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Name of speaker:  (Mr.) (Ms.) ORMSIN CHIVAPRUCC
(Block letter)

Country/Organization:  THAILAND / MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
(Block letter)

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Agenda Item No:  9

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Statement

H.E. Mr. Ormsin Chivapruck, Deputy Minister of Transport, Thailand
At the 3rd Session of the UNESCAP Ministerial Conference on Transport
Moscow, The Russain Federation
8-9 December 2016

Chairman,

Your Excellencies – Ministers,

Distinguished Delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great honour to be here with you all at the 3rd Session of the
UNESCAP Ministerial Conference on Transport today. On behalf of the Head
of Delegations from the Kingdom of Thailand, I would like to express our
sincere appreciation to the Government of the Russian Federation for a very
warm hospitality and high quality and efficient arrangement.

Sustainable transport is a core component of sustainable development and
also plays role a supreme important to developing counties. The sustainable
transport serves several major goals and targets of the United Nations’
Sustainable Development Goals framework to improve accessibility and
connectivity that help bring developing countries into the global supply chain
and eradicate poverty so as to achieve our common goal of the 2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development.

Chairman, / Ladies and Gentlemen,

To join the global effort of sustainable development, the Ministry of
Transport of Thailand has therefore formulated our 20-year strategic plan for
transport development covering four ultimate goals of transport efficiency,
green and safe transport, inclusive transport, and innovative transport.
First, transport efficiency focuses on the effectiveness for transport both connectivity within city, intercity, and trans-border, with the concept of transport modal shifting from road to rail transport as Thailand has been heavily intensive in road with 87.5% of all modes of transport causing a higher logistic cost, less competitiveness, and create traffic congestion. Therefore, the present Government has committed a long term infrastructure investment plan for railways development so as to bring down dependency ratio at least 10 percent.

For a better connectivity within city, the Government plans to complete the long-time master plan by investing altogether 10 metro lines in Bangkok Metropolitan and vicinity. The master plan targeted to be finished by 2030 with the first network covering 550 kilometres.

For the intercity rail system, the double track meter gauge is being implemented that will double the capacity of existing single rail system throughout the country within ASEAN and with China.

For trans-border connectivity, the medium to high speed trains have been planned to implement to connect between major cities, tourist destinations, and large scale centres of production together with neighbouring countries.

Secondly, on green and safe transport; environment is a big concern in Thailand. The Government of Thailand has ratified the Paris 2015 Agreement (COP21) at UN Climate Change Conference. We are therefore committed to significantly reduce the use of fossil fuel and emissions of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere with the submitted of Intended Nationally Determined Contribution to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent by 2030. We are also introducing new CNG as well as electric buses (EV Bus). The electrified trains would be replacing existing diesel fleets. With completion of railways construction and new buses connecting each other, we hope this will reduce use of private cars.
For road safety, the Government aims to reduce the death and injury rate by 50% in 2020 to achieve the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals target as well as the Decade of Road Safety. Many projects have been implemented, for example, the improvement of blackspots, the implementation of vehicle safety regulations, the improvement of accident database system, and the "School Safety Zones project". The facilitation for vulnerable road users are also being constructed such as the blue lane in many provinces of the country.

Third, on the issue of inclusive transport, it is aimed to create equality in accessibility on transport system for every people. Nowadays Thai society is creeping toward aging society. The Ministry of Transport puts the policy on public transport to concern on universal accessibility for not only the elderly but also the disabled by implementing universal design for all modes of transport infrastructures and vehicles.

Lastly, technology and innovative Transport is emphasized on use of new technology to create smarter transport system. For example, the Ministry has planned to launch a common ticket for all modes of public transport. This will be an important step for development of the society toward the digital society.

Chairman, / Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Government of Thailand has underlined the cooperation among the ASEAN members on the “Towards a Shared Prosperity” concept with mutual trustworthiness, respect, and shared prosperity. Although we have created standardised infrastructure within the country, we also need to improve the software for trans-border connectivity such as common customs regulations to facilitate the freight transport smoothly.

Lastly, I am convinced that this conference will inspire collaboration and dialogue among various stakeholders and I wish for the success of this conferen
ce and look forward to an in-depth outcome of discussions at expert level with strong purpose to move all of us towards the realization of sustainable transportation.

Thank you.