Perspectives for international cooperation in implementing Rio+20 decisions

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New York
• United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 13-22 June 2012
• Largest UN Conference in history
• Outcome Document: “The future we want” (endorsed by UN General Assembly Resolution A/66/L.56)
• References to Sustainable Transport: §§ 132-133
The Future We Want § 132:

“We note that transportation and mobility are central to sustainable development. Sustainable transport achieves better integration of the economy while respecting the environment. We recognize the importance of the efficient movement of people and goods, and access to environmentally sound, safe and affordable transportation as a means to improve social equity, health, resilience of cities, urban-rural linkages and productivity of rural areas. In this regard, we take into account road safety as part of our efforts to achieve sustainable development.”

Note: underlined inserted by author
The Future We Want § 133:

“We support the development of sustainable transport systems, including energy efficient multi-modal transport systems, notably public mass transport systems, clean fuels and vehicles, as well as improved transportations systems in rural areas. We recognize the need to promote an integrated approach to policy making at the national, regional and local levels for transport services and systems to promote sustainable development. We also recognize that the special development needs of land-locked and transit developing countries need to be taken into account while establishing sustainable transit transport systems. We acknowledge the need for international support to developing countries in this regard.”

Note: underline inserted by author
Outcomes of preceding CSD-19 policy debate (2-13 May 2011): Recommended policy options and actions on sustainable transport:

§13 Improve public transport systems: “consider enhancing bus rapid transit, metro and light rails systems, taking into account successful experiences”

Note: Complete text available as hand-out
Outcomes of preceding CSD-19 policy debate (2-13 May 2011):
Recommended policy options and actions on sustainable transport:

§14 (b) Enhance modals shifts: “promote greater use of railways and inland waterways, in particular for high-volume passenger and freight transport over long distances and between cities and commercial centers as well as the modernizations of railways and the integration of ports and airports with the hinterland, including through the promotion of technological improvements.”
Outcomes of preceding CSD-19 policy debate (2-13 May 2011): Recommended policy options and actions on sustainable transport:

§15 Further develop and improve transport technologies and operational procedures;

§16 (h) Create and enabling environment for sustainable transport: Make efforts that financial austerity programmes do not result in a reduction of public transport services”
Outcomes of preceding CSD-19 policy debate (2-13 May 2011):
Recommended policy options and actions on sustainable transport:

§ 17 (b) Enhance international cooperation in transport: “Highlight the role of regional and international financial institutions in providing financial support to developing countries in their national policies and projects of rural-urban transport infrastructure development and in financing sustainable transport planning, including resilience to natural disasters.”
Recommendations of United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-19) and UIC Sustainability Declaration
Fully compatible and complementary
The Secretary-General called for the UN, inter alia, to “… convene aviation, marine, ferry, rail, road and urban public transport providers, along with Governments and investors, to develop and take action on recommendations for sustainable transport systems that can address rising congestion and pollution worldwide, particularly in urban areas.”
Consultative processes post Rio+20

• Consultative Process on Post-2015 Development Agenda
• Consultative Process on Universal Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
• Comprehensive 10 Year Review Conference on Almaty Programme of Action (2014)
  (31 landlocked developing countries and economies in transition, 32 transit developing countries and transition economies)
• Third Global Conference on Small Island Developing States (Samoa, 2014)
  (38 SIDS, including 12 LDCs)
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