



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
16 July 2021

Original: English

Seventy-fifth session

Agenda item 128 (a)

Strengthening of the United Nations system: strengthening of the United Nations system

Turkmenistan: draft resolution

Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to ensure stable and reliable international transport for sustainable development during and after the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution [69/213](#) of 19 December 2014, entitled “Role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development”, its resolution [70/197](#) of 22 December 2015, entitled “Towards comprehensive cooperation among all modes of transport for promoting sustainable multimodal transit corridors”, and its resolution [72/212](#) of 20 December 2017, entitled “Strengthening the links between all modes of transport to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals”,

Reaffirming its commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the importance of timely implementation, in this decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development¹ and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,² and reaffirming also the Paris Agreement,³

Aware of the Group of 20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment of 2019, a set of voluntary, non-binding principles designed to reflect an aspiration for quality infrastructure investment,

Recalling the first United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference, held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on 26 and 27 November 2016, and recalling also its Ashgabat Statement,⁴

¹ Resolution [70/1](#).

² Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

³ See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

⁴ [A/C.2/71/6](#), annex.



Noting the ongoing discussions about opportunities, challenges and solutions for achieving sustainable transport and ensuring stable and reliable international transport in international transport forums and within the United Nations system, recognizing the efforts already being carried out by United Nations technical and regional bodies, and looking forward to the upcoming second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference, to be held in Beijing, China, from 14 to 16 October 2021, which is to contribute to achieving sustainable transport, and the Ministerial Transport Conference for Landlocked Developing Countries, to be held in Turkmenistan on 5 and 6 April 2022,

Recalling its resolution [74/299](#) of 31 August 2020, entitled “Improving global road safety”, in which the General Assembly decided to convene, no later than the end of 2022, the first ever high-level meeting of the Assembly on improving global road safety,

Recognizing the need for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk and that disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective,

Noting the need for continued international cooperation to address the issues relating to transport and transit corridors as an important element of sustainable development and connectivity, and in this regard noting the related intergovernmental deliberations in the relevant international bodies and forums, inter alia, in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the role of transport and transit corridors in ensuring international cooperation for sustainable development,⁵

Recognizing the important role of sustainable transport in response to situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic, including through the facilitation and delivery of assistance and essential goods and stability of global supply chains, particularly in relation to medical supplies, especially priority diagnostics and treatments, medicine and vaccines, and in this regard noting with appreciation the efforts of States to ensure the smooth operation of transport corridors during and after the COVID-19 pandemic,

Reiterating the importance of transport and transit corridors in facilitating transport linkages on domestic routes and promoting urban-rural connectivity in order to boost economic growth at the local and regional levels, promote interconnections between cities, peoples and resources and facilitate intraregional and interregional economic and sustainable development, emphasizing that transport and transit corridors should be safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and environmental impacts,

Noting the importance of promoting the integration of science, technology and innovation into sustainable, integrated, multimodal and intermodal transport systems by tapping into technological opportunities in the decades to come to bring about fundamental, transformative changes to transport systems, including accelerated digitalization, energy efficiency technologies and low-emission fuel technologies, and to strengthen capacity-building support to developing countries,

Recognizing the importance of addressing the particular vulnerability of landlocked countries, especially low- and middle-income countries, inter alia, by establishing and promoting efficient transit transport systems that link them to international markets, and in this regard reaffirming that the Almaty Declaration,⁶ the

⁵ [A/70/262](#).

