PRESS RELEASE

PUBLIC TRANSPORT MORE VISIBLE THAN EVER AT COP22 CLIMATE TALKS

BRUSSELS, 16 NOVEMBER 2016

The COP22 climate talks in Marrakesh have focused on implementation and UITP (the International Association of Public Transport), is proud to announce that public transport is gaining increasing recognition as an indispensable tool to help countries' increase their efforts to reduce emissions.

UITP was actively involved in the transport action days, which showcased key initiatives that countries can implement to meet their climate objectives agreed upon at COP21 in Paris. UITP’s message at the COP was simple: public transport is essential to reach the Paris Agreement’s goals and without a greater shift to sustainable mobility, reaching these goals will be increasingly unlikely.

Public transport is increasingly gaining a reputation for implementation. UITP’s Declaration on Climate Leadership was recognised as one of 12 transport initiatives in the UN’s Global Climate Action Agenda, which will help provide inspiration for action countries to meet their carbon-cutting commitments. The Declaration includes over 350 pledges – 45% of which have already been implemented in 60 cities - from the public transport sector to increase carbon-cutting measures and encourage a shift from private cars to public transport. The Declaration was also recognised by the UNEP Climate Initiatives Platform as a success story.

The Declaration supports the sector objective to double the modal share of public transport globally by 2025. If this objective is achieved, per capita urban transport emissions would be reduced by 25%, a saving of half a billion tonnes of CO².

“It’s clear that the current modal share of public transport in many cities around the world is not sufficient to meet the Paris Agreement targets,” said UITP Secretary General, Alain Flausch. “Decarbonisation efforts in the transport sector therefore must go beyond technical actions and focus on long-term systemic shifts that will lock us into a low carbon pathway, making it easier to decarbonise the sector. This is where public transport is playing - and will continue to play - a vital role”.

NOTE TO EDITORS
The International Association of Public Transport (UITP) is a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport
stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. We have 1,400 member companies giving access to 18,000 contacts from 96 countries. Our members are public transport authorities and operators, policy decision-makers, research institutes and the public transport supply and service industry. Visit our website www.uitp.org. Follow us on Twitter: @UITPpressoffice.

CONTACT
ANDREW CANNING | PRESS & MEDIA MANAGER
+32 2 663 66 39 | ANDREW.CANNING@UITP.ORG