

FORUM: Environmental Commission 1

QUESTION OF: Making transport greener through new technologies

SUBMITTED BY: Germany

CO-SUBMITTERS: China, France, Austria, Uruguay, European Union, Slovakia, Serbia, Estonia, Spain, Belgium, Italy, UNDP, Armenia, Hungary, Switzerland, Mongolia, Nigeria, Serbia, Paraguay, Ghana, San Marino, Croatia, Turkey, South Sudan, Romania, Bangladesh

THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION,

Defining green transport as transport which has an energy output that is environmentally friendly, functions solely on renewable energy sources and used in such a way as not to disturb the environment,

Noting that nearly 1/4th of the global energy-related CO₂ emissions are related to transport,

Striving towards a globalized and urban world, inevitably adapting to the demands in transportation methods to continue to be bolstered,

Taking into consideration that the transition to greener modes of transportation will take time, therefore immediate change will not be possible, but understanding that the change needs to happen with no further delays,

Alarmed by the prospects of future pollution due to rise in transportation running on biomass,

Keeping in mind that More Economically Developed Countries (MEDCs) are better equipped to research, develop and implement new transport technologies,

Inviting Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDCs) to request financial support from aid organisations and MEDCs to implement mentioned technologies and strategies,

Further alarmed by the increasing mortality rate and adverse effects on cardiovascular and respiratory systems as a consequence of higher greenhouse gas emissions,

Alarmed by rising greenhouse gas (GHG) levels reported in the Fifth Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC),

Fully aware of the fact that transportation is responsible for 25% of worldwide carbon emissions and over 30% in MEDC's,

Desiring nations to act with concern and seriousness towards this issue with the support of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA),

Congratulating E/RES/2013 titled Science and Technology for Development, the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy thanks to A/RES/67/215, and UNEA/RES/1/7 (on air quality) on the change which these resolutions have provoked,

Trusting the United Nations Environment Program (EPA) and European Environmental Agency (EEA) to provide useful research on the harmful effects of greenhouse gases (GHG) as well as renewable energy sources and their applications in order to build a sustainable infrastructure,

Applauding the countries that have already invested in green technologies in transport by producing and exporting electric vehicles,

1. Calls upon all member states to:

- a) keep supporting and striving towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- b) focus their attention to growing concerns regarding climate change and the deterioration of ecosystems
 - c) keep in mind transportation's significant contribution to greenhouse gases, which severely threaten the planet;
2. Asks MEDCs to invest, and LEDCs to request funding from the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSTD) through collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in the improvement of sidewalks, in order to make walking more safe, accessible, and appealing, by adhering to the following guidelines:
- a) at least one and a half meters wide
 - b) at night and in foggy weather, with a minimum of one CFL per 15 meter
 - c) even surfaces
 - d) repaired when any damage has occurred such as cracks due to earthquakes with the support of MEDC's
 - e) clearly identifiable from highways, roads, and cycling lanes with elevated pavement or an area at least one meter wide containing a fence or grass;
3. Encourages member states to promote zero-emission automobile usage and production through minimizing the use of traditional vehicles running on petrol or gas fuel by means of:
- a) applying reduced parking fees for electric cars in public car parks
 - b) reducing annual road taxes for electric vehicles,
 - c) police and patrol fining drivers who perform power slides, excessive accelerating or braking as it wastes fuel and increases the release of gas, ultimately polluting the surrounding air incessantly,
 - d) implementing tax breaks and/or tax expenditures on the production and assembly of automobiles using renewable energy sources,
 - e) further implementing higher taxes on non-electric vehicles,
 - f) subsidizing sales of electric motorcycles, electric cars, and electric scooters in order to make green options more easily affordable, attractive, and available,
 - g) advertising green transportation methods, emphasizing the benefits to the environment, as well as the efficiency and comparison to traditional cars,
 - h) avoiding policies which displace emissions of greenhouse gases such as electric mobility powered by energy produced by fossil fuels,
 - i) informing clients of the advantage of e-scooter usage over automobiles during inquiries, whether the purchase or browsing is online or in person,
 - j) allowing for easy and safe disposal of batteries which power electric vehicles with at least one discharge point per city over 50,000 residents, and at least two discharge points per city over 200,000,
 - k) installing Level 2 e-charging stations at every gas station and additionally at a minimum of one e-charging station per 40 km
 - l) urging truck companies to employ electric trucks which will be subsidized by the government;
4. Requests all member states to launch initiatives with the goal to promote cycling through means of:
- a) ensuring there are cycling lanes adjacent to every highway and road,
 - b) introducing, in countries that do not already implement them, harsh penalties to drivers and motorists who endanger cyclists by failing to adhere to the rules of the road, such as but not limited to:
 - i. a warning,
 - ii. fines,
 - iii. suspension of license,
 - c) as part of the public education system, educating children in terms of how to cycle safely around traffic, as well as the health and environmental benefits through an annual course about safe bicycling in relevant countries;

