Chile joins International Transport Forum
First member of intergovernmental transport-policy body from South America

Chile has become the first South American country to join the International Transport Forum, an intergovernmental transport-policy body housed at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The accession of Chile was agreed by member country Ministers on 3 May at their Annual Summit held in Leipzig, Germany. Chile is the 54th member state of the Forum. In November of last year, China had joined as 53rd member.

Chile’s Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, Mr. Pedro Pablo Errázuriz Domínguez, expressed his satisfaction at the decision:

"The accession of Chile to the International Transport Forum is a very clear and strong signal of the relevance and stability of this industry in our country," said Minister Errázuriz: "But it is also an acknowledgement of the commitment permanently demonstrated by those that bring this industry to life: drivers, freighters and authorities, in order to have an industry of higher quality and more professional. It is also an indication of the commitment that this Government has adopted in order to strongly promote the development of transport as a way to improve the quality of life of all Chileans through a service that guarantees greater connectivity to all."

On behalf of the 2012 Presidency of the Forum, Japan’s Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, Mr Takeshi Maeda, welcomed Chile to the Forum:

“I am delighted that Chile is now a member state of the International Transport Forum. Chile is the Forum’s first South American member and its accession strengthens and underlines the International Transport Forum’s role as a global platform for advancing transport policy."

The International Transport Forum acts as a strategic think tank for transport policy and organises an Annual Summit of ministers. Its mission is to help shape transport policy on a global level and ensure that transport policy contributes to economic growth, environmental protection, social inclusion and the preservation of human life and well-being.

For more information on the 2012 Summit and the International Transport Forum please visit the www.internationaltransportforum.org/2012. A live webcast is available online.

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