



INTERNATIONAL UNION  
OF RAILWAYS

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### **The international railway community commits to sustainable development: official launch of the UIC Declaration on Sustainable Mobility and Transport**

(New York/Paris, 12 May 2011) The UIC formally launched the Declaration on Sustainable Mobility and Transport, the railway sector's commitment to sustainable development.

The UIC Declaration on Sustainable Mobility and Transport lists the most important sustainable development goals for the global railway sector. By signing it, member railways are making a public commitment to work towards these objectives and provide progress reports regarding further improving safety, reliability, punctuality, and environmental performance.

The Declaration has so far been signed by 44 UIC members representing more than 60% of the total passenger rail market around the world. The launch event took place at the United Nations in New York, on the occasion of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD19).

The launch event featured speeches from Mr Sha Zukang, Under Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Mr László Borbély, Chairman of CSD19 and Romanian Environment Minister. Both Mr. Sha and Mr. Borbely warmly welcomed the Declaration and praised the railway sector for taking steps to improve its performance on sustainable development.

Representing the global railway sector were Mr. Vladimir Yakunin, President of the Russian Railways RZD; Mr. Takao Nishiyama, Head of New York Office, Japan Railways Group on behalf of Mr. Yoshio Ishida, Chairman of UIC and Vice-Chairman of East Japan Railway Company; Mr. Al Engel, Vice-President of AMTRAK, and UIC Director-General, Jean-Pierre Loubinoux.

Jean-Pierre Loubinoux said:

*“Sustainability is a fundamental value shared by UIC members all over the world. With this Declaration UIC and its Members demonstrate rail's commitment to be at the heart of sustainable transport systems.”*

Under-Secretary General Mr. Sha Zukang, applauding the launch of the UIC Declaration on Sustainable Mobility, said: *“I appreciate the commitments and efforts of the International Union of Railways and its members to promote sustainable development around the world. [...] A “green economy” in the context of sustainable development [...] will be one of the main themes of Rio+20 in 2012. Options for a “greener economy” would certainly require a “greener transport sector”. Without any*

doubt, the transport and the railway industries will have an important role to play in the achievement of a “greener economy”.

Mr. Borbely said:

*“The sustainable rail transport meets the demands of all three pillars of sustainable development: economic, social, and environmental. I support the development of rail as one of the solutions to sustainable development in the transport sector”.*

Mr. Yakunin said:

*“Rail is crucial for economic development worldwide. The world is changing, and rail is changing the world. The Russian rail network is key to the development of both Asia and Europe, but its development requires close cooperation between international railways; cooperation which is facilitated and supported by the UIC.”*

Mr. Engel said:

*“Railways in North America already play a crucial role in our economy, and we have the opportunity to develop the sector through new high-speed routes. We look forward to working closely with international partners and the US government to develop high-speed rail lines in the United States.”*

Mr. Nishiyama, on behalf of Mr Ishida, said:

*“The common and most urgent issue throughout the world now is the energy concern. It is certain that resources [...] will run out and the price of those resources will rise in the years to come. To solve this problem, [...] the strong requirement now is to make a system to use energy efficiently throughout all of society. The railways from now towards the future can become an ever more important mode of transport in all parts of the world. Now the railway companies like ourselves, should voluntarily take positive actions to raise the level of safety, reliability, punctuality, cleanness, comfort, and cost reduction, so that each customer will choose the railway as his or her own transport.”*

The next step for the UIC sustainability program is to develop a sector-level sustainability report to be presented to the Rio+20 conference in June 2012. This report will summarise the rail sector’s progress in delivering the commitments in the UIC Declaration on Sustainable Mobility & Transport.

Note to the editor:

1) The Declaration is available online at: [www.uic-sustainability.org](http://www.uic-sustainability.org)

## Signatories of the UIC Declaration on Sustainable Mobility and Transport

AAE	Germany	Network Rail	UK
ADIF	Spain	Niroo Rail	Iran
AMTRAK	USA	NRIC	Bulgaria
ATOC	UK	NSB	Norway
Attica	Greece	OBB	Austria
CD	Czech Republic	PKP	Poland
CFL	Luxembourg	ProRail	Netherlands
CFL Cargo	Luxembourg	RZD	Russia
CFR Calatori	Romania	SBB AG	Switzerland
CFR Marfa	Romania	SETRAG	Gabon
CFR SA	Romania	SNCB	Belgium
CP	Portugal	SNCF	France
DB	Germany	SZ	Slovenia
			Czech
DSB	Denmark	SZDC	Republic
	UK / France /	Taiwan HSR	Taiwan,
Eurostar	Belgium	Corp	China
FS	Italy	Trafiverket	Sweden
GYSEV			
Raaberbahn	Hungary	Unifertrans SA	Romania
Indian Railways	India	VR Group	Finland
JBV	Norway	ZSR	Slovakia
JIR	Serbia	ZSSK	Slovakia
JR-East	Japan	ZSSK CARGO	Slovakia
KR	Korea		
KTZ	Kazakhstan		

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