



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brussels, 18 December 2009

## CLIMATE CHANGE: BEHAVIOUR CHANGE AND CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDED

**The difficult negotiations of COP15 summit, showed that a different solution to tackle climate change must be found and that CO<sub>2</sub> and GHG emissions are only one part of the problem. The International Association of Public Transport (UITP) calls for a radical shift in mobility behaviour and capacity building on alternatives to the private car.**

The majority of GHG emissions now come from urban areas and urban transport emissions are on the increase, especially from the developing world.

Transport related CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are expected to increase by 57% worldwide in the period 2005 – 2030, much more than in other sectors. In contrast to this, global GHG emissions must be reduced by more than 80% by 2050 from 1990 levels in order to avoid a dangerous climate change.

Furthermore, urban population is estimated to increase up to 50% by 2050, meaning that to rationalize urban space integrated mobility policies and planning are needed in terms of mobility.

“It is clear that the transport sector needs to contribute more to mitigation efforts and that short, medium and long term goals should be put in place” says Hans Rat, UITP’s Secretary General. “COP15 has been pretty discouraging and we will have to see what the next 12 months bring. But this is no time to give up. To the contrary let’s start this next phase by energetically addressing this issue at all levels and expanding public transport to double its market share is one of them.”

Concentrating all efforts on technology only would mean that we would just shift the problem. However clean cars and truck get they still cause congestion and this also impacts economic growth and development. Besides, the cost of reducing emissions only via technology is both expensive per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub> reduced and will not deliver results in medium and short terms.

Building capacity on the other hand on all modes of sustainable transport, including education, strengthening institutions for policy implementation and expert networks on the local, national or regional level Will bring more lasting and solid results.

Sustainable development in the transport sector requires intelligently combining modes and designing efficient, integrated systems. This requires significant investment in planning, assessment and appraisal skills as well as infrastructure. At least some of this should be financed from carbon based funds.

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### **Notes to Editors**

UITP (International Association of Public Transport) is the international network for public transport authorities and operators, policy decision-makers, scientific institutes and the public transport supply and service industry. It is a platform for worldwide cooperation, business development and the sharing of know-how between its 3,100 members from 90 countries. UITP is the global advocate for public transport and sustainable mobility, and the promoter of innovations in the sector. For more information, please visit [www.uitp.org](http://www.uitp.org).

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