal Meeting:

Based on discussions at the first informal meeting, the Secretariat will prepare a non-draft proposed agenda and roadmap for consideration by the Advisory Group at its first formal meeting.

The first formal meeting will be convened during the month of November 2014 (10-18 November 2014, pending confirmation of availability of the Secretary-General to attend). The Meeting is expected to last 3 - 4 hours and to take place in New York, at United Nations Headquarters.

It was felt imperative that the first meeting be a face-to-face meeting among members. In future meetings, ways to facilitate participation through electronic means, such as video-conferencing, would be explored.

Annex: List of Attendees

Members

- Ms. Carolina Tohá
- Ms. Maty Mint Hamady
- Mr. Jean-Pierre Loubinoux
- Mr. Patrick Ho
- Mr. Len Roueche

Sherpas

- Mr. Mohamed Barrada
- Mr. Claudio Garrido,
- Mr. Jorge A. Iglesias
- Mr. Niklas Gustavsson
- Mr. Andreas Svenungsson
- Mr. Gunnar Heipp
- Mr. Philip Turner
- Ms. Marie Plaud,
- Mr. Nick Craven
- Mr. Roger A. Libby
- Ms. Ya Zhang

Secretariat

- Mr. WU Hongbo
- Ms. Lin Yang
- Mr. Nikhil Seth
- Mr. Ivan Koulov
- Mr. Juwang Zhu
- Mr. Reza Salamat
- Ms. Birgitte Alvarez-Rivero
- Ms. Julie Ritz
- Ms. Simona Maria Chindea