

Paris, Copenhagen, 14 December 2009

ITF Brings Transport to the Climate Table in Copenhagen

The International Transport Forum brings together key climate and transport decision-makers, activists and experts to discuss cost-effective GHG emission reductions

The International Transport Forum (ITF), the global voice for transport, will be putting the focus on cost-effective greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction from transport at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen. It will host the official UNFCCC side-event “**Major Transport Emission Reductions: What is Possible? At What Cost?**” on 15 December from 10:45 to 12:15 in the Niels Bohr room of the Bella Centre. **Rajendra Pachauri**, Director General of the Energy and Resources Institute and Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and **Bianca Jagger**, Founder and Chair of the Bianca Jagger Human Rights Foundation and Council of Europe Goodwill Ambassador, have been invited to give the keynote speeches.

Concentrating on cost-effective policy options to substantially reduce transport emissions, an expert panel of high-level speakers from the automotive industry, the UN bodies responsible for international aviation and maritime transport, the International Energy Agency and the transportation research community will investigate how, how much and at what cost the transport sector can contribute to ambitious GHG targets.

“There are low-cost opportunities for GHG emission reductions in transport and a surprising number of them can actually save money by reducing fuel expenditures” according to **Jack Short**, Secretary General of the ITF “yet there are very real barriers that prevent these win-win strategies from being implemented – there is a clear role for pro-active policies including standard-setting and carbon-trading in overcoming them”.

“It doesn’t make sense to pay more for GHG reduction when other lower-cost alternatives exist unless there are clear and compelling reasons to do so” cautions Mr. Short “Even within transport, we see political attention focused on high-cost solutions when lower-cost strategies remain unexploited.”

“Climate change is no longer just an environmental issue: it touches every part of our lives: peace, security, human rights, poverty, hunger, health, mass migration and economics” believes Bianca Jagger, “All sectors will have to contribute to a lasting solution – this means that transport will have to significantly de-carbonise itself.”

The side-event will build on a preliminary set of key messages emerging from an ITF working group investigating transport GHG emission reductions. Other key work in this area by the ITF and its partners, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Energy Agency and the FIA Foundation calls for a 50% improvement in the fuel economy of cars globally by 2050 (www.50by50campaign.org).

The Side-event programme is as follows:

Opening welcome by **Jack Short**, Secretary General of the International Transport Forum

Keynote Address by **Rajendra Pachauri**, Director General, Energy and Resources Institute and Chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Keynote Address by **Bianca Jagger**, Founder and Chair of Bianca Jagger Human Rights Foundation, Council of Europe Goodwill Ambassador

Context-setting presentations by:

- **Low Fulton**, Senior Transport and Energy Specialist, International Energy Agency
- **Philippe Crist**, Administrator, International Transport Forum

Panel discussion with:

- **Ziad Dagher**, VP Transport and Environment, Division of Public Affairs, Renault
- **Jane Hupe**, Chief, Environmental Programs, International Civil Aviation Organization
- **Miguel Palomares**, Director, Marine Environment Division, International Maritime Organization
- **Dan Sperling**, Professor and Director of the Institute for Transportation Studies at University of California, Davis

A video of the event will be made available from the UNFCCC and ITF website shortly after the event has taken place.

For more information, see: <http://www.internationaltransportforum.org/Proceedings/COP15/index.html>

About the International Transport Forum (ITF)

The International Transport Forum is the leading global platform and meeting place for transport, logistics and mobility. It attracts key figures from government and politics, business and industry, research and civil society, who come together every year in Leipzig, Germany, to discuss a transport topic of worldwide strategic importance. The involvement of more than 50 Ministers of Transport offers many direct links to policy-making and business at both national and international levels. The 2010 Forum, on 26-28 May 2010, will focus on Transport and Innovation: Unleashing the Potential.

Contact Information:

Aline PLEZ | Suzanne PARANDIAN
International Transport Forum

Postal address: OECD/ITF, 2 rue André Pascal, F-75775 Paris Cedex 16

Offices: 5th floor, 2-4 rue Louis David, 75016 Paris, France

Tel + 33(0)1 45 24 94 35 - Fax. + 33(0)1 45 24 13 22

aline.plez@oecd.org | suzanne.parandian@oecd.org

www.internationaltransportforum.org