

Summary Assessment

Committee on Transport Sixth session 12-13 October 2020

I. Introduction

The sixth session of the Committee on Transport took place on 12 and 13 October 2020 as a hybrid meeting due to on-going COVID-19 related travel restrictions in many countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Committee session discussed matters of strategic importance to regional transport development, regional cooperation and the formulation of regional policies to advance sustainable transport and connectivity in line with existing regional and global mandates such as the Regional Action Programme for Sustainable Transport Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, Phase I (2017-2021), related ESCAP resolutions and the Decade of Action for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, among others. The Committee also deliberated on the key objectives and directions of the new Regional Action Programme for 2022-2026 and provided guidance on the preparations for the Ministerial Conference on Transport, to be held in 2021. The Committee also provided member States and associate members of ESCAP with a forum to exchange views and discuss policies to meet the objectives of economic, environmental and social sustainability for the transport sector.

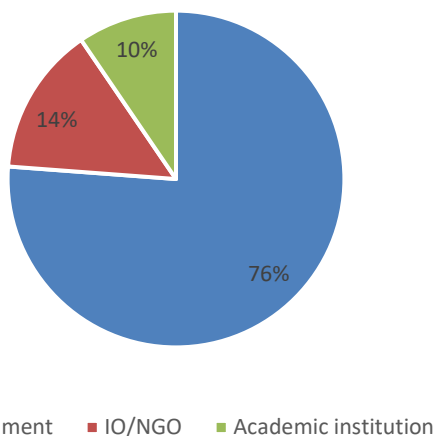
II. Attendance

The Committee on Transport, sixth session was attended by 56 per cent of all ESCAP members and associate members (35 of 62) with 16 participants at the ministerial level. In total, there were 208 registered participants, of whom 61 were female (29 per cent). A number of other entities participated, including United Nations bodies and agencies, intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations. From these entities, there were 52 participants of whom 10 were female (19 per cent). Therefore, the total number of participants from both governments and other entities is 260 individuals and the total number of female participants is 71 (27 per cent).

III. Respondent's Profile

A total of 43 individual respondents from 28 member countries provided feedback to the questionnaire. However, 22 completed and 21 partially completed the questionnaire. Information contained in this assessment will therefore only considered the completed feedback of the 22 respondents. Of these 22 respondents, 14 respondents are male, seven are female and one selected the option "prefer not to indicate the sex". Among the respondents, 17 respondents represent the government, five represent the international organization or non-governmental organization and two represent an academic institution.

Figure 1: Respondent's profile by entity (percentage)



IV. Relevance

Overall, respondents agreed that the agenda items reflected the present development trends and issues in the Asian and Pacific region. The respondents also agree that the issues discussed were useful for their government/organization. The rating is slightly lower on the discussion related to gender issues and concepts.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
The issues discussed reflected the present development trends/challenges in the transport section in the Asia-Pacific region.	Average: 4.2
The issues discussed were useful and are relevant to the needs and priorities for my government/ organization	Average: 4.2
The meeting addressed related gender issues and concepts	Average: 3.3

V. Effectiveness

The respondents agreed that the meeting effectively enhancing their knowledge of the issues discussed; promoting regional cooperation and networking among participants;; the facilitators effectively engaging with participants in discussion; and the meeting documents and presentations were of high quality, concise and clear. However, the respondents gave a slightly lower rating on time available for discussion.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
The meeting effectively enhanced my knowledge of the issues discussed	Average: 4.3

The meeting effectively promoted regional cooperation on transport and networking among participants	Average: 4.3
The facilitators effectively engaged with participants in discussions	Average: 4.1
Enough time was available for discussion	Average: 3.9
The meeting documents and presentations were of high quality, concise & clear	Average: 4.3

VI. Efficiency

Generally, the respondents rated positively on the efficiency of the meeting, in particular, they were highly agreed that the meeting was organized in a timely manner and according to the programme; and that the communications from ESCAP to the member States on the preparation for the meeting were effective.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
I am satisfied with the administrative and logistical arrangement of the meeting	Average: 4.4
The meeting was organized in a timely manner and according to the programme	Average: 4.5
The communications from ESCAP to the member States on the preparation for the meeting were effective	Average: 4.4
The duration of the meeting was appropriate	Average: 4.2

VII. Performance of the virtual tool

Overall, the respondents were satisfied with the technology, in particular the technical support from the secretariat during the meeting. Internet connectivity, including audio and video quality were also at the satisfactory level.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
The virtual tool was easy to use	Average: 4.3
I was able to hear others clearly (audio quality)	Average: 4.2
I was able to see other clearly (video quality)	Average: 4.3
Internet connectivity was satisfactory	Average: 4.3

The duration of the virtual meeting was appropriate	Average: 4.3
The screen sharing feature was effective	Average: 4.3
Interaction tools (live polls, Q&A etc) were used effectively	Average: 4.1
Adequate technical support from ESCAP was provided during the meeting	Average: 4.5

VIII. Results achieved

The results achieved through this meeting indicated by respondents included:

- Continuation in the implement national master plan on the transport and align this with the agenda 2030.
- To get TA for connection between Myanmar and India in related with Dry port
- A roadmap (to 2030-2035) for reducing emissions from transportation sector is being set in which e-mobility is promoted.
- The Civil Aeronautics Board of the Philippines will be guided by the regional cooperation measures and plans for transportation sector. Although the geography of the Philippines is archipelagic and the sessions focused more on road transportation, the principles can still be adopted especially for the mitigation of COVID-19 and other similar pandemics in the future

IX. Comments and suggestions

The respondents provided comments and suggestions for improvement of future sessions:

- To continue to communicate clearly with the member States specially those who has internet difficulties.
- To continue what you have done as part of this session.
- Virtual participants should be involved in discussions.
- Further improvement in technical aspects of virtual modality like internet connection, video quality, audio quality etc. is necessary.
- It was very smooth already.
