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The Event

The Annual Summit of the International Transport Forum is the unique platform for a global conversation on strategies for transport in the 21st century. Since 2008, the Annual Summit has developed into the leading global get-together of the key players in transport and transport-related sectors, providing a unique platform for high-level exchange on strategic policy issues. The theme of the 2015 Summit is **Transport, Trade and Tourism**. It will take place in Leipzig, Germany from **27-29 May 2015**, under the Presidency of New Zealand.

The Participants

More than 1 000 participants from around 80 countries, among them:

- Ministers and political decision-makers from the ITF's 54 member countries and many invited countries;
- CEOs and business leaders;
- Heads and senior representatives of international organisations;
- Heads of global, regional and national business associations; and
- Leading researchers and academics.

The Programme

The Annual Summit offers a rich programme over three days. With up to four parallel sessions at any one time, the programme includes policy discussions with Ministers in different formats, keynote addresses, networking opportunities, demonstrations, technical tours and an exhibition. A number of key industry organisations will host Summit side events. Evening receptions, a Gala Dinner, and cultural tours complement the Summit programme.

The 2015 Summit theme

Trade and tourism are important engines of economic growth. International trade represents 50.6% of global GDP and is expected to increase 350% by 2050 (in t/km). Tourism accounts for 21% of global export services. Both trade and tourism depend on effective transport systems.

Yet transport faces huge challenges as a provider of human mobility and facilitator of goods exchange. Demand for freight transport will increase with growing global commerce. Trade patterns will shift, creating uncertainty for supply chains. Growing numbers of tourists will put pressure on international and domestic transport networks around the world, highlighting the need for more sustainable and accessible services and infrastructure.

How transport should respond and meet these challenges will be at the centre of debate at the International Transport Forum's 2015 Summit from 27-29 May 2015 in Leipzig, Germany.

Links:

Programme: <http://2015.internationaltransportforum.org>

Speakers: <http://2015.internationaltransportforum.org/speakers>

Registration: <http://2015.internationaltransportforum.org/registration>