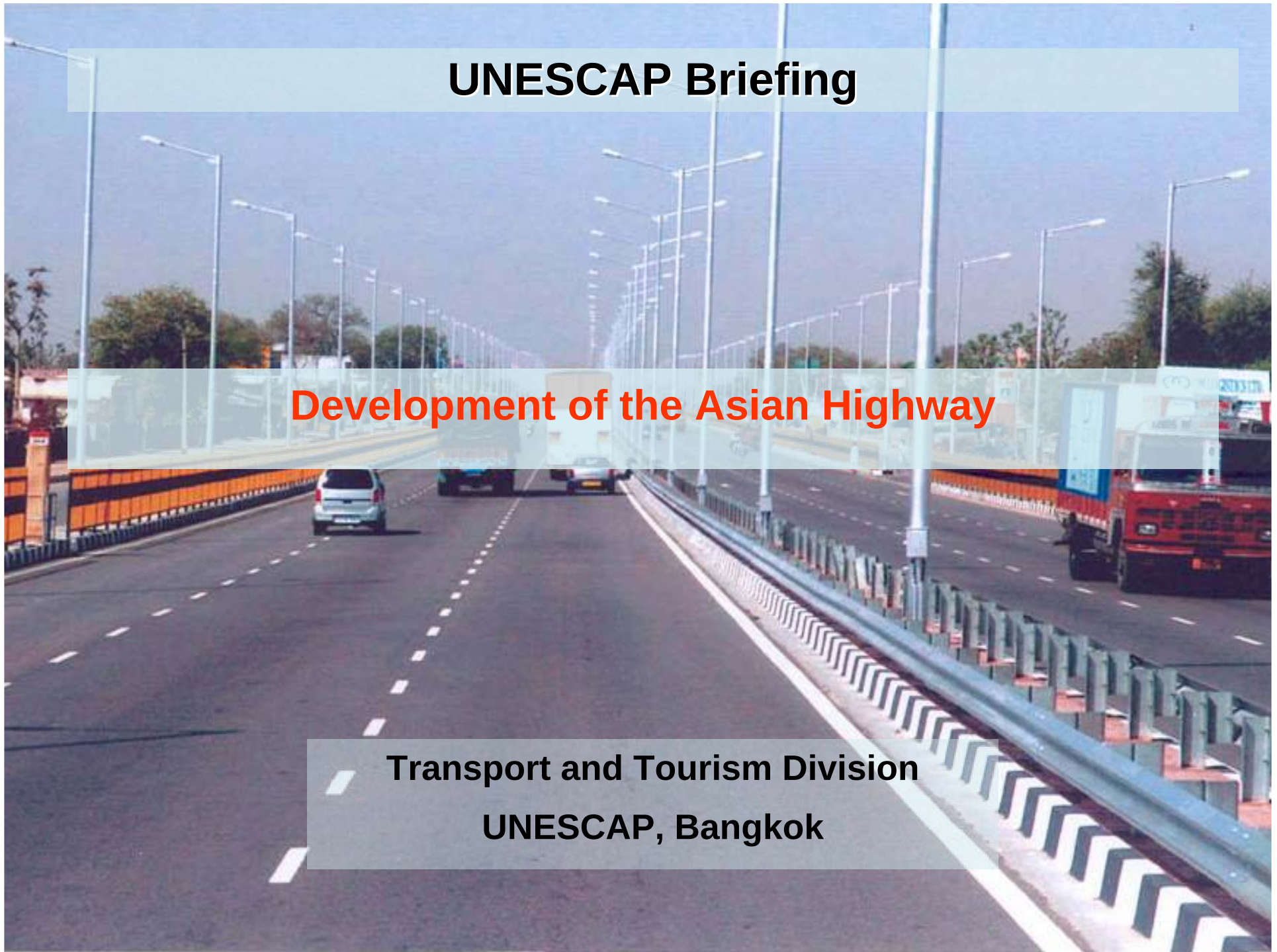
