Leipzig, 1 June 2017

2017 MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON GOVERNANCE OF TRANSPORT

Preamble

Transport enables essential access and mobility for individuals and contributes to global economic activity, connecting people and businesses to each other and to markets. Technological advances are further removing natural barriers to the movement of people and goods, transforming the way people live, work, and travel.

The challenge today is to ensure that governance of transport - the institutional, legislative, regulatory, and policy frameworks in which transport is designed, implemented and managed - responds to the dynamic and rapid transformations shaping the sector, such as the emergence of connected and automated vehicles, big data in transport and the digital transformation of society and the economy in general.

In particular, transport governance should consider the ambitious goals set in 2015 by two major international agreements shaping the current global policy agenda: the Paris Climate Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Successful implementation of these agreements calls for significant changes to transport systems, technologies and to the overall governance of the sector.

Governance of transport shapes decision-making and policies affecting everything from local cycling paths to global trade routes. It provides a framework for legislation and regulation as well as decisions about issues such as the environment, working conditions, accessibility, and technical solutions. At the same time, governance both impacts and is impacted by organisational and financial challenges. Importantly, it aims to ensure the appropriate balance of responsibilities among all stakeholders, at all levels of authority.

Good governance reconciles objectives and needs with responsibilities and resources, often in the face of competing, even conflicting priorities. In this context, governance should be characterised by decision-making and processes that are, transparent, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive, and follow the rule of law. Finally, governance should ensure that the views of all citizens are taken into account and that the voices of the most vulnerable are considered in decision-making.

We, the Ministers, responsible for transport in the member countries of the International Transport Forum, have assembled under the Presidency of Mexico to seek mutual understanding of, and orient our response to, these challenges.

Connectivity for a global economy and inclusive society

We:

▶ **affirm** that well-developed, competitive, reliable, safe and sustainable transport networks play an important role in facilitating efficient trade flows and individual mobility across regions;

▶ **recognise** that global standards and rules, including those related to environmental protection, safety and security, should be need- and evidence-based, adopted in accordance with internationally recognised "good regulatory practices", and implemented when and where appropriate for the transport of goods and people;

▶ **encourage** the definition and enforcement of standards and procedures for increased coordination among all stakeholders to enhance local, regional, national and international connectivity;

▶ **support** development of national transport policy frameworks aimed at promoting cooperation and compatible policy-making among transport authorities and other ministries in charge of related policy portfolios, including transport, communications, energy, environment, urban planning, competition law, labour, trade, and finance.

Transport infrastructure for tomorrow's access and mobility needs

We:

▶ **acknowledge** that sound governance is needed to ensure high-quality transport infrastructure that enables more efficient access and mobility, improves safety, reliability and resilience, enhances environmental performance, and ultimately supports the on-going transformation to a more sustainable transport sector;

▶ **recognise** the potential for new interoperable forms of data provision and usage to enable smarter and more sustainable transport infrastructure and mobility services;

▶ **seek to integrate** strategic long-term planning of transport infrastructure at all levels, **underlining** that it needs to be carefully designed in order to balance long-term uncertainty for investment with the need to adjust to short-term priorities and funding constraints - this is essential for successful project delivery;

▶ **advise** all relevant authorities to intensify efforts to establish comprehensive and coherent governance frameworks for funding and financing that promote effective cooperation among authorities and with

the private sector, and enable exploration of innovative funding systems;

▶ **support** and **facilitate**, wherever possible, the exchange and promotion of best practice mechanisms to attract private investment, minimise infrastructure gaps, and drive productivity growth, while maximising value for money.

Responsive regulation to foster innovation

We:

▶ **welcome** the benefits to society brought about by advances in new technologies, business models and digitalisation through the enhancement of and access to transport services for all;

▶ **recognise** that regulatory and fiscal frameworks may require adjustment to promote innovative transport and mobility solutions and enable new business models to emerge, while enhancing accessibility, safety, interoperability and environmental performance;

▶ **promote** government programmes to support small and medium-sized enterprises, entrepreneurs and start-ups, and thereby contribute to job creation and productivity growth.

A sound framework for open mobility data

We:

▶ **recognise** that transport and mobility data are an important element in the development of digital applications designed to offer more efficient transport services and digital wealth creation more generally;

▶ **support** new approaches for collaboration between the private and public sectors to access and share relevant data to help manage transport operations and planning;

▶ **welcome** initiatives to make all non-personal transport data collected by governments openly available;

▶ **encourage** transport companies and operators to make their data available in open standard formats;

▶ **promote** measures to ensure cyber security and data protection critical to a trusted approach to the collection, processing of, and access to data.

Inclusive urban access for better mobility

We:

- ▶ **recognise** that effective governance frameworks should address demographic trends, changing lifestyles, and personal mobility preferences, since they are important drivers of change that redefine the urban mobility landscape;

- ▶ **strengthen** institutional, legislative, and regulatory measures to address challenges related to jurisdictional competition and coordination, new mobility options and evolving travel patterns;

- ▶ **encourage** effective cooperation among all levels of authority to ensure that transport systems in urban areas provide inclusive access to services and sustainable mobility solutions for the rapidly expanding populations in urban areas;

- ▶ **advise** all relevant authorities to intensify efforts to effectively coordinate transport and mobility, land use, and fiscal policies in order to sustain economic vitality and ensure environmental and social protection.

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