



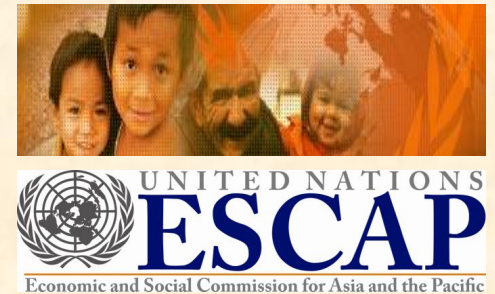
*Policy Dialogue on Strengthening  
Transport Connectivity among the South  
and South-West Asian Countries  
26-27 June 2013,  
Dhaka, Bangladesh*

## ***ESCAP Regional Strategic Framework for Facilitation of International Road Transport***

*Sandeep Raj Jain,  
Economic Affairs Officer  
Transport Facilitation & Logistics Section  
Transport Division*

## **Outline**

1. About United Nations ESCAP
2. ESCAP initiatives to enhance regional connectivity
3. Comprehensive approach is required to address transit and transport barriers – Regional Strategic Framework for facilitation of international road transport
4. Current and future work of ESCAP in transport facilitation



## 1. About United Nations ESCAP

- One of the five regional commissions of United Nations
- Largest in terms of area and population 4 billion people (56% of world's population)
- Vision - to be most comprehensive multilateral platform for promoting cooperation among member states to achieve inclusive and sustainable economic and social development
- Fastest growing region; had highest regional growth 5.6% in 2011; contributed 36 % to the World's GDP and 34% of world's export
- The region touted as an engine of global growth as per World Bank's Global Development Horizons 2011 report it will contribute 50% to global growth by 2025
- However, has 66% of World's poor (43% south Asia); only 20% have access to health care; has low intra-regional trade 37% as compared to EU 68% and NAFTA 51%



