

Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Communications

STATEMENT FOR THE 6TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT

Thank you Chair
Distinguished delegates

On the onset I would like to express Pakistan is endeavoring to upgrade its road infrastructure through construction of high speed network of highways and motorways. For achieving the goals of regional connectivity, availability of infrastructure of roads, rail, ports, aviation links and legal framework facilitating the movement of goods and passenger transport in the shape of Transport Agreements are the important elements.

Availability of an efficient transport and communications network is a prerequisite for a meaningful economic cooperation amongst nations, particularly in trade and tourism for attracting foreign investment and realizing the potential gains from an outward oriented trade strategy. Enhanced export competitiveness is also contingent upon the efficient performance of the transport sector.

From Torkham, Chaman, Khunjrab, Wagah and Taftan borders, well developed National Highways & Motorways Network, provides efficient road transport connectivity to traffic from Afghanistan, Central Asia, China, South Asia & Iran for access to Pakistani deep sea Ports at Karachi and Gwadar.

Pakistan's Transport Corridors (Rail & Road) stand integrated with Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL), ECO Network, SCO Networks Asian Highways & Rail Networks under UNESCAP and CAREC International Transport Corridors thus providing efficient transport connectivity with Pakistan's deep sea ports at Karachi and Gwadar. Pakistan is open to become a conduit for linking Eurasian landmass, China, Russia and Central Asian States with the Arabian Sea.

CPEC is a flagship project under OBOR (One Belt One Road) and a natural connectivity link between Asia and Europe. China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) envisioned as part of One Belt One Road (OBOR) / Maritime Silk Route initiative will act as a bridge for the new Maritime Silk Route that envisages linking 3 billion people in Asia, Africa and Europe, and it is also part of a Trans-Eurasian project.

In addition to development of road infrastructure, Transport Agreements have also key role in facilitating movement of people and goods across the borders. Ministry of Communications, Government of Pakistan is the custodian of various bilateral and multilateral road transport agreements with different Governments of the region to facilitate international transport of passengers and goods. Pakistan has Road Transport Agreements with China, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Iran and Turkey. Pakistan is also party to Intergovernmental Transit Transport Agreements under aegis of Economic Cooperation Organization (10 ECO Governments), Shanghai Cooperation Organization SCO (8 Governments) and Quadrilateral Agreement on Traffic in Transit (4 Governments).

In order to facilitate international transport & enhance trade activities in the region, Government of Pakistan has acceded to UN International TIR and CMR Conventions thus aligning and harmonizing our cross border procedures with the international standards

We do recognize that improving road safety should be one of the prime agenda of the Governments – particularly the emerging economies like Pakistan. Road safety has been included in the National Transport Policy of Pakistan. Road Safety is also made part of every road development project. National Steering Committee with representatives from all stakeholders at the Federal and Provincial Governments Levels has also been set up. National Road Safety Strategy based on the five pillars of the Global Plan of the United Nations Decade of Action has been launched.

Government of Pakistan is in favour of promoting Intermodal Transport & Logistics and in view of its significance, this has been adequately covered in the National Transport Policy.

In the end I would like to congratulate the chair for organizing such a productive meeting under difficult COVID conditions

Statement on China-Pakistan Economic Corridor

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a framework of regional connectivity. CPEC will not only benefit China and Pakistan but will have positive impact on Iran, Afghanistan, India, Central Asian Republic, and the region. The enhancement of geographical linkages having improved road, rail and air transportation system with frequent and free exchanges of growth and people to people contact, enhancing understanding through academic, cultural and regional knowledge and culture, activity of higher volume of flow of trade and businesses, producing and moving energy to have more optimal businesses and enhancement of co-operation by win-win model will result in well connected, integrated region of shared destiny, harmony and development.

China Pakistan Economic Corridor is journey towards economic regionalization in the globalized world. It founded peace, development, and win-win model for all of them.

China Pakistan Economic Corridor is hope of better region of the future with peace, development and growth of economy.