

Intervention for
Agenda 4 (f): Review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
Development in Asia and the Pacific (Transport)
By Mr. Prapatpaow Awakul
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at the 78th session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the
Pacific (ESCAP)
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Excellencies,

Madame Executive Secretary,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Thailand ultimately underscores the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals and is committed to moving towards sustainable transport through the improvement of transport infrastructure, system, and service. The Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific (2022 - 2026) which was adopted in the fourth session of Ministerial conference on Transport in December 2021 is considered to be in line with Thailand's 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.

Moreover, as one of the parties of UNESCAP intergovernmental agreements on Asian Highway Network, Trans-Asian Railway Network, and Dry Ports, Thailand has been devoted to network enhancement in the region by intensively taking part in the working group meetings to foster regional cooperation and discuss policies and relevant issues in accordance with the intergovernmental agreements.

To enhance regional connectivity, Thailand has initiated MR-Map project which integrates between motorway and double track railway systems for regional transport connectivity. This MR-MAP initiative offers cost-efficient transport option along with safe and secure logistics network. Under the MR-Map initiative, Land Bridge project, connecting Gulf of Thailand to Andaman Sea, will help reduce both traveling time and logistics cost for goods transportation in ASEAN and other regions.

Thailand has also continually improved railway transport system in double-track railway gauge and high speed train network both domestically and internationally in the aim of reducing travel time, increasing train speeds and safety, **and** facilitating the seamless operation of rail passengers and freight transport. In this connection, the list of dry ports of international importance have been developed to support cross-border transport activities, such as, Chiang Khong Freight Terminal in Chiang Rai , the northern part and Natha station, the northeastern part, which is in the process of development to be a container yard and ultimately a transshipment yard.

In the area of low-carbon transport, electric vehicles (EVs) is one core of sustainable development policy in order to reduce GHG emission. 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. In order to support GHG emission reduction, Thailand by Ministry of Transport has developed Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) action plan in Transport sector and set a target to reduce GHG emission around 31 million tons by 2030.

Thailand also supports digitalization in transport sector. The project called M-flow has been introduced to minimize the delay time at toll gates during peak hours by applying the Automatic Vehicle Identification in the form of Radio Frequency Identification. Also, in maritime transport, the Port Authority of Thailand is developing the Port Community System (PCS), aiming to establish the data logistics chain and data exchange center between ports by developing a standardised e-logistics platform to ensure seamless data linkages in support of digital transformation.

In conclusion, Thailand stands ready to support the implementation of regional action programme for sustainable transport development in Asia and the Pacific (2022-2026) which serves as the key regional mechanism in achieving sustainable development goals. We are committed to working closely with ESCAP member countries and Madam Executive Secretary towards the betterment of the region.

Thank you
