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- **Minister Li,**
- **Esteemed colleagues,**
- Ensuring **climate-friendly, smart and affordable** mobility is Germany's **key priority for the future.**
- We have committed to combating climate change at national and international level.
- Germany aims to be greenhouse gas-neutral by 2045.

- Our guiding principle is that investments to combat climate change are investments in **growth, employment and emerging markets**.
- The Federal Cabinet adopted the **2022 Immediate Action Programme for Climate Protection** in June 2021.
- Of its over **eight-billion-euro** budget, one billion euros is earmarked for upgrades to climate-friendly transport infrastructure.
- We are pursuing specific **climate-related measures**.
- **First:** We are transitioning passenger transport and heavy road

haulage to **alternative drivetrains**.

- By 2030, zero-emission vehicles – such as battery electric and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles – will be the new normal.
- **Second:** We are strengthening climate-friendly **shipping**.
- We shift carriage of abnormal loads from roads to waterways, promote zero-emission vessels and develop green propulsion technologies.

- We expressly support the International Maritime Organization's **initial strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.**
- **Third:** We are championing **rail** – for both passenger and freight services.
- In Germany, we initiated the Rail Freight Masterplan, among other instruments.
- But this is not only a national matter, since **many transport operations are international.**

- Only **through effective cooperation across state and continental borders** can we modernize rail freight and shift more traffic to rail.
- We are making significant steps forward in passenger services as well, as demonstrated by the Trans Europe Express 2.0.
- Our goal is to improve rail travel throughout Europe.
- **Fourth:** We continue to upgrade **cycling infrastructure** and focus on innovative projects to make urban cycling safer.

- **Fifth: Air transport** must also become more sustainable: Our goal is to make flying carbon-neutral and green.
- We can already limit emissions from air transport using sustainable alternative fuels and market-based measures.
- Additionally, unmanned aviation systems have the potential to significantly contribute to green and sustainable air transport.
- One thing is certain:
- To put in place **sustainable climate change mitigation solutions** –

and to address the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic – we need **coordinated action** at European and international levels.

- Therefore, we welcome the **measures presented by the European Commission**, especially those in response to the pandemic and climate change, targeting economic recovery and the new **Global Gateway initiative**.
- Europe will take a **value-based approach to** strengthen the links to its partners – **without creating dependencies**.

- **Transparency and good governance** ensure that better links contribute to **healthy growth and prosperity** and thus **help combat poverty**.
- We can only meet the challenges of the future **by working together**.
- Thank you very much and greetings from Germany!