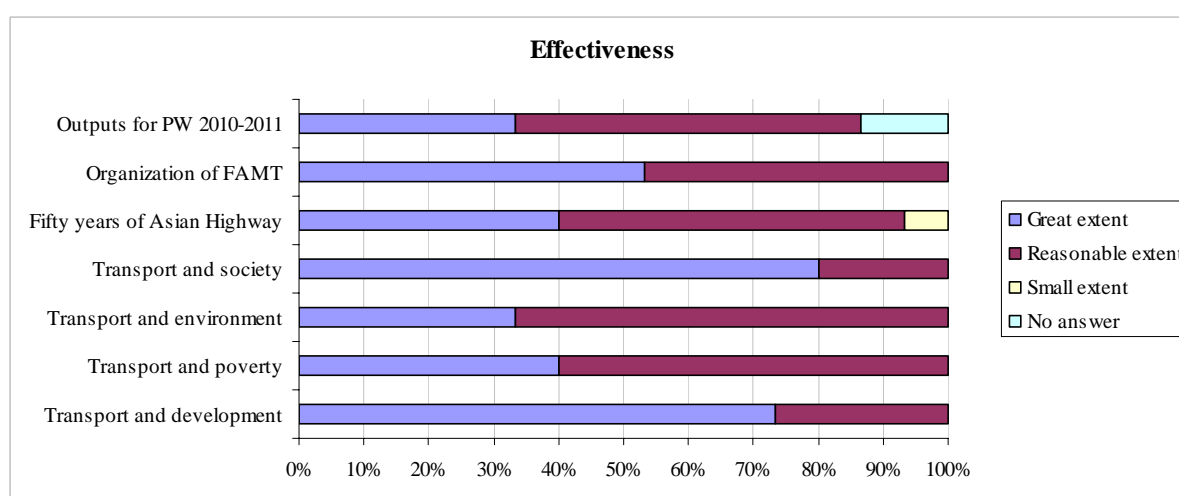


**Summary of response to the evaluation questionnaire for
Committee on Transport, 1st session
29-31 October 2008
Bangkok**

The first session of the Committee on Transport was held from 29 to 31 October 2008 in Bangkok. It was attended by 23 ESCAP members and associate members. The secretariat distributed an evaluation questionnaire which consists of three parts to all heads of delegations to assess the quality and effectiveness of the session. Responses had been received from 15 of the 23 attending countries (65.2%) by 18 November 2008. The following summary expresses the results in the form of a percentage of the delegations that responded.

PART I: QUALITY OF PREPARATIONS, DELIBERATIONS & OUTCOME

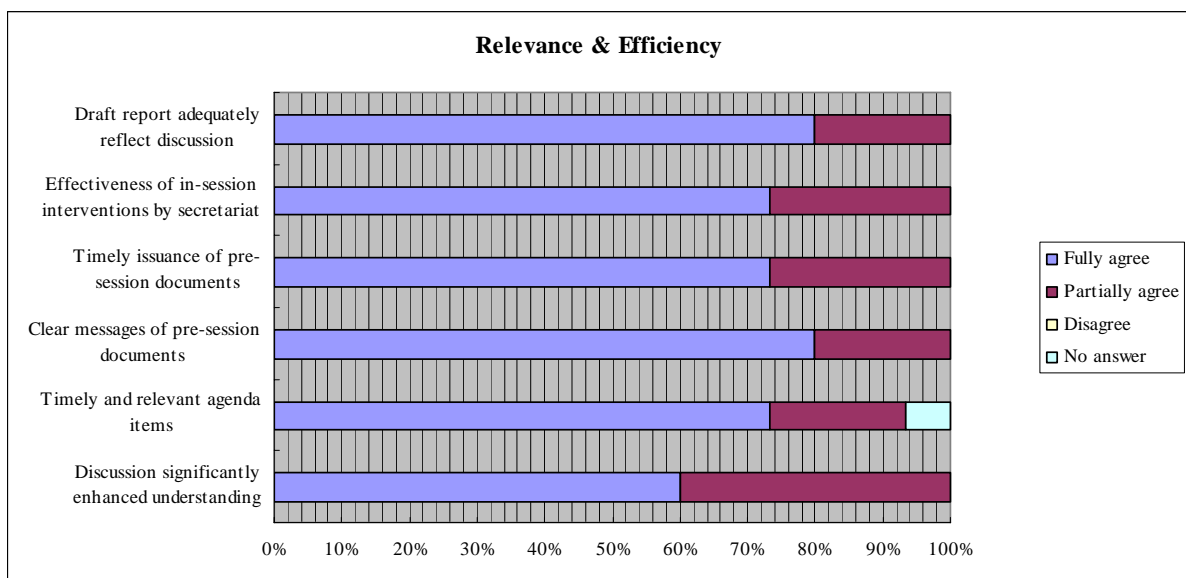
Section 1: Effectiveness



1. The majority of the delegations (73%) indicated that the deliberations on agenda item 4(a) on *“Transport and development: assessment of the contribution of transport to economic and social development”* meet the expected outcomes *“to a great extent”* and the remainder *“to a reasonable extent”*. One delegation stated that the deliberations enriched greatly from the information of the participating countries/organizations on the latest developments and challenges in transport infrastructure developments. Another delegation stated that most of the delegates participated actively and brought out the major achievements and initiatives taken in the countries.
2. The feedback was positive concerning deliberations on agenda item 4(b) on *“Transport and poverty: from farm to market – extending the reach of logistics”* with 60% of delegations feeling expected outcomes had been met *“to a reasonable extent”* and 40% *“to a great extent”*. One delegation stated the topic generated active interest amongst the members. Another delegation commented that the advanced logistic solutions of some countries were enlightening for his country to improve efficiency of food transport.
3. Under the agenda item 4(c) on *“Transport and environment: energy consumption (utilization) and emissions”*, 67% of the delegations felt that the deliberations had achieved the expected outcomes *“to a reasonable extent”* while 33% *“to a great extent”*. While recognizing the importance of the issue, two some delegations raised concern about possible duplication of work by other United Nations agencies.

