



26 November declared as World Sustainable Transport Day and SLOCAT recognised as a reference partnership

SLOCAT Statement - May 2023

On 16th May 2023, the United Nations General Assembly, the main policy-making body of the UN, declared 26 November *World Sustainable Transport Day* and asked the President of the General Assembly to convene a high-level event to promote sustainable transport cooperation towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, the New Urban Agenda and the Political declaration of the high-level meeting on improving global road safety. Marking a milestone in SLOCAT's sustained efforts to bring the voice of the sustainable, low carbon transport movement into intergovernmental processes, the United Nations noted the importance of continued cooperation and coordination between the UN and existing partnerships including SLOCAT.

Resolution A/RES/77/286 on the World Sustainable Transport Day was led by Turkmenistan and co-sponsored by 66 other countries. The World Day seeks to enhance intermodal transport connectivity, promote environmentally friendly transport, develop socially inclusive transport infrastructure and other transport sustainability aspects. The resolution emphasises the contribution of sustainable, low-emission and energy-efficient modes of transport to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - with emphasis on the importance of long-term strategies and multi-stakeholder partnerships in delivering such sustainable modes of transport. Additionally the resolution encourages the UN system and other international organisations, relevant international and regional financial institutions, multilateral and bilateral donors and the private sector to further coordinate their efforts and to collaborate in mobilising financial and technical assistance to countries, in particular developing countries, for strengthening the link between all modes of transport to achieve the SDGs.

Heeding the mandates towards transport systemic transformations and a just transition

SLOCAT celebrates the adoption of the resolution and commends Turkmenistan for its regular lead on transport-related resolutions over the years since hosting the first Global Sustainable Transport Conference.

SLOCAT calls on national and subnational governments, the President of the UN General Assembly, the UN Secretary-General and the UN system, international financial institutions, the private sector and NGOs to heed the mandates of the resolution towards systemic transformations and a just transition of transport and mobility systems.

A springboard for enhanced attention and coordination on transport matters across the UN

SLOCAT encourages using the momentum generated by this resolution as a springboard to enhancing coordination on transport matters across the UN system, including through inter-agency coordination mechanisms; as well as to planning the next UN Global Sustainable Transport Conference.

SLOCAT Secretary General Maruxa Cardama said: “In a world of interconnected challenges, the opportunity is to find solutions that cut across transport, sustainability and climate action. Cross-cutting, systemic transformation is the level at which SLOCAT operates by championing integrated, inter-modal, multi-dimensional solutions across passenger and freight transport. Within the remit of our mission and our partnership nature, the UN Member States and the UN System can count on SLOCAT for supporting collective reflections and actions in the implementation of this resolution, the celebration of the World Sustainable Transport Day and the proposed high-level event.”

SLOCAT calls on the Office of the President of the General Assembly to work closely with the transport and mobility community to ensure this meeting is inclusive and forward-looking; as well as leverages policy and regulatory measures to enable the demand and the supply of sustainable, low carbon transport solutions for both passengers and freight. SLOCAT underscores that this high-level meeting can set the basis for more structured and regular dialogues between UN Member States and other stakeholders.

Finally, SLOCAT draws attention to the proximity of 26 November with the traditional dates for UN Climate Change Conferences COPs. This can support the UN Secretary-General’s vision for greater synergies among the UN’s many climate and sustainability processes and ensure that policymakers are not siloed in the global frameworks we all seek to implement.

<p>From 2022 onwards, 26 November will mark World Sustainable Transport Day.</p>	<p>Can be the entry point for enhanced action and annual momentum towards more meaningful UN mechanisms / processes for transport. The date can generate positive synergies with UN Climate Change Conferences COPs, putting a spotlight on the eve or during their proceedings assuming that traditional Nov.-Dec. dates for COPs are maintained.</p>
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<p>The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) in collaboration with the UN regional economic commissions are invited to facilitate the observance.</p>	<p>Can boost attention to sustainable transport in countries and cities, providing our global transport community opportunities for collaboration around programming with national and local actors.</p>
<p>The President of the UN General Assembly is requested to consider convening a half- day high-level meeting, in collaboration with UNDESA, in New York, during the 78th session (from Sept. 2023) to promote sustainable transport cooperation in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement, the New Urban Agenda and Political declaration of the high-level meeting on improving global road safety.</p>	<p>Can offer a venue for initiating regular, structured dialogue between UN Member States and other stakeholders. With political curation, it can offer a platform for regular ministerial gatherings among all UN member states.</p> <p>To watch closely: the final decision of the President of the General Assembly.</p>
<p>The UN system and other international organisations, relevant international and regional financial institutions, multilateral and bilateral donors and private sector are encouraged to further coordinate their efforts and to collaborate in mobilising financial and technical assistance to countries, in particularly developing countries, for strengthening the link between all modes of transport to achieve the SDGs.</p>	<p>While it is only an encouragement, it may inject new impetus on multi- stakeholder efforts, whether new or existing.</p>
<p>The UN Secretary-General is requested to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, organisations of the UN system and other international and regional organisations, as well as civil society, including NGOs and individuals.</p>	<p>May open up more sustained over time multi-stakeholder dialogue and collaboration with the office of the UN Secretary-General around transport matters.</p>

For queries in Arabic, Chinese, English, German, French, Portuguese and Spanish please contact secretariat@slocatpartnership.org.

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SLOCAT is the international, multi-stakeholder partnership powering systemic transformations and a just transition towards equitable, healthy, green and resilient transport and mobility systems for the people and the planet.

We deliver on our mission through co-creation, co-leadership and co-delivery across knowledge, advocacy and dialogue activities in the intersection between transport, climate change and sustainability.

Our multi-sectoral Partnership engages a vibrant and inclusive ecosystem across transport associations, NGOs, academia, governments, multilateral organisations, philanthropy and business; as well as a large community of world-class experts and change-makers. Going where others do not or cannot go individually, our Partnership is leveraged to set ambitious global agendas and catalyse progressive thinking and solutions for the urgent transformation of transport and mobility systems worldwide.