

**UN SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT CONFERENCE ASHGABAT  
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**UNITED KINGDOM**

**STATEMENT BY BARONESS NICHOLSON OF WINTERBOURNE**

The UK welcomes the United Nations High Level Advisory Group on Sustainable Transport Outlook Report as an important step towards a more co-ordinated and effective global transport sector within the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals framework.

The UK has played a leading role in progressing these and we are pleased to play our part in the expansion of a common global vision and narrative on sustainable transport.

The challenge requires us to be bold and ambitious and this will need to be reflected in our approach to the world wide transport sector.

One part of this will be through the development of a tracking framework for transport on a global scale, which the UK has funded to date.

The UK has key transport skills and expertise within Government, academia and private sector to offer the international community.

We look forward to exploring how we can most effectively engage in driving the Sustainable Development agenda forward.

An example of this is the UK's Department for Transport as a world leader on Road Safety.

The UK's Department for International Development and Department for Transport are working together to see how we can ensure the international community benefits from their expertise.

A strong example of the UK commitment to this is in East Africa where we are working with partner Governments.

The Department for International Development are financing over £288million, or the majority contribution, to the £443million multi-donor Trade Mark East Africa programme.

Results to be achieved include modernisation of the main ports at Mombasa in Kenya and Dar es Salaam in Tanzania to improve productivity and efficiency.

Transit times and trade costs along major transport corridors will be reduced by 15%; and 10% respectively with 50% increase in exports within the targeted programme sub-sectors, equivalent to additional exports worth almost \$2 billion.

This shows how the UK recognises the strong links between trade and transport and is supporting these domestically and internationally.