

Paris/Leipzig, 26 May 2015

Global summit of transport ministers kicks off in Germany

Kids quiz politicians about supply chains during opening
“Children’s University” / “How do those presents get to me?”

The Annual Summit of transport ministers from around the world is opening in the German city of Leipzig today with its traditional Children’s University. This year’s topic is supply chains and logistics, or “how do those presents get to me?”

Dorothee Bär, Parliamentary State Secretary in Germany’s Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure and the logistics “czar” of the German government, will explain to pupils aged 8 to 12 years how modern supply chains help ensure their birthday presents arrive in time. José Viegas, Secretary-General of the International Transport Forum at the OECD, the organiser of the Summit, will answer the youngsters’ questions. The Children’s University is supported by DEKRA.

On Wednesday, transport ministers from all over the globe will gather in Leipzig for two-and-a-half days to discuss the role of transport in a world of growing global trade and rapidly expanding tourism. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon will be addressing the ministers via a video message. More than 1000 participants from around 70 countries are expected to attend the Summit.

Main media events on 27 May:

- ▶ 10:30 CET: **Presentation of latest international data on road safety** with ITF Secretary-General José Viegas
- ▶ 13:00 CET: **Official Summit kick-off press conference** with the Hon. Simon Bridges, Minister of Transport of New Zealand (2015 ITF Presidency country), Alexander Dobrindt, Federal Minister for Transport and Digital Infrastructure, Germany (Summit host country) and ITF-Secretary-General José Viegas (will be [webcast](#))
- ▶ 16:00 CET: **What can the transport sector do to make the COP21 climate negotiations a success?** Presentation of an initiative by 150 transport sector organisations aiming to accelerate the implementation of climate commitments in the transport sector for the COP21 climate negotiations in Paris in December.

All press conferences take place at the Summit venue, Congress Center Leipzig (CCL), Seehausener Allee 1, 04356 Leipzig, Germany.

[Media registration online](#)

(until today, 26 May, 17:00 Central European Time today)

- ▶ Press releases: www.internationaltransportforum.org/2015/media
- ▶ Webcast: www.internationaltransportforum.org/2015
- ▶ Twitter: [@ITF_Forum](#), #ITF2015
- ▶ Free photo download: www.flickr.com/photos/internationaltransportforum
- ▶ Videos: <http://www.youtube.com/IntTransportForum>
- ▶ Footage (B roll): www.internationaltransportforum.org/2015/media

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ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT FORUM

Who we are

The International Transport Forum is an intergovernmental organisation with 54 member countries. It acts as think tank for transport policy and organises the Annual Summit of transport ministers. ITF is the only global body that covers all transport modes.

What we do

ITF works for transport policies that improve peoples' lives. Our mission is to foster a deeper understanding of the role of transport in economic growth, environmental sustainability and social inclusion and to raise the public profile of transport policy.

How we do it

ITF organises global dialogue for better transport. We act as a platform for discussion and pre-negotiation of policy issues across all transport modes. We analyse trends, share knowledge and promote exchange among transport decision-makers and civil society. ITF's Annual Summit is the world's largest gathering of transport ministers and the leading global platform for dialogue on transport policy.

www.internationaltransportforum.org/2015