

Africa Sustainable Transport Forum

Summary of the Outcomes of the Inaugural Forum, held in
Nairobi, Kenya, from 28 to 30 October 2014



The Africa Sustainable Transport Forum (ASTF) held its 1st Ministerial and Experts Conference on 28 to 30 October 2014 at the UN Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. The event was hosted by the Kenyan Government with support from UNEP, The World Bank, the SSATP programme based in the World Bank, and UN-Habitat.

The agenda focused on the challenges, in terms of day to day realities of sustainable transport in Africa, and discussed solutions in the context of green growth and emissions reductions. Concrete actions were grouped in four priority areas: road safety; vehicles and emissions; accessibility and sustainable infrastructure; and, enabling conditions. The agenda also allowed for discussion on the future of the ASTF.

The Ministerial Session of the Forum was officially opened by the UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon and His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta, the President of Kenya. It brought together representatives of 43 African countries, with 21 Ministers of environment and transport in attendance.

Ministerial Session – Chairperson’s Summary

- The Conference was held over three days with the first two days dedicated to expert sessions and the third day to a Ministerial session.
- The first day of the Conference proceedings led the participants through diverse perspectives of the reality of transport in Africa while making linkages with related issues at a global level. Proven solutions as demonstrated in Africa were also discussed.
- On day two, a draft Action Framework was prepared by the experts, including recommendations on substantive priorities and the institutional setup of the ASTF, to be brought forward for consideration of the Ministerial session on day three.
- During the first part of day two participants were split into smaller groups that discussed the challenges, solutions and opportunities for realizing sustainable transport in Africa. The resulting analysis produced clearly identifiable areas for action on substantive priorities.
- The second part of day two was devoted to discussion around the governance and institutional aspects of the ASTF structure. Proposals were developed that included the nature of the ASTF Secretariat and its supporting institutions, frequency of high level meetings, political ownership of ASTF and the role of regional communities.

- The Ministerial session on the third day started with a high level opening that included remarks of Engineer Michael Kamau, Cabinet Secretary, Kenyan Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP, - speaking on behalf of the three supporting organizations UNEP, the World Bank and UN-Habitat -, UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-moon, and His Excellency Mr. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya.
- The Ministerial session reviewed the ASTF Action Framework presented by rapporteurs of the expert sessions which included a priority sustainable transport agenda for Africa, and suggestions for the institutional set-up of the ASTF. The session also reviewed financing opportunities for investment in sustainable transport in Africa.
- In the afternoon of the Ministerial session, the Ministers and Heads of Delegations adopted a priority list of actions, with time-bound targets for sustainable transport in Africa, including actions on road safety, vehicles and emissions, and sustainable infrastructure and accessibility. The Ministers also identified interim steps to be taken to set up the ASTF organizational structure, including the interim Secretariat.

ASTF Action Framework

Priority Action Areas

Priority Area	Actions	Time-Bound Target
Road safety	Implement the African Action Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020	
	Set up dedicated institutions for road safety and allocate funding	2017
	Ensure comprehensive data collection and reporting mechanisms on road safety incidents and trends	2015
	Develop and adopt a Non-Motorised Transport Policy	2015
	Develop and adopt Non-Motorised Transport Design Guidelines	2015
Vehicle Emissions and Energy Efficiency	Ensure air quality monitoring takes place in all main cities	2017
	Develop vehicle emission standards and suitable inspection and testing	2016
	Develop vehicle import regulations at both regional and national levels, based on either vehicle age, mileage or emissions	2016
	Develop regulations for the adoption of cleaner fuels - especially low sulphur fuels - at a national level	2017
	Undertake a country level fuel economy analysis and develop a national level policy to improve fuel economy	2017
Accessibility and sustainable infrastructure	Develop a national policy on sustainable urban transport	2017
	Develop integrated transport plans with a specific focus on multi-modal transport	2018
	Undertake an assessment and develop a national policy on mass-transit systems	2017

Supporting Activities

Data Generation and Monitoring

Request the ASTF Secretariat to collect information to create baselines, monitor progress (including on Priority Action Areas) and share best practices in areas such as road fatalities and injuries, air quality, health impacts of poor air quality, non-motorised transport infrastructure, road infrastructure etc.

	<u>Financing</u> Allocate funding to transport and institutional support
	<u>Capacity Building</u> Continually share good and bad experiences, lessons learned and best practices
	<u>Advocacy and Championing</u> Continually undertake advocacy and awareness raising

Institutional Arrangements

Timeframe	The agreed institutional arrangements for ASTF are interim
	Institutional arrangements for the ASTF are understood as interim until the next ASTF conference (proposed end 2015), at which time a formal decision will be taken regarding the permanent institutional structure. Options should be disseminated to member states for consideration well before the next Forum session
Political Ownership of ASTF	Political ownership of the ASTF should lie with the African Union
	The African Union Commission will have a critical role to play in the ASTF. African Governments will make proposals for this to the African Union Commission
Key Supporting Institutions	The supporting institutions to the ASTF should include the World Bank and UN Agencies
	Key supporting institutions that should be providers of support to the ASTF and also kept informed on activities and progress should include the World Bank, the Africa Transport Policy Program (SSATP), UNEP and UN-Habitat
Hosting Country	Kenya, as the hosting country of ASTF will cooperate with the Secretariat and its supporting institutions, and lead the dialog the Africa Union Commission
Role of Africa Regional Communities	Africa’s Regional Economic communities will be consulted

	Africa's Regional Communities, including SADC, EAC, EGAD and ECOWAS, will be consulted on the development and implementation of the ASTF Action Framework
2nd Ministerial and Experts Meeting	It is proposed that the next continental meeting will be held towards the end of 2015
	The 2nd Ministerial and Experts Conference will be planned for a date towards the end of 2015 when activities and progress on Priority Action Areas will be addressed, and the institutional arrangements of ASTF finalised