

SBI AIM Submission on Opportunities to Further Enhance the Effective Engagement of Non-Party Stakeholders with a View to Strengthening the Implementation of the Provisions of Decision 1/CP.21.

February 28, 2017

The International Transport Forum (ITF) at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an intergovernmental organisation with 57 member countries. It acts as a think tank for transport policy, conducts national, regional and global transport demand and carbon emission projections, and organises the Annual Summit of transport ministers. ITF is the only global body that covers all transport modes.

The ITF welcomes the opportunity to submit its opinions on opportunities to further enhance engagement as a non-Party stakeholder and proposes the following ways of engagement.

1. Engagement in UNFCCC Activities

The ITF has engaged in UNFCCC activities through a variety of ways and will continue to play an active role in the area of transport and climate change.

- The ITF was invited by the UNFCCC Technology Executive Committee to review its technical paper on mitigation benefits and co-benefits of policies, practices and actions for enhancing mitigation ambition and options for supporting their implementation in 2016. The ITF also participated in the Technical expert meeting and suggested other transport experts to be involved with the development of the technical paper. The ITF hopes to continue to contribute to UNFCCC activities by bringing in relevant actors and expertise. The transport sector has to be engaged when addressing climate change.
- The ITF has participated in COP meetings through official UNFCCC side events, as well as various non-official events held during COP. The ITF appreciates the opportunity to organise side events through the UNFCCC and in some cases, together with the COP Presidency. We plan to present key findings from our transport and climate change modelling and policy related research, as well as to invite our transport ministers to engage with other stakeholders at COP regularly. However, the lack of publicity for some events has resulted in low participation. It would be extremely helpful if the UNFCCC could consolidate events (both official and non-official) and relevant information by topic or sector and post them on a calendar that is accessible through different means of communication, e.g. official websites, social media, or e-mails.
- The ITF supports the creation of thematic days at COP and suggests that the transport day should be better coordinated with the ministers' schedules, so as to

ensure a higher visibility of the role transport plays in reducing global carbon emissions.

2. Substantive and Technical Inputs

The ITF Decarbonising Transport project (www.itf-oecd.org/decarbonising-transport), launched in May 2016, aims to achieve the decarbonising of the transport sector by developing a suite of modelling resources and creating a transport and climate change policy dialogue for governments to help close the gap between their commitments and mitigation actions by 2050. This project includes the development of a “common assessment framework” for transport that can serve as the basis for monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) and can help prepare countries for their negotiations in 2020.

- The ITF would like to contribute to the negotiation process by sharing project results and knowledge products, including policy impact assessment tools and policy briefs on measures that will reduce transport carbon emissions. Such contributions to the negotiation process can take place in the form of thematic discussions, expert panels and interactive discussions with ministers and/or other officials, or at pre-session workshops for in-depth exchanges of substantive information. The ITF can also provide technical support for the Parties to help develop negotiation guidelines.
- Additionally, the ITF would like to make descriptions of its transport and climate change knowledge products available on the UNFCCC website, to reach out to governments beyond ITF’s 57 member countries. This linkage will be especially valuable, as the ITF Decarbonising Transport project seeks to contribute to existing international frameworks and support the implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the UNFCCC.

3. Information and Data Sharing

Transport information, indicators and data that can serve as inputs to strengthen the implementation of the provisions of decision 1/CP.21 need to be shared in a more systematic manner.

- Relevant transport and carbon emission data collected or the glossary for transport statistics defined by the ITF can be included (through a web link) on the UNFCCC website as a resource for the Parties.
- The ITF would also like to be briefed on relevant data constraints experienced by the Parties, which will then lead to better recognition of challenges and better development of data collection tools and mitigation policy impact assessment.
- An appropriate platform (e.g. on the ITF Decarbonising Transport website) can be constructed to facilitate the sharing of information and data between the ITF and UNFCCC.

4. Policy Dialogue

The development of a transport and climate change policy dialogue is critical to the success of the decarbonisation of the transport sector and global carbon reduction.

- The ITF is prepared to share outcomes of high-level policy discussions among its member countries (transport ministers), other international organisations, the private sector, academia, and other stakeholders with the UNFCCC. Outcomes of such policy discussions can be disseminated through ITF's participation in UNFCCC events and/or submitting updates of its Decarbonising Transport project in the form of policy briefs, which can be made available on the UNFCCC website.
- The ITF welcomes the UNFCCC in its transport and climate change policy dialogue and to exchange on key issues in the development of negotiation guidelines.
- ITF invites the UNFCCC to its Annual Summit, where the collective or individual climate change mitigation concerns of ITF member countries can be reported to the UNFCCC and its Parties.
- At the 2017 Annual Summit, ITF will organise a closed Ministers' Roundtable, entitled "Transport and Climate Change: Moving Forward from COP22" that will serve as a platform to engage transport ministers to discuss key transport outcomes from COP22.
- The ITF will continue to raise awareness of the significant potential of the transport sector in reducing global carbon emissions and the measures required beyond the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). This will help the transport sector to be ready to decarbonise with specific action plans, including short and long term measures, together with the other sectors or when the other sectors cannot deliver their climate goals. This will also include capacity building in the transport sector, which the ITF is prepared to start with its member countries. A deeper collaboration between the ITF and UNFCCC will then increase awareness and capacity building for the Parties to the UNFCCC.