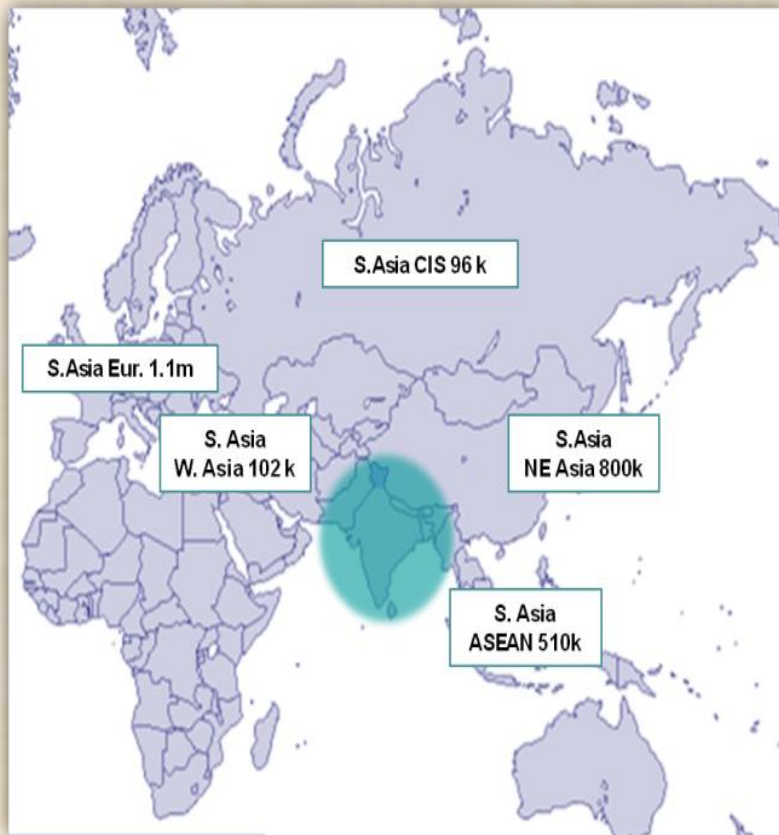


## 2. ESCAP initiatives to enhance regional connectivity

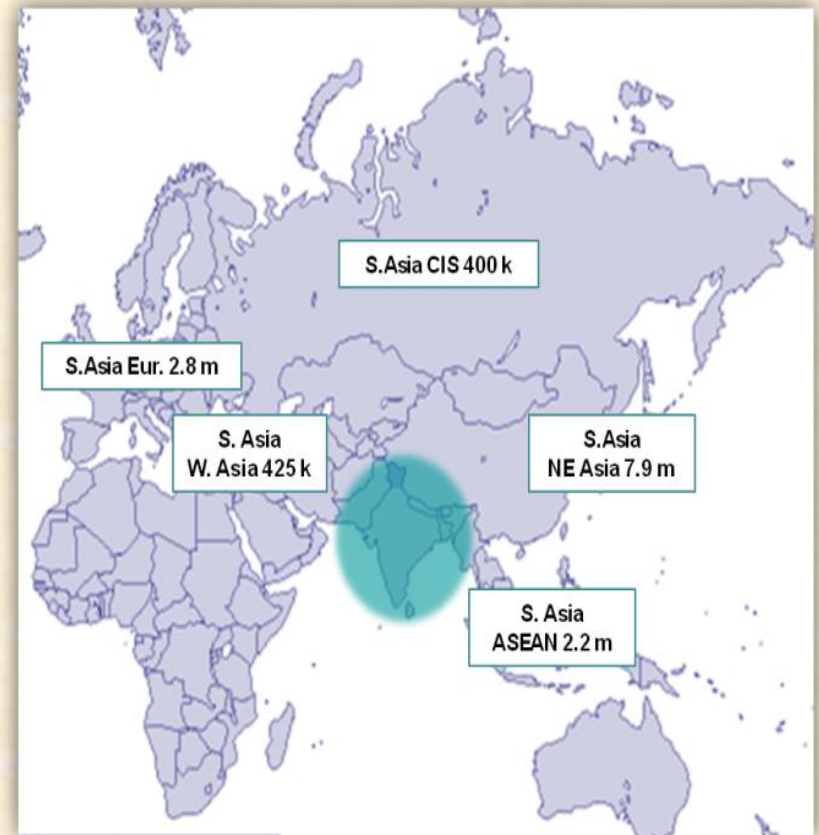
- Inter Governmental Agreements on Asian Highway and Trans-Asian Railway Networks and the proposed agreement on Dry Ports
- In 2006 members adopted Busan Declaration on Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific, 3 I's vision for transport and logistic system for the region
- 3I's are International, Inter-modal and Interconnected
- ESCAP resolution 48/11
- Transport facilitation is inherently challenging involves numerous government agencies and countries with different institutional environment and implementation capacities
- Issues are varied and complex relate to vehicles, drivers and crew, cargo, security, UNECE has 53 conventions/agreement on road transport
- No intergovernmental organization unlike for air and maritime



## UIC estimates on Container Traffic in South Asia in 2025



2 2.5 million TEUs  
in 2007  
.io2233n TEU

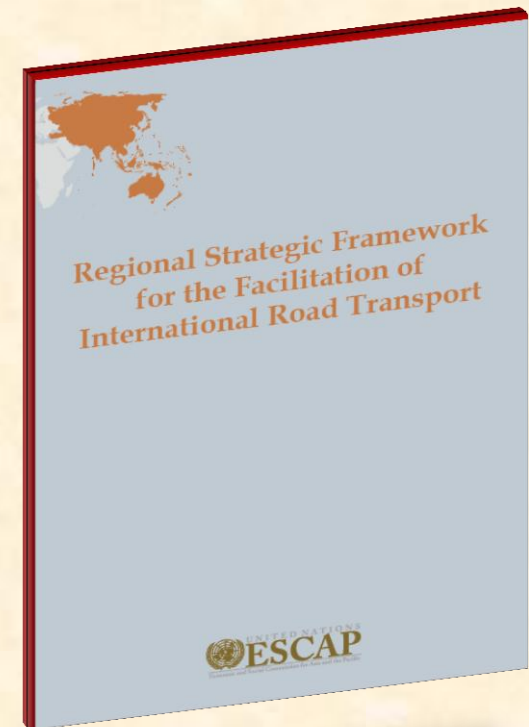


13.8 million TEUs  
in 2025

### 3. Comprehensive approach is required to address transit and transport barriers

#### Regional Strategic Framework for Facilitation of International Road Transport

- Existence of non-physical barriers can significantly impede transit transport adversely affecting connectivity of countries to regional and global markets
- Developed by ESCAP in consultation with the member countries and based on a comprehensive study on non-physical barriers
- Identifies main challenges to international road transport and provides long term targets to provide coherence and attain synergies in instituting facilitation measures
- Provides seven modalities to support facilitation of international road transport





# Regional Strategic Framework for Facilitation of International road Transport

## Fundamental issues in facilitation of international road transport

- i. Road transport permits and traffic rights
- ii. Visa issues
- iii. Temporary importation of road vehicles
- iv. Insurance of vehicles
- v. Vehicles weight and dimensions
- vi. Vehicle registration and inspection certificate



# Key modalities for facilitation international road transport

- i. *Building an effective legal regime*
- ii. Wider application of new technologies
- iii. Development of professional training
- iv. *Establishment and strengthening of national coordination mechanisms*
- v. *Promotion of joint controls at border crossings*
- vi. Promotion of economic zones at border



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