5. Seeks an increase in the feasibility of hybrid taxis as an alternative through:
 - a) the investment in more special charging points reserved for taxis,
 - b) promoting taxi companies to use and adopt more electric vehicles through schemes in which:
 - i. the cost of electric cars are subsidised to equal the price of traditional automobiles
 - ii. rides on electric cars are subsidized by the government in order to make them cheaper than the cost of a ride on traditional cars
 - iii. aid from United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSTD) will be considered, if needed,;
6. Further requests member states to put in an effort to make public transport, specifically buses and trams, appeal more to the public through:
 - a) investing in disabled access for all public transport
 - b) opting for buses with energy-capture and/or hydrogen powered technology, which are designed to operate more efficiently and experiment with vehicles that are powered by alternative fuel sources
 - c) offering grants to bus service operators to help them make changes to their fleet which will make them more fuel efficient and ultimately reduce vehicle emissions levels
 - d) developing the surveillance and security in public transport areas in order to create a safe environment for citizens using public transportation
 - e) advising large companies, schools, and universities to foster lift-sharing schemes amongst employees or service users;
7. Further encourages for the continuation or commencement of:
 - a) implementing an electrification process in which any (remaining) diesel routes are converted into electrified tracks
 - b) replacing traditional trains with hybrid locomotives
 - c) advertising the appeal of trains against planes
 - d) incentivizing cleaner fuel sourced through emphasizing that:
 - i. diesel-powered trains are noisier and pollute a lot more than electric trains
 - ii. electric trains travel at top speeds of more than 200 mph and maintain high levels of safety;
8. Further endorses all nations in cooperation with EEA and EPA to continue the advancement in research and experimentation in wind energy, solar energy, geothermal energy, hydroelectric power, hydrogen power, transportation in larger cities around the world in order to gain an understanding of its environmental benefits, through ways such as, but not limited to:
 - a) encouraging governments to engage in private-public partnerships with corporations developing hydrogen powered transportation
 - b) engaging in government funded research
 - c) continuing the implementation of transportation, specifically boats and busses, in cities, in order to help make them more efficient
 - d) collaborating with nations that have already implemented hydrogen powered transportation;
9. Supports, in collaboration with IRENA, raising awareness surrounding green energy and the importance of its role in making transportation greener, through methods such as, but not limited to:
 - a) encouraging governments to raise awareness and promote projects for the development of modern transportation
 - b) collaborating with schools, large companies, and other education centers, in order to:
 - i. educate the youth on the benefits of sustainable energy in transportation
 - ii. help initiate change by learning
 - iii. create alternative ways of transportation more of a norm amongst citizens

- c) displaying informational boards and posters in public areas to help educate and reinforce the importance to citizens
- d) partnering with companies that strive for renewable energy to be a norm in society, and to continue the growth of renewable energy in transportation
- e) testing and implementing green energy alternatives such as:
 - i. wind energy
 - ii. solar energy
 - iii. geothermal energy
 - iv. hydroelectric power
 - v. hydrogen power
- f) advertising Public Service Announcement videos (PSAs) supported by governments aiming towards educating the public on the importance and environmental benefits of using public transport
- g) providing specialized research to help countries use available resources in order to transition to renewable energy sources
- h) making resources like IRENA's Global Atlas for Renewable Energy available in locations across the world to help countries evaluate the potential for renewable energy development;

10. Supports, in collaboration with IRENA, the education of drivers, in terms of:

- a) the harmful effects of:
 - i. powersliding
 - ii. excessive breaking
 - iii. acceleration
- b) The benefits of using green transportation such as but not limited to:
 - i. little to no environmental pollution
 - ii. economising money
 - iii. contributing to the building of a sustainable economy
 - iv. improved health;

11. Further supports MEDCs to financially assist less developed countries who may not have the infrastructure and/or funding required to facilitate the transition into greener transportation, with aid from the United Nations Fund for Science and Technology for Development (UNFSTD);

12. Offers to provide a platform for trading new technologies to all member states that either do not have the means to produce their own and/or require support through a committee dedicated to such matters of relations, in which specific regulations will be established and adjusted when needed in consideration of the economic status of the country of export and import and their demands;

13. Strongly recommends the establishment of an annual international conference which discusses the improvements, delays, and future plans which are to take place in order to maximize the efficiency of the transition in participating nations under the supervision of United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO);

14. Encourages member states to further subsidize and promote electric car-sharing, bicycle-sharing, and motorcycle sharing companies or services by means such as, but not limited to:

- a) Increased advertisements promoting such services,
- b) Billboard displays on the topic,
- c) Parking slots limited to shared vehicles only.