

Excellencies, dear colleagues, friends,

- 'Panta rhei': everything flows.
- This ancient Greek saying could not be more current.
- Connectivity is the very basis for our global society.
- It plays a key role in our post-covid recovery.
- Transport is a vital factor in and for our everyday lives and our economies.
- Nevertheless, the pandemic has also given us a unique momentum to 'build back better'. To ensure that in our recovery efforts we focus on a sustainable pathway for transport.
- With still over 20 per cent of the world's emissions caused by human beings stemming from the transport sectors, we urgently need to innovate in order to have a future of green and smart mobility.
- That's why The Netherlands has embraced the European Green Deal and the Commission's proposals in the Fit for 55 package.

In addition to what our Prime Minister Mark Rutte said earlier today:

- The Netherlands is urging the industry to speed up the development, production and distribution of zero emission vehicles, including vans and trucks.
- To this end, my Prime Minister called earlier on each single minister of Transport in this room today, to stand up and join us in our ambition to phase out all new sales of the Internal Combustion Engine by 2040.
- You can do so by joining our Global Memorandum of Understanding on zero emission Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicles (which are vans and trucks).
- By joining the COP26 declaration on accelerating the transition to 100% zero emission cars and vans, led by the UK.
- And thirdly by joining the supporting call for action on charging infrastructure.
- These initiatives will be presented at COP26 on Transport Day. That's on the 10th of November.

Dear colleagues,

- We share our precious planet.
- So we have to take care of her together.
- One cannot solitary achieve climate goals. We have to share knowledge, skills, expertise.
- We have to take action with joined forces.
- Building back better. Together, for a sustainable future.

- At COP26 in Glasgow, our Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management is organizing a number of events on sustainable mobility.
- We hope to meet each other there and further the transition to a sustainable transport sector.
- Because a sustainable transport sector will be a giant leap towards a healthy planet.

- Thank you!