



United States Department of State

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Intervention on Behalf of the United States Government Delivered by: **Judith Enck**,  
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Mr. Chairman, Honorable Ministers, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
thank you.

We have had productive discussions at CSD 18 and want to continue to emphasize sustainable solutions to the challenging transportation issues under discussion during the past week.

Transportation is essential to economic growth and stability in developed and developing countries. Efforts to make transportation environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable are essential to achieving our sustainable development goals.

To realize sustainable transportation within our own country, the U.S. government remains focused on innovative solutions that incentivize clean, efficient and effective transportation systems and technology. Specifically:

- Solutions that capitalize on our successes using a variety of approaches, including good governance practices, partnerships, and voluntary approaches, and
- Solutions that aggressively reduce transportation impacts on air quality, climate, and other environmental systems, while improving human health, particularly for vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly.

In the US, we have dramatically reduced the emissions of multiple pollutants from cars, trucks, buses, and other vehicles through a “systems approach” that reflects the critical dependence of the most effective emission control technologies on low sulfur fuels. We also support the global Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles’ call for global sulfur levels in gasoline and diesel of 50 parts per million or less.

Efforts to improve the environmental sustainability of transportation are also a key piece of the President's commitment to aggressive action on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In keeping, our Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Transportation (US DOT) have jointly finalized the first U.S. GHG standards for light-duty vehicles – which will reduce carbon dioxide emissions to a level equivalent to taking 50 million cars and light trucks off our roads in 2030.

Cross-departmental partnerships within governments provide innovative, cross-sectoral solutions to promote sustainable transportation. The USDOT, EPA, and Department of Housing and Urban Development have partnered to improve access to affordable housing, provide more transportation options, and lower transportation costs while protecting the environment and promoting smart growth.

The U.S. is committed to the sustainable production and use of biofuels. We believe that a productive, science-based dialogue on the sustainability of biofuels is important for the continued development of the bioenergy industry. We note that the Global Bioenergy Partnership (GBEP) is relatively advanced in its work to develop science-based criteria and indicators for bioenergy sustainability. The U.S. is actively engaged in GBEP's work.

We are also looking towards other new and innovative solutions, including supporting research on new battery technology. Around our ports we are specifically looking to improve transportation efficiency and emissions performance.

EPA's Regional Office based here in New York is working closely with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to implement clean air strategies to reduce emissions at the port terminals. The Clean Air Strategy, finalized in October 2009, will reduce the Port's criteria pollutants by 3% and greenhouse gases by 5% annually. Along with environmental and community organizations, industry representatives, state and local agencies, we are reducing diesel emissions through harbor vessel and locomotive repowers, truck replacement programs, idle reduction campaigns and construction equipment retrofits. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is investing over \$600 million in rail expansion to reach a capacity of 1.2 million rail lifts per year, displacing over 1.8 million truck trips and many tons of emissions.

Through a showcase effort – proposed by the U.S., Canada, and France and approved by the International Maritime Organization in March – a newly designated Emission Control Area (ECA) in North America will require large ships in the ECA to use dramatically cleaner fuel and technologies, providing substantial public health benefits that extend hundreds of miles inland and also benefiting marine and terrestrial ecosystems. We hope this will serve as a model which other countries consider adopting.

We emphasize Partnerships as proven and effective tools. Our SmartWay Transport Program is a voluntary public-private partnership that is effectively reducing greenhouse gas emissions across the global supply chain and saving transportation providers money through advanced technologies and practices. And we share our sustainable transportation innovations across the globe – for example, public transportation systems in Chile, China, India, Mexico, and Thailand have benefited from EPA’s diesel retrofit pilot programs to reduce air pollution.

U.S. policies continue to engage low-income individuals, minority groups, and women in the planning process. USDOT Technology Exchange Centers facilitate government-to-government information-sharing on safe, secure, efficient transportation.

In closing, the U.S. has developed a number of good governance practices, partnership programs, and innovative solutions, working collaboratively with companies, organizations, and communities, to achieve sustainable transportation for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and I look forward to hearing from the other panelists. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.