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The international "Train to Paris" campaign will commit the railway sector to the combat against climate change

(*Paris 18 November 2015*) As part of COP21, the United Nations Climate Change Conference set to take place in Paris, France from 30 November, UIC, the International Union of Railways, is coordinating the international "Train to Paris" campaign.

The "Train to Paris" campaign, which involves railway companies from around the world, aims to raise awareness of the major role played by sustainable low-carbon transport in the search for solutions that could mitigate climate change and make it easier to adjust to the new environment.

Against this backdrop, UIC is a platform for expression enabling various figures from the world of transport, the UN, the diplomatic and political spheres, representatives of UIC Members, representatives of international organisations, and journalists to discuss this role of the railways with regard to climate change. This discussion will be available for streaming in accordance with terms provided at a later stage.

The railway sector's responsible commitment – aiming to reduce CO2 emissions by 50% by 2050 – will be one of the highlights of this worldwide campaign.

Jean-Pierre Loubinoux, UIC Director General, marked the departure of one of the trains making a symbolic journey from Beijing by saying: "The international railway community, represented by UIC, has been committed for many years now towards sustainable development — whether through reducing greenhouse gases, clean energy research, progress in urban planning or reducing noise pollution. An initial statement in Kyoto highlighted this desire to move things forward, to contribute to improving the sector's performance. The very same railway community will step up its efforts to play a more active role in the two degrees scenario, make significant energy savings and create a virtuous circle in which the development of the railways will promote the growth of transport and mobility overall."

More information on this symbolic journey will be available in a forthcoming press release.

To learn more about the UIC "Train to Paris" campaign on 28 November 2015

"Train to Paris" website: http://traintoparis.org/

Twitter: <u>@trainCOP21</u>

UIC website: www.uic.org

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