Item 4. Review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific and issues pertinent to the subsidiary structure of the Commission (e) Transport

Statement by the Republic of Korea
Delivered by Mr. JEON Joyoung, Permanent Representative to ESCAP

Thank you Mr. Chairman/Madam Chair.

On behalf of the delegation of the Republic of Korea, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the ESCAP Secretariat for the comprehensive review on the work of the Transport Division, and their support for the implementation of the “Ministerial Declaration on Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific.”

The Republic of Korea fully recognizes that seamless and integrated transport lays the foundation to the region’s growth and economic, social and environmental sustainability. With this in mind, our commitment to enhance transport connectivity in the region extends beyond developing transport infrastructure.

To attain transport related targets set out in the 2030 Agenda, we note that economically viable, environmentally sound and socially inclusive transport systems are vital, together with capacity-building efforts to improve the quality of transport operations. And we also should not forget that smart, innovative technologies work as an “enabler” to such improvements.
In this regard, as a member of the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network, the Trans-Asian Railway Network and the Dry Ports, Korea has taken an active role in promoting regional transport connectivity over the past decade by providing assistance to ESCAP’s projects which supported the implementation of the “Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific: Phase I (2017–2021).”

The Korean government has also supported a number of programs in designing sustainable transport policies and institution frameworks as well as capacity-building workshops, expert group meetings for ESCAP member countries to exchange their best practice and knowledge.

In recent years, Korea has been promoting smart transport systems since 2019 through a project entitled “Increasing the use of smart mobility approaches to improve traffic conditions in urban areas in the Southeast Asia Subregion.” We hope the smart mobility project could contribute to addressing urban transport challenges that the region is facing, and further facilitate the use of smart transport technologies for a more sustainable future.

In closing, we welcome ESCAP Secretariat’s direction of the next phase of the “Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific (2022–2026).”

Korea will continue to actively participate in the deliberations and efforts in achieving regional connectivity, and we will cooperate in every way possible to assist the work of ESCAP.

I thank you for your attention.