Country Statement
By Mr. Chayatan Phromsorn
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Transport of Thailand
at Ministerial Conference on Transport, Fourth Session
16 December 2021

Excellencies,
Madame Executive Secretary,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great honour to have this opportunity to deliver the country statement to support the draft regional action programme for sustainable transport development in Asia and the Pacific (2022-2026).

Sustainable transport development is of supreme importance to all countries especially developing countries as it is a central component of sustainable development and contributes to its three dimensions by bringing about economic growth, social integration and environmental development.

The draft regional action programme for sustainable transport development in Asia and the Pacific (2022-2026) draws concrete links to directly and indirectly relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Therefore, adequate, efficient, affordable, safe, low-carbon and climate resilient transport options and infrastructures are important conditions for improving accessibility and connectivity that help integrating the countries into the global supply chain, eliminating poverty and achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
According to the significance agenda, Thailand has formulated a long-term strategic plan for transport development, focusing on enhancing its efficiency, green and safety, and inclusivity with utilization of innovation, and more efficient management techniques.

In regard to low-carbon transport and GHG emission reduction, Thailand is now forming EV roadmap for Thailand until 2035. The EV share in automobile manufacture is expected to be at 30% of total automobile manufacture in Thailand by 2030, and 50% by 2035.

Moreover, in an effort to advance regional connectivity, Thailand has initiated The Motorway and Railway Master Plan or MR-MAP which integrates between motorway and double track railway systems, offering cost-efficient transport option along with safe and secure logistics network for the region.

To enhance urban mobility, the Royal Thai Government is committed to improving and integrating public transport in major urban areas. The 20-Year mass rapid transit master plan in Bangkok metropolitan area calls for infrastructure and electric rail development projects covering a total of 550 kilometers by 2030.

Thailand also attaches great importance on convenience and efficiency of public transportation. The universal design concept has been applied on Mass Rapid Transit and on airport developments to ensure universal accessibility for elderly, disabilities and children. In addition, the common fare and common ticketing system are in the process of implementation.

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Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,
As Thailand is implementing towards sustainable transport, all the actions are also very much in line with the draft regional action programme for sustainable transport development in Asia and the Pacific (2022-2026) which would be considered and adopted in this meeting. However, the achievement of the programme has another 5 years to go in which more concrete efforts and collective focus should be prioritized; political cooperation and member countries’ ambitions must be engaged in this achievement.

Thailand as an active member of ESCAP stands ready to fully support the implementation of regional action programme for sustainable transport development in Asia and the Pacific (2022-2026) for the betterment of our region.

Thank you