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“Train to Paris” campaign coordinated by the International Union of Railways on the occasion of the COP21 Climate Conference

A symbolic train journey organised from Beijing to Paris, via Mongolia and Russia, to demonstrate the positive contribution of rail transport in the climate issue

(Paris, 25 November 2015) As part of the “Train to Paris” campaign, a symbolic journey has been organised from Beijing to Paris via Mongolia and Russia to illustrate the cooperation fostered at international level through its actions to tackle climate change.

The “Train to Paris” campaign is a truly global event as on 18 November, a train departed from Beijing with representatives onboard from China and Russia. After a brief stop in Ulan Bator, Mongolia, two more guests from Mongolia joined the train, which then headed towards Irkutsk.

Welcomed by Russian Railways (RZD), Member of UIC and special partner in the campaign, the invited passengers attended a meeting about sustainability projects within the company.

The train then began the journey to Lake Baikal, to discover Baikal Railways and Siberian Railways, as well as the ecological wonders of the area.

Speaking about this journey, Jean-Pierre Loubinoux, UIC Director General, said: *“This special train, on a mythical route from Beijing to Paris; crossing China, Mongolia, Russia and Europe, is a symbol of the development achieved by the railways since the 19th century. But, beyond history and memories, this train is also an omen for the role that railways across the world can play in the frame of sustainable mobility. This train is a message; a pledge to the world leaders, that rail is an important factor, as the backbone of a new transportation mix; of the collective efforts towards the 2 degree scenario.”*

The Trans-Siberian journey now continues to Moscow, involving a six-day crossing through the taiga landscape; experiencing daily life on a train with other passengers and staff.

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