



Actions of the inland transport sector to
join the global fight against climate change

Development of the ITC Strategy on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in inland transport

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE



Franziska Hirsch

UNECE, Sustainable Transport Division



Decisions of ITC at its 85th annual session (Geneva, 21-24 February 2023, see report *ECE/TRANS/328*, para. 60):

On the basis of ECE/TRANS/2023/21, the Committee

- requested the secretariat, in close cooperation with the Committee's Bureau and relevant subsidiary bodies, **to develop an ambitious strategy document** for reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions in inland transport based on international United Nations legal instruments under the Committee's purview with priority actions for The Inland Transport Committee (ITC) and all its relevant subsidiary bodies, supported by a strong action plan with milestones, for consideration and possible adoption by the Committee at its 86th plenary session (2024);
- requested the secretariat to **report biennially through in-depth reports to the Committee on climate change and inland transport**, starting at the Committee's 86th session in 2024.



(Continued) Decisions of ITC at its 85th annual session (see Report ECE/TRANS/328, para. 60):

On the basis of ECE/TRANS/2023/21, the Committee also

- requested the secretariat its relevant subsidiary bodies and treaty bodies to **accord priority to timely amendments to the UN inland transport legal instruments** under the Committee's purview to support safe and efficient achievement of the targets, commitments and solutions on climate change;
- requested its relevant subsidiary bodies to **continue efforts towards harmonization of performance requirements and intelligent transport systems related legal instruments directly contributing to reduction of GHG emissions** through improvement of fuel/energy use efficiency; efficient use of transport networks; shift from private cars to public transport when available; flexible load and storage resources for the power grid (electric cars) and automation.

Additional background



High-level policy segment at the 85th ITC session: Actions of the inland transport sector to join the global fight against climate change

- **Ministerial Declaration** “*Harnessing the full potential of inland transport solutions in the global fight against climate change*”, para. 17 requests the secretariat, in close cooperation with the Bureau of the Committee and relevant subsidiary bodies, **to develop a strategy document on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in inland transport**, on the basis of international United Nations legal instruments under the Committee’s purview, containing priority actions for Committee and all its relevant subsidiary bodies, for consideration by the Committee at its 86th plenary session (2024)
- Endorsement of Ministerial Declaration by ECE and non-ECE member States
- The Committee noted the Ministerial Declaration and expressed its support for the Declaration’s call for leveraging the Committee’s unique assets for the achievement of the climate targets of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (*ECE/TRANS/328, para. 12*).
- The Committee further requested the secretariat to align its work programme to the Ministerial Declaration and accord priority to its implementation (*ECE/TRANS/328, para. 60(h)*).

Draft Strategy outline



- I. Inland transport and climate
- II. ITC vision and mission on climate action
- III. Strategic objectives
- IV. ITC-administered instruments to assist in mitigating climate change
- V. ITC Climate Action Plan with milestones – ITC to help deliver on climate goals
- VI. List of priorities
- VII. Resource mobilization for the delivery of the strategy
- VIII. Strategic partnerships for the delivery of this Strategy

Proposed timeline



- April 2023: Zero draft outline agreed by Divisional Task Force for the ITC Decisions on Climate Change
- May 2023: Joint letter by ITC Chair and Division Director to Chairs of the Working Parties and Administrative Committees
 - Asking for inputs and feedback on the outline **by 29 September 2023**
 - *If requested to fit WP meeting cycle, inputs can be provided **by 5 January 2024 latest***
- May – December 2023: Presentation of draft outline to Working Parties
- May – June 2023: Submission of zero draft outline, timeline, and relevant inputs from ECE/TRANS/2023/21 to the ITC Bureau
- June 2023: Feedback from the ITC Bureau at the June session

Proposed timeline (cont.)



- October 2023: Submission of pre-zero draft to the ITC Bureau
- November 2023: Feedback from the ITC Bureau at its November session
- **Proposed consultations with member States**
 - November 2023 - January 2024: Two tracks of ECE and non-ECE member States
 - September – December 2023: Possible parallel track with the involvement of key stakeholders / partners / potential partners (e.g., UNFCCC)
- Mid-January 2024: Submission of a consolidated document with the draft Strategy and Action Plan

Feedback from the Bureau



- The Bureau considered the draft outline of the ITC Climate Change mitigation Strategy and provided the following comments for its further development:
 - to translate the ambitions and urgency conveyed by the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the 85th session of the ITC in the strategy
 - to consider how to link the work under the ITC on climate change adaptation to strategy
 - to prepare a draft strategy as concise as possible, in particular for the strategy or preamble to be submitted to signature by Ministers, which can be supplemented by the in-depth report on climate change and inland transport and possibly, annexes, for additional information.
- The Bureau provided the following comments to the secretariat for the development of the strong action plan with milestones: ***to consider how to enhance the ongoing and planned activities of the subsidiary bodies, to ensure their effective contributions to the overall aspirational target of net zero emissions from the inland transport sector by 2050.***

Support from ITC's subsidiary bodies



- Thank you in advance for providing your inputs, as requested:
 - for the development of the **climate change mitigation strategy** for consideration and possible adoption by ITC at its 86th plenary session
by 29 September 2023
(if requested to meet the Working Party cycle, *by 5 January 2024*).
 - for the **biennial report on climate change and inland transport** to the Committee at its 86th session
by 29 September 2023.



Actions of the inland transport sector to
join the global fight against climate change

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE



UNECE

Thank you!