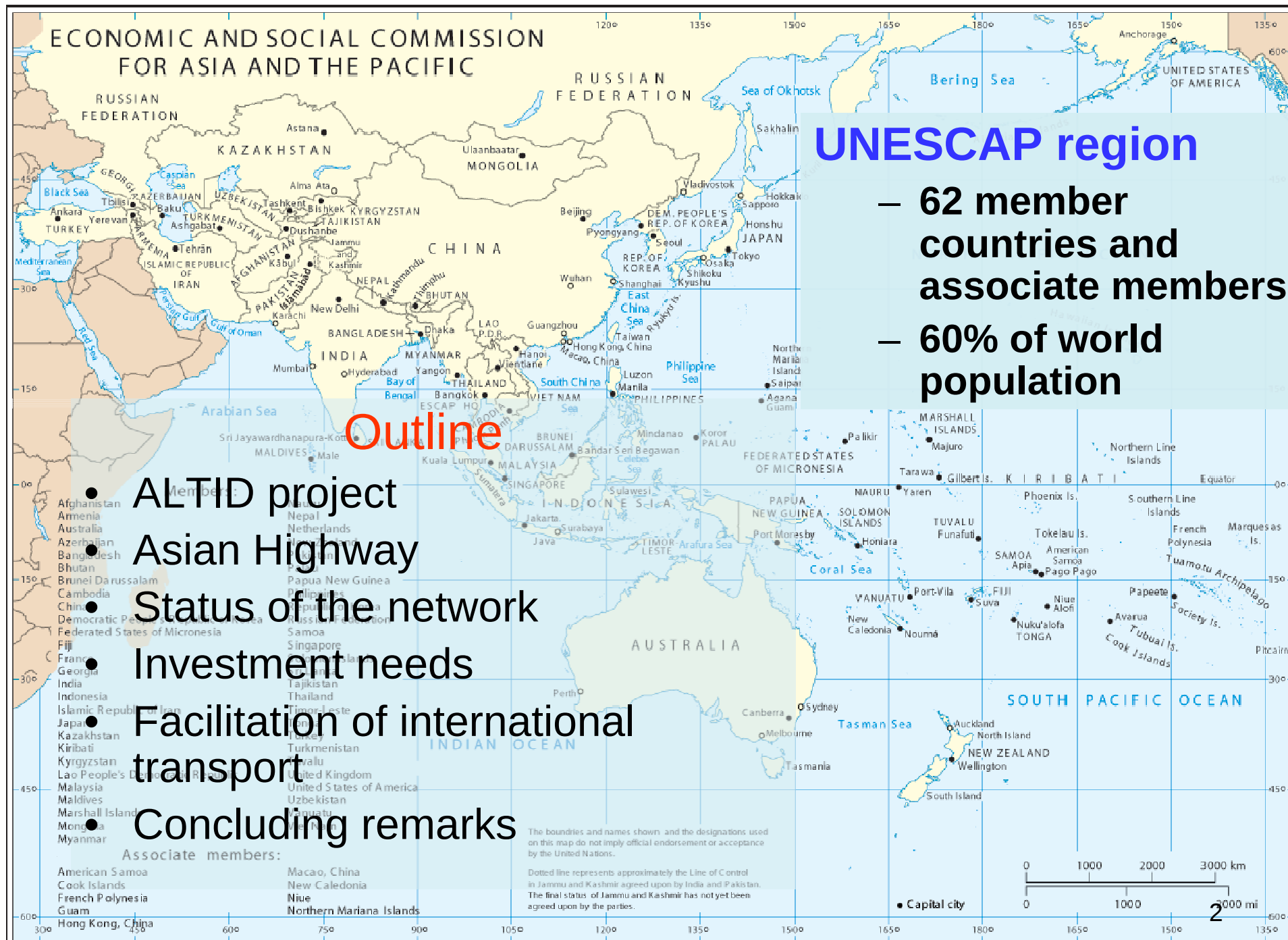