4. The feedback on deliberations on agenda item 4(d) on *“Transport and society: improving road safety in Asia and the Pacific”* indicated that 80% of the delegations considered that the Committee achieved expected outcomes *“to a great extent”* and the remaining 20% *“to a reasonable extent”*. One delegation stated that the issue appeared to be very important to all the members and there was an urgent need to address this issue. Another delegation suggested a high priority be given to this issue in the agenda of the future sessions of the Committee.
5. Under agenda item 5 on *“Fifty years of the Asian Highway”*, the majority of the delegations (53%) indicated that the deliberations had met the expected outcomes *“to a reasonable extent”* and 40% of the delegations said the expected outcomes were met *“to a great extent”* and 7% *“to a small extent”*. One delegation suggested the project on the Asian Highway be evaluated while its fiftieth anniversary will be celebrated.
6. With regard to agenda item 6 on *“Organization of the first session of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport”*, over half of the delegations (53%) thought the deliberations had met the expected outcomes *“to a great extent”* and 47% considered it *“to a reasonable extent”*. One delegation expressed the wish to enrich the agenda of the forum on other occasions.
7. On matters concerning the outputs for the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2010-2011 in respect of the subprogramme on transport, feedback was generally positive, with 53% of respondents considering that deliberations provided guidance to the secretariat *“to a reasonable extent”*, 33% *“to a great extent”*. The remaining 13% did not answer. One delegation commented that members brought out lots of details and suggestions.

Section 2: Relevance & Efficiency



8. The feedback on the relevance and efficiency of discussions was largely positive. All delegations *“fully agreed”* (60%) or *“partially agreed”* (40%) that their understanding of regional experiences and policy options related to transport issues had significantly benefited from the discussions during the Committee session.

9. The majority of delegations (73%) “fully agreed” that the agenda items were timely and relevant to issues and trends regarding transport issues in the ESCAP region, 20% of the respondents “partially agreed” on that and 7% did not answer.
10. A high majority of delegations (80%) “fully agreed” that the pre-session documents conveyed clear messages concerning the issues placed on the agenda and the remainder (20%) “partially agreed”.
11. With regard to the issuance of pre-session documents, 73% “fully agreed” that they were issued on time and 27% “partially agreed”. One delegation commented that document had been submitted late.
12. The majority of the delegations (73%) “fully agreed” that the secretariat’s in-session interventions contributed to productive discussion and effective decision-making and recommendations by the Committee, with the remaining 27% “partially agreeing”. One delegation commended the secretariat for its “smooth handling of the meeting” which was done in a “very skilful and efficient manner”.
13. All delegations “fully agreed” (80%) or “partially agreed” (20%) that the draft report adequately reflected the discussion, decisions and recommendations of the Committee. One delegation commented that the report prepared by the secretariat was excellent.

PART II: FORMAT AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICING BY THE SECRETARIAT

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14. All delegations (100%) indicated that the duration of the agenda item 4 on “major issues in transport” was appropriate.
15. Almost all delegations (93%) found the duration of the agenda item on “Fifty years of the Asian Highway” to be appropriate. One delegation did not answer this question.
16. Regarding the duration of the agenda item 6 on “Organization of the first session of the Forum of Asian Ministers of Transport”, 87% of the delegations found it to be appropriate while one delegation found it to be too short. Another one delegation did not answer this question.
17. The majority of the delegations (60%) found the level of conference servicing by the secretariat to facilitate smooth conduct of the session to be good and 33% found it to be excellent.

PART III: IMPROVEMENT OF FUTURE SESSIONS

18. Eight of the respondent delegations provided additional comments and suggestions on how future sessions of the Committee could be improved. The comments can be summarized as follows:
 - One delegation noted that more attention should be given to the implementation of provisions contained in the steering document, the RAP 2007-2011 of Busan Declaration, i.e. ALTID project.
 - One delegation suggested that PPP (public-private partnerships) in transport sector/infrastructure at interregional level may be included in future activities to

benefit and equip member states in this area and to share success stories in this area.

- Regarding issues on road safety, one delegation stated that there was a need to consider the issue of using right-wheel vehicles in countries with right-driving, as in some countries the use of both right-wheel and left-wheel vehicles was allowed, and in some it was strictly prohibited.
- Some delegations suggested that the secretariat invite other related ministries to attend future Committee sessions.
- Some delegations suggested parallel transmission of invitations and documentations via email.
- One delegation suggested that the secretariat make tailor-made themes for studies, reports as well as new agenda items that could particularly serve the region in its entirety will be helpful and promising.

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