A Development Framework for Sustainable Urban Transport

1. The regional technical assistance (TA) was approved on 6 November 2007 for $500,000 on a grant basis from ADB’s TA funding program. The completion date is 31 August 2008. ADB is the Executing Agency for the TA.

2. The TA will (i) provide a strategic vision with clear-cut directions for sustainable urban transport, and (ii) develop a strategic development framework that will help DMCs in developing effective and realistic transport solutions to meet the growing demand for travel. The TA will build on past and current initiatives, including the recently completed city case studies under the regional TA on sustainable urban transport. The TA outputs will enhance ADB’s ability to engage in policy dialogue with DMCs and deliver lending and TA projects in key areas of its operations.

3. A team of three international consultants has been recruited and fielded in February 2008 to examine the requirements of sustainable transport and to prepare a development framework for holistic policy development including transport issues as well as climate change, energy security and social issues. Consulting services are proceeding as scheduled and in accordance with the envisaged outputs. The draft final report is expected by mid-August 2008. The TA findings will be presented at a regional workshop in Manila to be held back-to-back with a proposed ADB Transport Forum during the second week of September 2008. It is also planned that core messages from the study be disseminated during the forthcoming Better Air Quality (BAQ) Conference being organized by Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities in November 2008.

4. In May 2008, the global Transport Knowledge Partnership (gTKP), a program supported by the Government of United Kingdom’s Department of International Development (DFID), offered to provide ADB £60,000 (Pounds Sterling) or approximately $120,000 equivalent as cofinancing support for the planned back-to-back transport workshop. The additional funds will be spent to support the workshop component and expand theme coverage to include.

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rural transport and cross-cutting themes such as governance, climate change, and social development. The additional financing will provide beneficial outcomes by allowing more participation from a larger range of countries and strengthening collaboration link with gTKP and DFID in areas of reciprocal interest.

5. ADB’s Board of Directors is notified of this major change in scope to cover cofinancing of $120,000 equivalent from the global Transport Knowledge Partnership, for a total RETA cost of approximately $620,000, and the administration by ADB of the proposed cofinancing.