UNESCAP Briefing

Development of the Asian Highway

Transport and Tourism Division
UNESCAP, Bangkok





Asian Land Transport Infrastructure Development Project (ALTID) – *The mandates*

ALTID

Trans-Asian Railway



Asian Highway



Transport Facilitation

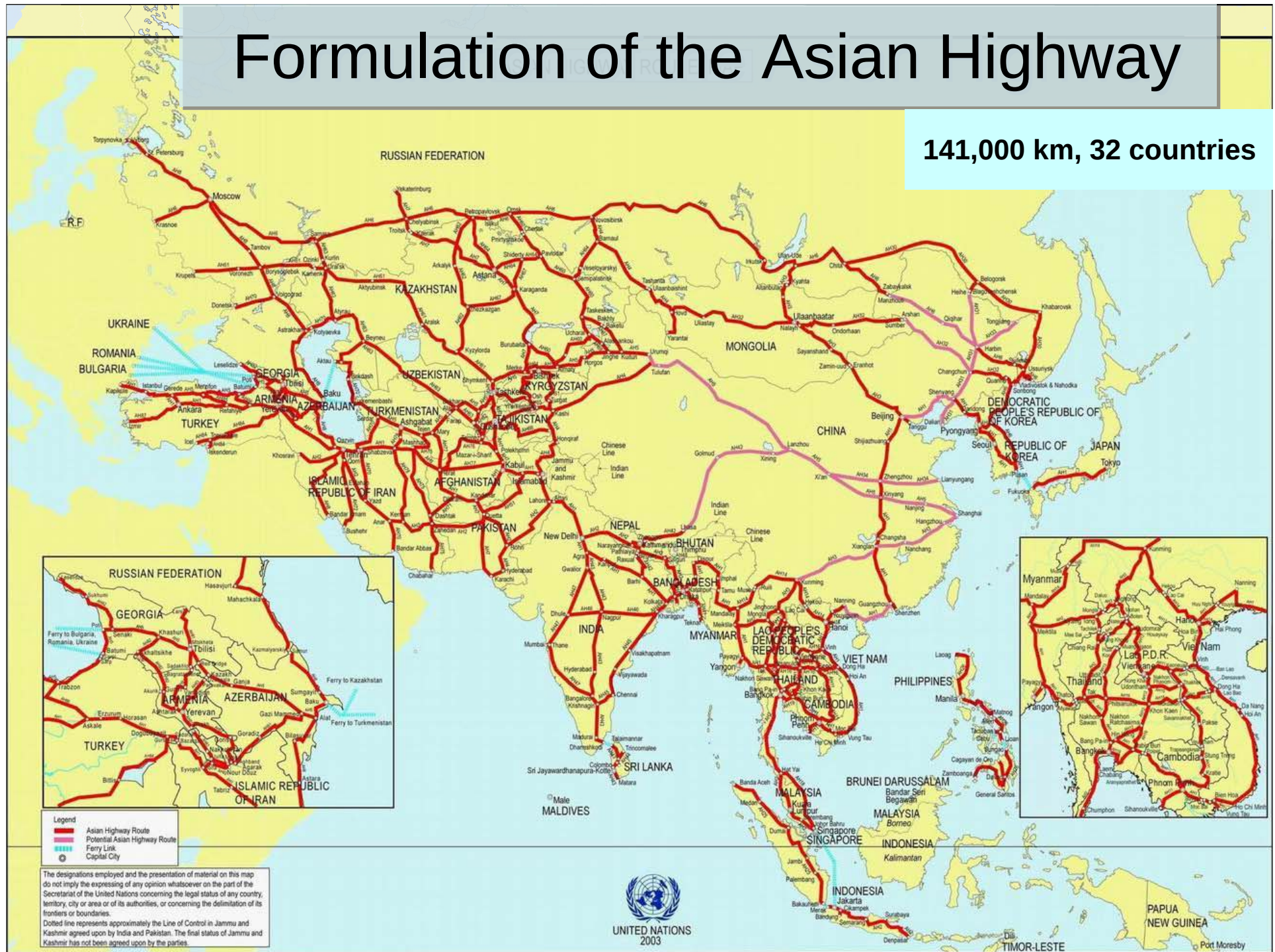
- Regular legislative organs
 - 48th session of UNESCAP Commission launched ALTID in April 1992
 - Annual session of Commissions
 - Committees on Managing Globalization
 - Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure, 2001
- Sector-specific meetings/Conferences
 - Almaty Programme of Actions
 - Ministerial Conference on Transport, 2006

Regional Transport Network

- **AH Conceived in 1959**
- **Revitalized in 1992; ALTID**
- **Goal: To promote regional cooperation/trade**
- **Criteria for identification of routes (AH and TAR):**
 - Capital to capital links
 - Industrial and agricultural centres
 - Sea, river and air ports
 - Container terminals & depots
 - Tourism attractions
- **Maximize use of existing infrastructure**
- **Coordinated plan for development**

