

Ministers' Roundtable (MRT1) 2023

Transport and climate change: Moving forward from COP27

A joint statement of Ministers participating in the Ministers' Roundtable on Transport and climate change: Moving forward from COP27 at the International Transport Forum's Annual Summit on 24 May 2023.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 2015 Paris Agreement committed to pursuing efforts to limit global warming to 1.5°C. We recognise that keeping this commitment within reach will not be possible without accelerated decarbonisation of the transport sector. There is no pathway to 1.5°C that includes the continued unabated use of fossil fuels in the transport sector, and there is an urgent need to rapidly scale up decarbonisation solutions across all modes of transport.

To this end we commit to developing and implementing ambitious sectoral strategies and targets for domestic transport decarbonisation. We commit to aligning these strategies with our nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement, and to keeping them under review. We call on all parties to the Agreement to do the same in advance of UNFCCC-COP28.

Moreover, given international aviation and shipping emissions are not regulated by the UNFCCC framework, we commit to working through the responsible institutions, the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), to drive increased ambition and action in these sectors. We recall the historic adoption of net zero CO₂ emissions by 2050 as a new global goal for international aviation at the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly as an example of the success of the international community in agreeing 1.5°C-aligned targets for international emissions.

At the 80th Session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee at the IMO in July, we aim to affirm our commitment to strengthen global efforts to achieve zero life-cycle GHG emissions from international shipping by 2050 at the latest. In order to keep 1.5°C alignment alive, we further commit to work to agree interim international reduction targets for 2030 and 2040 and to ensure that mid-term measures to reduce emissions are adopted by 2025.

We recognise that the public and private sectors will both have an important role in delivering on our ambitions. We commit to collaborating with private sector partners to advance decarbonisation solutions. We also recognise the importance of aligning decarbonisation solutions with the needs of transport users. To this end we will develop policies to facilitate sustainable travel choices. We will ensure that our decarbonisation policies capture widespread co-benefits for our health, our economies and the places in which we live and work.

24 May 2023

Mark Harper, Secretary of State for Transport, United Kingdom

Hartmut Höppner, State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Digital and Transport, Germany

Jack Chambers, Minister of State, Department of Transport, Ireland

Hee-ryong Won, Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport, Korea

Graziella Marok-Wachter, Minister of Infrastructure and Justice, Liechtenstein

Marius Skuodis, Minister of Transport and Communications, Lithuania

Bent-Joacim Bentzen, State Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Norway

Constantin-Gabriel Bunduc, Secretary of State, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure, Romania