



The Voice  
of European  
Railways



**Press release**  
**Paris/Bruxelles, 21 June 2004**

**The railway and public transport sector present in Bonn to support the work on the Kyoto Protocol**

The railway and public transport sector welcomes the progress made towards a possible ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by the Federation of Russia that would enable the treaty to come into force and bring a major contribution to the limitation or reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. This new milestone would mean a significant progress for the implementation of policies targeted at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases – with their confirmed impact on climate change – and promoting sustainable development.

Railways and the public transport sector participated actively at the last Conference of Parties (COP 9) on Climate Change organised by the United Nations in December 2003 in Milan. Under the theme “**Keep Kyoto on Track**” they demonstrated with the support of independent experts and NGOs that a global political approach to transport encouraging higher market shares for rail and public transport can change the current trend.

The transport sector alone is responsible for 25 % of the global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of which 84% is directly caused by the road sector, private cars and road transport. Only 1 % is generated by rail transport and this CO<sub>2</sub> advantage can dramatically help countries to achieve the reduction targets of the Kyoto Protocol.

The International Union of Railways (UIC), the Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Managers (CER), the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) and the Union of European Railway Industries (UNIFE) will be present at the preparatory meeting of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Bonn from 16 to 25 June. The Bonn meetings are to prepare for the next ministerial conference for climate protection (COP 10) to take place in December in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Transport, railway, environment and energy experts will lead a discussion on how decision-makers and the transport sector could better cope with sustainable transport objectives. You are invited to this Forum “Keep Kyoto on Track” on **Wednesday 23 June from 10:30 to 12:00 in the conference room « Environment 2 » at the Ministry of Environment** (Robert Schumann Platz).

**From 21 to 24 June you are kindly invited to visit our joint stand that's at Hotel Maritim.**

For further information:

Visit our **website** <http://www.railway-mobility.org>.

or contact : Liesbeth de Jong, UIC, on Tel. +33 1 44492053, Margrethe Sagevik, UIC, on Tel +33 1 44492035, Heather Allen, UITP, on Tel. +32 2 6613190 or Susana Martins, UNIFE, on Tel. + 32 473 699083 or [susana.martins@unife.org](mailto:susana.martins@unife.org).