

# Green Freight Asia Commitment Letter



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The efficient and reliable movement of goods and services is important in achieving sustainable development. While critical for economic growth, each of the primary modes of transport – road, ocean, air, and rail – have impacts on the environment and society that need to be managed. Freight transportation now accounts for 35% of the world’s transport energy use, and is growing more rapidly than passenger transportation<sup>1</sup>. Heavy-duty diesel vehicles are the biggest fuel consumers in Asia and account for the majority of air pollutant and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions. In the meantime, freight costs comprise 14-24% of GDP in developing Asian countries, as compared to 7-8% in Europe and the US. As a result, these countries are exposed to significant economic risks from fuel price fluctuations. Asian transport and environment ministries have called for improved freight efficiency as one of the sustainable transport goals under the Bangkok 2020 Declaration.<sup>2</sup>

We, the undersigned, acknowledge that manufacturers, freight carriers, third-party logistics providers and industry associations are key stakeholders in making the freight sector more sustainable, benefiting business, society and the environment.

We support the implementation of green freight programs and initiatives throughout Asia with a vision to dramatically increase the fuel efficiency of freight, improve air quality and minimize CO<sub>2</sub> emissions that contribute to climate change, while still maintaining economic growth. Such programs can help the freight sector to: (a) become more competitive through reduced fuel costs; (b) improve on carbon accounting and reporting to clients; (c) enhance its reputation with public, customers and suppliers; and (d) provide input into the development of government freight policies and programs.

The success of green freight programs and initiatives can be ensured by:

- Creating a Green Freight Label certification and renewal process
- Facilitating awareness building, education and best practice exchange for companies to achieve the Green Freight Label certification
- Aligning with other green freight programs and national initiatives to harmonize and avoid overlaps and collaborate with other region and global environmental NGOs (e.g. partnerships with US SmartWay, Green Freight Europe, Clean Air Asia and other NGOs and industry associations )
- Growing participation of the private sector and usage of Green Freight Label

<sup>1</sup> WBCSD, 2004b: IEA/SMP Model Documentation and Reference Projection. Fulton, L. and G. Eads, <http://www.wbcd.org/web/publications/mobility/smp-model-document.pdf>> accessed 24/10/2013

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.uncred.or.jp/env/5th-regional-est-forum/doc/bangkok\\_declaration.pdf](http://www.uncred.or.jp/env/5th-regional-est-forum/doc/bangkok_declaration.pdf)

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Manufacturers and Carriers



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- Establishing a clear governance structure and working mechanism, in a neutral environment
- Creating and sharing success stories, best practices and training/education programs
- Acting as an “Information Portal” and go to platform for green truck knowledge and activities
- Adopting consistent tools and methodologies for carbon measurement and reporting while ensuring data confidentiality
- Incorporating green supply chain practices into transportation vendor selection criteria

We are committed to collaboration with other manufacturers, carriers, third party logistics providers, industry associations and all other companies who share the same vision of enabling sustainable supply chain practices across Asia, to help increase road transport fuel efficiency and reduce or avoid CO<sub>2</sub> emissions across Asia Pacific. These programs will help meet the sustainability requirements from customers and enhance each company’s brand recognition towards climate-conscious customers.

Company name:

Name | Signature:

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Company address:

Title:

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Date:

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