

Summary Assessment

Committee on Transport Seventh session 23-25 November 2022

I. Introduction

The seventh session of the Committee on Transport took place at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 23 to 25 November 2022. The Committee session was held in a hybrid format including in-person participation and virtually via videoconference.

An online questionnaire assessing the relevance, effectiveness and quality of the meeting was conducted.¹ The main purpose of the assessment is to support the secretariat's ongoing efforts to improve its servicing of the session.

The Committee discussed matters of strategic importance to regional transport development, regional cooperation and the formulation of regional policies to advance sustainable transport development in the region in line with existing regional and global mandates such as the newly adopted Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific (2022-2026), related ESCAP resolutions and the Decade of Action for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, among others. The Committee also provided participants with a forum to exchange views and discuss policies to advance economic, environmental and social sustainability of the transport sector in the region.

II. Attendance

The seventh session of the Committee on Transport was attended by 60 per cent of all ESCAP members and associate members (37 of 62) with 5 participants at the ministerial level. In total, there were 249 registered participants, of whom 86 were female (34.53 per cent). A number of other entities, including Permanent Observers, United Nations bodies and agencies, and intergovernmental organizations, participated in the meeting. From these entities, there were 41 participants of whom 7 were female (17.07 per cent). Therefore, the total number of participants from both governments and other entities is 290 individuals and the total number of female participants is 94 (32.41 per cent).

III. Respondent's Profile

A total of 42 individual respondents from 21 members and associate members, 4 from other entities provided feedback to the questionnaire. Of these 42 respondents, 17 respondents are male, 25 are female.

¹ The rating scale is 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).

Respondent countries by subregional

SEA	SSWA
Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Iran, Türkiye
ENEA	Pacific
China, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Russian Federation	Fiji
NCA	Others
Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan	

IV. Relevance

Overall, respondents highly agreed that the agenda items reflected the present development trends and issues in the Asia-Pacific region; and that the issues discussed were useful for their government/organization. The respondents gave a slightly lower rating on discussing relevant gender issues as pertaining to the meeting objectives.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
1. The issues discussed reflected the present development trends/issues in the transport sector in the Asia-Pacific region.	Average: 4.33
2. The issues discussed were useful for my government/ organization.	Average: 4.47
3. The meeting discussed related gender issues and concepts.	Average: 3.97

V. Effectiveness

The respondents agreed that the meeting effectively highlighted regional transport development trends and issues. The meeting was effective in i) identifying priority areas and emerging issues in the region, and ii) strategic direction in moving towards the sustainable transport connectivity in the Asia-Pacific region. The meeting highly promoted dialogue on regional and subregional approaches to transport. The meeting documents and presentations were of high quality, concise and clear. Enough time was available for discussion.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
1. The meeting effectively enhanced my knowledge of the issues discussed.	Average: 4.40
2. The meeting effectively promoted regional cooperation and networking among participants.	Average: 4.42

3. The meeting effectively identified strategic direction in moving towards the sustainable transport connectivity in the Asia-Pacific region.	Average: 4.47
4. The meeting effectively promoted dialogue on regional and subregional approaches to transport.	Average: 4.36
5. Enough time was available for discussion	Average: 4.24
6. The meeting documents and presentations were of high quality, concise & clear.	Average: 4.42

VI. Efficiency

Generally, the respondents rated positively on the efficiency of the meeting, in particular, they were highly satisfied with the administrative and logistical arrangement of the meeting and the communications from ESCAP to the member States on the preparation for the meeting. They highly agreed that the meeting was organized in a timely manner and according to the programme and the duration of the meeting was appropriate.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
1. I am satisfied with the administrative and logistical arrangement of the meeting.	Average: 4.54
2. The meeting was organized in a timely manner and according to the programme.	Average: 4.66
3. The communications from ESCAP to the member States on the preparation for the meeting were effective.	Average: 4.67
4. The duration of the meeting was appropriate.	Average: 4.58

VII. Results achieved

The results achieved through this meeting indicated by respondents included:

- Investigation of Transport and sustainability concerns of the members
- I hope the meeting could help the member states to improve their cooperations in order to mitigate poverty and discrimination the region.
- As a result of this meeting, significant progress is expected in regional transport relations.
- I think that the results of the meeting have been achieved.
- Agreement/guidelines on the harmonization of national laws on multimodal transport in Asia and the Pacific
- The meeting provided information on the statuses of program geared towards further enhancing safety in the transport sector given the trend in transport accidents and incidents in the past years.
- Enhance the existing initiatives and / or measures to meet the call of the times.
- Knowledge on the multimodal transport especially on cooperation between States to provide reliable and economical transport pf goods.
- I get knowledge from expert Group of transportation by maritime road and rail and multimodal transport including logistics.
- Conducting such meeting is important and highly appreciated. Therefore, we hope the result of this meeting will affect to develop transport sector in Asia and Pacific region.

- Strategic direction and cooperation between member countries
- Effectively enhance my knowledge in present development of transport sector, especially in Asia and Pacific region

VIII. Comments and suggestions

The respondents provided comments and suggestions for improvement of future sessions:

- More meetings should be planned especially between the countries of the same region.
- Many thanks for your valuable efforts.
- I suggest holding a regional meeting including the countries on that region and take workshop to discuss more the SDG'S
- For our country, we would like to provide technical and organizational support to the newly established National Transport Committee.
- Knowledge and experience sharing
- Hope that all delegated can participate in face-to-face meeting in the future
- The format is ok the way it is, economy representatives and private transport organizations to manifest viewpoints and country programs related to a given topic.
- Improve on Hybrid Platform, to allow attendees to see one another in the virtual room. Listening to the discussion via online is already "lonely" and added by not being able to see your co-attendees which are also official participants / delegation of one's country.
- Provision of copy of presentations of the resource persons.
- I suggest to brainstorming sessions were held with representatives from countries on transport and logistics.
- in-person meetings
- Organize training courses and seminars on the introduction of new systems and the exchange of experience in advanced countries, preferably in the present format

IX. Conclusion

Overall, delegations agreed that the seventh session of the Committee on Transport was well organized and fruitful. The session was generally relevant to promote regional cooperation and multilateralism in transport related area. The efficiency and effectiveness of the session also received positive feedback, in particular, the organization of the session was conducted in a timely manner and according to the programme. More attention could be paid to gender related issues.
