







### **Sustainable Transport Day at the SDG Pavilion 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference** 19 November 2025, Baku, Azerbaijan

### **Effective Transport Strategies for Boosting the Nationally Determined Contributions Concept Note**

#### Introduction

Without more ambitious and effective policy interventions, transport carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions will continue to increase by 2050 globally. The inclusion of transport action in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) varies by country and many NDCs do not adequately reflect existing or potential decarbonizing transport measures or targets. In addition, although many countries already have national transport and climate change plans, many of them have not been able to develop and implement their low or zero carbon transport targets and timelines according to their NDCs to achieve the 1.5°C development pathway set out in the Paris Agreement. Hence, it is essential that governments work to both set out Paris-aligned targets, measures and timelines for decarbonizing transport in their NDCs, as well as working to implement current decarbonization strategies and roadmaps, which, together with existing international frameworks and strategies, will help transform countries' transport and climate change commitments to action. This will then guide the transition in an efficient and inclusive manner. This is especially critical as current transport measures included in the NDCs are insufficient to deliver on the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Setting out specific, sectoral actions within NDCs can also make NDCs investible. Supporting governments with securing the financing and funding that they need to deliver on their domestic ambitions. Transitioning to low carbon transport requires substantial funding and the disparity in infrastructure needs within and across regions underscores the diverse economic impacts of efforts to decarbonize transport and necessitates tailored strategies. To address these challenges, a diversified funding strategy combining public and private sources is crucial. Blended finance, green bonds, and public private partnerships can attract diverse investors,









while innovative financial products tap into new capital sources. Setting this out in NDCs can support implementation.

The design of transport infrastructure, networks and systems should also be consistent with low carbon transitions and resilient to increasing climate pressure at the same time. Although they will be affected by the physical impact of climate change, they play an essential role in building resilience to those disruptions and will help reduce direct losses and costs of climate change. In addition, existing research has shown that gender inclusive and diversity strategies have led to more sustainable decision making, as women play a critical role as agents of change capable of transforming societies and economies due to the preference to make more sustainable decisions. Hence, transport climate action will be more effective and more equitable when using a gender-informed approach, which will also contribute to a just transition.

A coordinated approach to low-carbon transport is essential to drive meaningful transitions across regions. Through policy dialogues, capacity-building and knowledge-sharing initiatives, countries can better adapt these solutions to their specific regional and national contexts, enhancing both the effectiveness and inclusivity of decarbonization efforts.

Following the recently released policy brief "State of Play of Transport Targets in Nationally Determined Contributions and Beyond in Asia and the Pacific" developed by ESCAP and the SLOCAT Partnership, this event will focus on the closing of policy, technical, institutional and financial gaps in the transition to low or zero carbon transport. It will also showcase effective ways to develop and implement low carbon and resilient transport strategies, policies or roadmaps, while determining specific transport carbon emission reduction targets and implementation timelines.

#### **Objective**

The objective of this event is to identify effective ways to develop and implement low carbon and resilient transport action plans that will accelerate climate action building upon the third cycle of the revision of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs 3.0). NDCs 3.0 need to be progressive and more ambitious than current NDCs and may be the last opportunity to put the world on track with a global emission trajectory in line with the Paris Agreement's









1.5°C goal. Governments, international organizations and other stakeholder groups will be invited to share their challenges, as well as effective transport action plans that have already been integrated or will be integrated into their NDCs.

#### **Guiding Questions:**

- 1. How should countries ensure transport decarbonisation and resilience strategies are reflected in the next round of the NDC revision cycle?
- 2. What are some effective ways to ensure that transport measures included in NDCs are investible, for example through the identification of innovative financial mechanisms or through effective coordination in implementation across different stakeholder groups? In closing the financial gaps in developing or implementing transport strategies that are already included in the NDCs?
- 3. How can regional or global cooperation support the development and implementation of progressive and more ambitious NDCs 3.0 on transport?
- 4. What can the United Nations and other development partners do to support Member States in their efforts?









#### **Programme (12:00 - 13:00)**

#### 12:00 - 12:25 **Opening Session**

Moderator: **Mr. Dmitry Mariyasin**, Deputy Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

## **High-Level Policy Dialogue on Integrating Ambitious Transport Targets and Actions into NDC 3.0**

#### **Guiding questions:**

- 1. How is your country planning to integrate more ambitious transport targets and actions into the next round of the NDCs?
- 2. How can we work together to ensure ambitions are implemented?

#### Speakers:

- **H.E. Ro Filipe Qaraniqio Tuisawau**, Minister, Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport, Fiji
- **H.E. Ms. Agné Vaiciukevičiūtė**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Lithuania
- **H.E. Mr. Patrick André**, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Seychelles

#### 12:25 - 12:55

# Panel Discussion on Strengthening NDCs Through Transport Strategies

Moderator: Ms. Wei-Shiuen Ng, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

#### Speakers:

- **Mr. George Tavo**, Deputy Secretary of Operations, Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport, Fiji
- **Mr. Jason Hill**, Division Chief Africa, Europe, and Middle East Affairs, Department of Transportation, USA
- Ms. Alice Yiu, Director, Policy Outreach and Strategic Communications, SLOCAT
- Ms. Olivia Wessendorff, Advisor on Sustainable Transport and Global Outreach, Secretary-General's Office, International Transport Forum at the OECD

#### **Closing Remarks**

#### 12:55 - 13:00