

30 January 2019

Dear colleagues,

It is a real honour for me, as Secretary General of UITP, to welcome the participants and guests of ElectroTrans and CityBus exhibitions, which is held in the context of the Russian public transport week.

UITP (Union Internationale des Transports Publics) is the International Association of Public Transport and a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility. It is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes. UITP can count on more than 1,600 member companies giving access to over 18 000 contacts from 99 countries. Our members are public transport authorities and operators, policy decision-makers, research institutes and the public transport supply and service industry.

As new tram and subway lines are built in many cities around the world and electric buses are being built successfully operated it can be argued that electric urban transport will be one of the main driver of the future of urban mobility.

30 years ago the cities of the Eurasian region were among the leaders in the use of electric transport. Unfortunately, over the past decades tram and trolleybus systems gave way for small-capacity bus transport and private car.

It is with great appreciation that I have notice in recent years that the Moscow Government is paying increased attention to sustainable modes of urban transport. Metro, tram and bus fleets are being renewed, and ambitious purchases of electric buses are being made. I hope that this leadership of the Russian capital will inspire other Eurasian and world cities to extend the deployment of sustainable modes of transport.

ElectroTrans exhibition is one of the main event in the Eurasian region dedicated to urban electric transport technologies. The exhibition has established itself as an effective platform for dialogue between industry experts, authorities and decision-makers. The CityBus salon of urban buses complements it with latest trends in bus industry.

I wish the participants of ElectroTrans and CityBus exhibitions fruitful business contacts and successful projects which will lead to expansion of electric transport development!

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Mohamed Merghard, UITP Secretary General