The CSD Secretariat announces the Thematic Seminar on Transport, the fifth event in the CSD Thematic Seminar Series.

Topic Overview
Significant new challenges have emerged since the Commission on Sustainable Development last reviewed transport, together with energy, at its ninth and fifteenth sessions (2001 and 2006-2007). Access to goods and services will need to expand dramatically to meet poverty eradication goals. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 2007 has highlighted the negative impacts of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, including the fastest growing emissions from the transport sector. The recent high cost variability of limited remaining oil stocks and the increasing congestion, local pollution, urbanization, and road accidents indicate a need to rethink transport development. Substantial effort is therefore required to assess transport activity, plan for livable cities and shift investment to efficient transport modes.

Panel Presentations
This seminar will feature presentations by the following panel of experts:

Mr. Peter O’Neill
Lead Infrastructure Specialist, World Bank
“Financing of Rural Transport Infrastructure and Services: Trends, Achievements and Challenges”

Mr. Sergio Sanchez
Director, Clean Air Initiative (CAI)
“Co-benefits of Public Transport in Urban Centers: Experiences from Industrialized and Developing Countries”

Ms. Jennifer Ewing Thiel
U.S. Tools and Technical Innovation Director, ICLEI- Local Governments for Sustainability
“Hidden Subsidies for Urban Car Transportation: Public Funds for Private Transport”

Mr. Michael Replogle
Global Policy Director and Founder, Institute for Transportation & Development Policy
“The Role of International Partnerships in Promoting Sustainable Transport Solutions”

The panel presentations will be followed by an open discussion, which will be moderated by Ms. Tania Valerie Raguz, Vice-Chair (Croatia) of CSD-18.

E-Discussion
Following the Transport Seminar, an e-discussion on several key topics will be launched through the Division’s website at: http://bit.ly/cwJ3bB to enable further dialogue on the issue of transport leading up to CSD-18. All are invited to participate.

All interested representatives from Governments, UN entities, IGOs, NGOs and other Major Groups holding a valid UN grounds pass or representing an accredited organization are welcome to participate. For inquiries, please contact Tonya Vaturi, Division for Sustainable Development, phone: 212-963-4704, or e-mail: vaturi@un.org.