

Keynote Speech
by
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Transport of the Kingdom of Cambodia**
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H.E. Li Xiaopeng, Minister of Transport of the People's Republic of China
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honored to be invited to deliver remarks virtually on this auspicious occasion of the 2nd UN Global Sustainable Transport Conference held in Beijing, China. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Transport of the People's Republic of China for the invitation. I also wish to congratulate the United Nations and the People's Republic of China for successfully organizing and hosting this global conference in a hybrid format.

The theme of the Conference **“Sustainable Transport, Sustainable Development”** reminds us of our commitments made under Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Paris Agreement on Climate Change. Our development policies, in general, and infrastructure and transport, in particular should incorporate the SDGs and Paris Agreement on Climate Change to ensure our policies and action plans improve the standard of living of our people and at the same time protect the environment that is vital to our existence.

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The transport sector plays a significant role in promoting economic development, reducing poverty, and increasing mobility in the country. In this connection, the priorities of Cambodia's infrastructure and transport policies include (1) the rehabilitation of the transport sector and its multimodal networks to improve access and connectivity domestically and internationally, (2) the development of vibrant logistics system to enhance competitiveness and economic diversification, and (3) the focus on policies to create jobs and reduce poverty through rural road connectivity while also protecting the environment and improving road safety.

In spite of the Covid-19 pandemic, Cambodia has kept its momentum in carrying out its works to develop various infrastructure projects that could benefit the country's socio-economic development post Covid-19. Ten major road projects are currently under construction without any delays. These projects would not have been developed without the support of development partners such as China, Korea, Japan, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, other development partners, and the private sector. In addition, with our

national budget, thirty-four roads in our deep seaport and coastal tourism town have just been enlarged and rehabilitated; thirty-eight roads in Siemreap, the home of Angkor Wat, are also being enlarged and improved in preparation of welcoming tourists when the country reopens in the near future.

To facilitate trade and enhance the competitiveness of the country, we have prepared a Master Plan on Logistics and Intermodal Transport Connectivity to submit to the cabinet for approval. The Master Plan calls for the implementation of over 300 projects which costs a total over 40 billion US Dollars. To this point, we are seeking the support of our development partners to provide funding and investment to implement these projects.

**Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen**

Road accidents are still one of the main causes of death in Cambodia. Enforcement of road traffic laws is critical in reducing these road accidents. In this regard, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport and the Ministry of Interior have developed a mobile app for law enforcement officers to deduct points and penalize traffic violators. Additionally, weigh-in-motion, AI cameras, and speeding cameras have been installed on some National Roads with more frequent road accidents.

Air pollution and traffic congestions are also of concern to our government as the number of motor vehicles continue to grow everyday. In response to this, we have adopted the Euro 4 standard to reduce carbon dioxide emission and have begun phasing out the imports of older, less energy efficient vehicles built before 2004.

Our government also has commissioned the feasibility studies of various mass transit systems to be implemented in the capital city of Phnom Penh.

**Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,**

I wish to inform you that Cambodia has vaccinated 84% of our population and is ready to welcome tourists and investors back to the country. On behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I wish to take this opportunity to extend our deep gratitude to all friends and partners, especially the People's Republic of China for their generous support in providing the vaccines in a timely manner which allowed us to fully vaccinated 84% of our population.

In closing, I would like to wish Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen and all of the participants good health and the conference a complete success.

Thank you for your attention.