

**Suggested Remarks for  
H.E. Dato Abdul Mutalib Yusof  
Minister of Transport and Infocommunications, Brunei Darussalam**

**During**

**Ministers’ Forum: “Sustainable transport, poverty eradication and economic recovery” - exchange of views and sharing of national experiences**

**Day 2, 15 October 2021, Friday**

**Time: 8.00pm – 9.30pm**

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Thank you Your Excellencies Co-Chairs,  
Minister Li Xiaopeng and Mr. Liu Zhenmin,

Your Excellencies,

It is indeed a privilege to be part of today’s Ministers’ Forum at this Second (2<sup>nd</sup>) United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference. I would like to thank the Government of the People’s Republic of China and especially Minister Li Xiaopeng for inviting me to participate at this Ministerial conference.

2. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has been far-reaching and Brunei Darussalam is no exception. The pandemic has affected transport systems, logistics, supply chains and economies in general in unprecedented ways. I believe our conference today comes at the right time for us here to share experiences, exchanging thoughts and ideas on how to address issues and challenges during this global pandemic and beyond.

3. For Brunei Darussalam, a key component to our sustainable transport aspirations is the progressive enhancement of road safety. In December 2020, the Brunei Darussalam Road Safety Strategic Plan 2025 was launched with a vision to achieve zero road accident fatalities by 2025. The plan contains a comprehensive list of strategies and initiatives, including to apply relevant enabling technologies in addressing road safety issues. This strengthens our

commitment in line with the Brunei Declaration on Road Safety 2020, just recently adopted by the ASEAN Transport Ministers in late 2020 last year.

Your Excellencies,

4. Another key priority for Brunei Darussalam is to restructure our current national public transport system. There is a high proportion of private motorised vehicles on our roads, due to its convenience. There is however, a certain small group of the population particularly in some remote areas that may have limited access to connectivity both in communication as well as transportation.

5. Hence one of our objectives is to strive to make public transport inclusive, accessible and affordable for our people through, amongst

other initiatives, the application of an Intelligent Transport System (ITS).

6. Further to this, innovation, research and development plays a key role in supporting our smart city and smart nation aspirations. Through the Council for Research and Advancement in Technology and Science (CREATES), we aim to explore the use of technologies such as Computer Vision and AI that lends itself towards the management of a smart city.

7. This would include, amongst others, transport management, allowing us to understand further insights into emerging trends and patterns that serve as a major input towards the formulation of our national transport policies. Amongst some of the national policies being currently addressed include initiatives to reduce our

carbon footprint and promoting the use of multimodal transportation.

Your Excellencies,

8. In time with Brunei Darussalam's chairmanship of ASEAN in 2021 this year, I wish to reiterate Brunei Darussalam's theme for her Chairmanship: "We Care, We Prepare, We Prosper". It is through caring for the people and preparing for future opportunities and challenges that we can prosper. We believe this is key not just for sustainable transport, but also for achieving sustainable development, to ensure that "no one is left behind".

Thank you.