⁶ *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.*

Vienna Declaration and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024⁷ constitute a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked and transit developing countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels,

Stressing the importance of enhancing inter-island connectivity and linking the economies of small island developing States to regional markets and global supply chains, including by integrating them into existing and emerging maritime and multimodal transport and economic corridors, and encouraging sustainable transport initiatives in the context of the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework,

Recognizing that increasing investment in infrastructure is critical to integrate global economies, which can drive growth and help to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, while the need for infrastructure is still enormous and pressing and will continue to grow, realizing that filling the huge gap in infrastructure financing will require public and private financing as well as technologies, know-how and operational efficiencies, as well as an enabling domestic environment, and in this regard affirming the need to enhance infrastructure investment and experience-sharing, and that infrastructure must be high-quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient in order to support economic development and human well-being,

1. *Reaffirms its commitment* to international cooperation and solidarity at all levels and as the only way for the world to effectively respond to global crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic and their consequences, and acknowledges the key leadership role of the World Health Organization and the fundamental role of the United Nations system in catalysing and coordinating the comprehensive global response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the central efforts of Member States therein;

2. *Emphasizes* the contribution of sustainable, low-emission and energy-efficient modes of transport to climate change mitigation and adaptation and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the importance of long-term strategies and multi-stakeholder partnerships in delivering such sustainable modes of transport;

3. *Takes into account* the important role of transport for sustainable development as well as restoring normal living conditions and unhindered mobility, including ensuring the swift delivery of medical supplies, especially essential diagnostics and treatments, medicines and vaccines, therapeutics, and other health technologies during and after the COVID-19 pandemic;

4. *Commits* to enhancing the role of sustainable transport and mobility in job creation, mobility facilitation and improvement of the efficiency of logistics chains in connecting people and communities, particularly people in vulnerable situations, to jobs, schools and health services and in the delivery of goods and services to rural and urban communities, thus providing all with equal opportunities and leaving no one behind;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to maintain the continued functioning and strengthening of the transport system and transport infrastructure in all relevant aspects necessary for sustainable development, recognizing in this regard the importance of an enabling domestic environment and adequate domestic financing for the transport sector that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability in order to ensure stable and reliable domestic and international transport;

⁷ Resolution 69/137, annexes I and II.

6. *Calls for* efforts to promote regional and interregional economic integration and cooperation, including by improving the planning of transportation infrastructure and mobility;

7. *Invites* Member States, as appropriate, to consider the experience achieved by the international community in dealing with the consequences of disasters through enhancing the effective implementation of relevant international conventions and multilateral instruments on transport and transit with the aim of ensuring stable, safe, reliable, accessible and sustainable transport during and after the COVID-19 pandemic;

8. *Underlines* the importance of international cooperation between relevant modes of transport and transport-related industries to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including by exchanging information, scientific knowledge and best practices, as well as sharing experiences from the implementation of national transport development programmes and strategies as appropriate;

9. *Reaffirms its full commitment* to the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development, and in this regard underlines the need for the United Nations system to work as one to support all Governments;

10. *Emphasizes* the need to promote the development of a sustainable transport sector, which should contribute to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and minimize the adverse impact thereon;

11. *Suggests* that, with the further development of quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure and multimodal transport corridors, the use of electronic unified transport documents based on the digital transmission of relevant data could be considered for their potential, as they could minimize human involvement in transport and border crossing processes and thus could enhance the resilience of transport and logistics chains;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of having reliable and sustainable channels for mutual exchange of information about the impact on transport operations and the movement of people by all modes of transport in situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic;

13. *Calls for* the promotion of the resilience of passenger transport to any outbreaks and other public health threats to contain the spread of infectious diseases in all modes of transport and in transport infrastructure facilities;

14. *Recognizes* the need to increase the resilience of transport systems to the threat of disasters, including through the mobilization of resources, leverage partnerships and assign technical resources, noting in this regard the work of the relevant mechanisms and initiatives of the United Nations and Governments;

15. *Recalls* the need to mobilize adequate financial resources, in order to increase the resilience of transport systems to effectively respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, including through the promotion of research collaboration and public-private partnerships, where conceivable and practicable, so as to ensure a full, inclusive and sustainable post-disaster recovery and to build back better, with emphasis on the three dimensions of sustainable development;

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of support for the ongoing development of the existing required institutional, legal, technical and administrative capacity of developing countries to ensure consistent application of internationally agreed standards, as applicable, and an efficient multimodal transport system.