



ADVANCING  
PUBLIC  
TRANSPORT

UITP Press Office

# PRESS RELEASE

## THE WORLD NEEDS MORE PUBLIC TRANSPORT: UITP IS DELIVERING ON CLIMATE ACTION AT COP26



# TOGETHER FOR OUR PLANET

**BRUSSELS, 4 NOVEMBER 2021**

**The world has descended upon Glasgow, Scotland to work towards changing the future direction of our planet – and UITP will be part of the vital discussions.**

COP26 has officially launched (31 October-12 November) bringing all stakeholders around the table to set new targets on emissions, decarbonisation and the future steps needed to tackle climate change.

At UITP, we know what it means to advocate for the necessary cause of public transport.

Alongside our international membership, we do this knowing that our sector is a vital component to delivering on climate action.

More public transport means healthier cities with cleaner air, less congestion and more liveable urban space for all of us.

We will be promoting this message and more when we once again participate at COP as an official UNFCCC observer.

## Our outreach so far...

We are proud to have collaborated alongside [ETF](#), the European social partners, in issuing a new joint statement to call on the European Institutions and Member States to place public transport at the heart of their political agenda.

We will also be collaborating with [Ren21](#), the global renewable energy community on a new Policy Paper during COP26 and advocating alongside [C40](#), the Cities Climate Leadership Group and [ITF](#), the International Transport Workers' Federation to commit to improving and increasing access to our public transport systems.

Before COP26 began, UITP played a major role in [the 2nd United Nations Sustainable Transport Conference](#) held in Beijing, China, from side events with UCLG and UN-Habitat to moderating the session on sustainable transport and sustainable cities.

UITP has also joined [NetZeroCities and PIONEERS](#), two projects funded by the European Commission, with the same goal to drastically cut our carbon footprint before it is too late. And with COP26 upon us, united actions against climate change are needed now more than ever.

*"The international gathering of world leaders, decision makers and stakeholders at COP26 in Glasgow comes at a crucial time for our planet and tough, necessary decisions must be made. As a major solution to helping make our cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable for all, public transport must be at the heart of these discussions as we look towards a post-pandemic world."*

**Philip Turner**  
Head of Sustainability at UITP

## Our COP26 actions and activities

UITP will be hosting, participating, and engaging in numerous meetings, side and fringe events, transportation thematic panels and meeting with decision makers, the media, and all external stakeholders to make the case of placing public transport at the heart of the climate agenda.

Among our activities will be a special series of fireside chats on board the HydroFLEX hydrogen Train at Glasgow Central Station with UIC, Network Rail, Alstom, ATM Milan and more.

Our Secretary General Mohamed Mezghani\* will also be participating in the Transport Ministerial among the only non-ministerial and non-intergovernmental organisations guests.

Agendas are hectic at all COPs, and fighting for a cause as important as our planet is never easy.

But throughout the coronavirus pandemic, the ongoing climate crisis has remained, and we need to measure our recovery through the lens of climate change, which remains the existential threat facing the planet.

**You can stay engaged with our activities in Glasgow by following our channels from now until 12 November.**

**Attending #COP26? [Connect with us!](#)**

*\*Acting on behalf of Mohamed Mezghani SARL*

**FOR EDITORS**



**(UITP) The International Association of Public Transport** works to enhance quality of life and economic well-being by supporting and promoting sustainable transport in urban areas worldwide. As a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility, UITP is internationally recognised for its work to advance the development of this critical policy agenda. With more than **1800 members** in **100 countries**, UITP has a long history to its name, and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. Visit the [newsroom](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

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