Svenskt anförande vid Global Sustainable Transport Conference, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 26-27 november 2016

Your Excellencies, Distinguished participants, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First of all, let me thank the government of Turkmenistan for hosting this conference, and for the excellent arrangements.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is universal. All UN Member States have committed to implementing the Agenda to promote development while protecting the planet. While the primary responsibility for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda lies with national governments, we need a global partnership and strong multilateral institutions to support the efforts of governments and other actors to implement the Agenda. We also need effective and inclusive multi-stakeholder partnerships, at all levels, across borders.

Investment in transport infrastructure is crucial to achieving sustainable development, for access to education and work, for economic growth, increased equality and to address the issue of air pollution. The right investments in public transport, efficient freight corridors and renewable energy must be made to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

Against this background, Sweden welcomes the recent report by the Secretary-General’s High-level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport. This report adopts a holistic view of the transportation and infrastructure challenges facing us as an international community. Furthermore, it makes important recommendations on how to achieve more sustainable transportation. From our perspective it is most welcome that the report highlights all three dimensions of sustainable development—social, environmental and economic. We further welcome the broad composition of the high-level advisory group, covering business, government and international organizations. In our
electric, connected and shared vehicles, autonomous driving and
development of mobility as a service has the potential to profoundly
change mobility as well as how our cities are designed.

Sweden has a long tradition of innovation to provide sustainable and
smart solutions that will increase efficiency, including traffic safety
aspects, in the transport system. With focus on high quality products
and digital solutions Swedish companies are experts in this area and
successfully export their solutions worldwide.

My country thus stands ready to work with others to achieve more
sustainable transportation, as one important element in the
implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Thank you for your attention.