Formulation of the Asian Highway

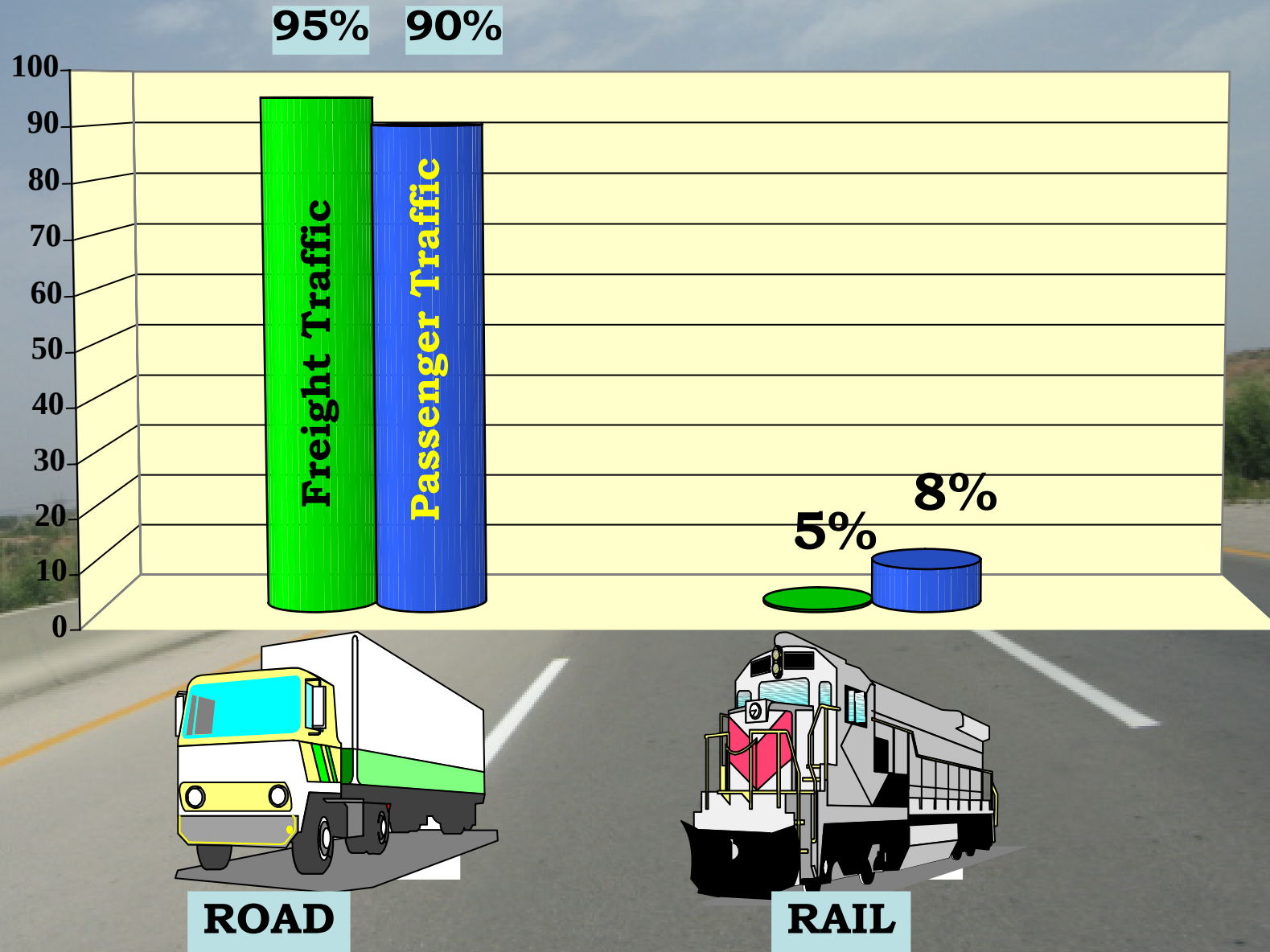
141,000 km, 32 countries



Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network

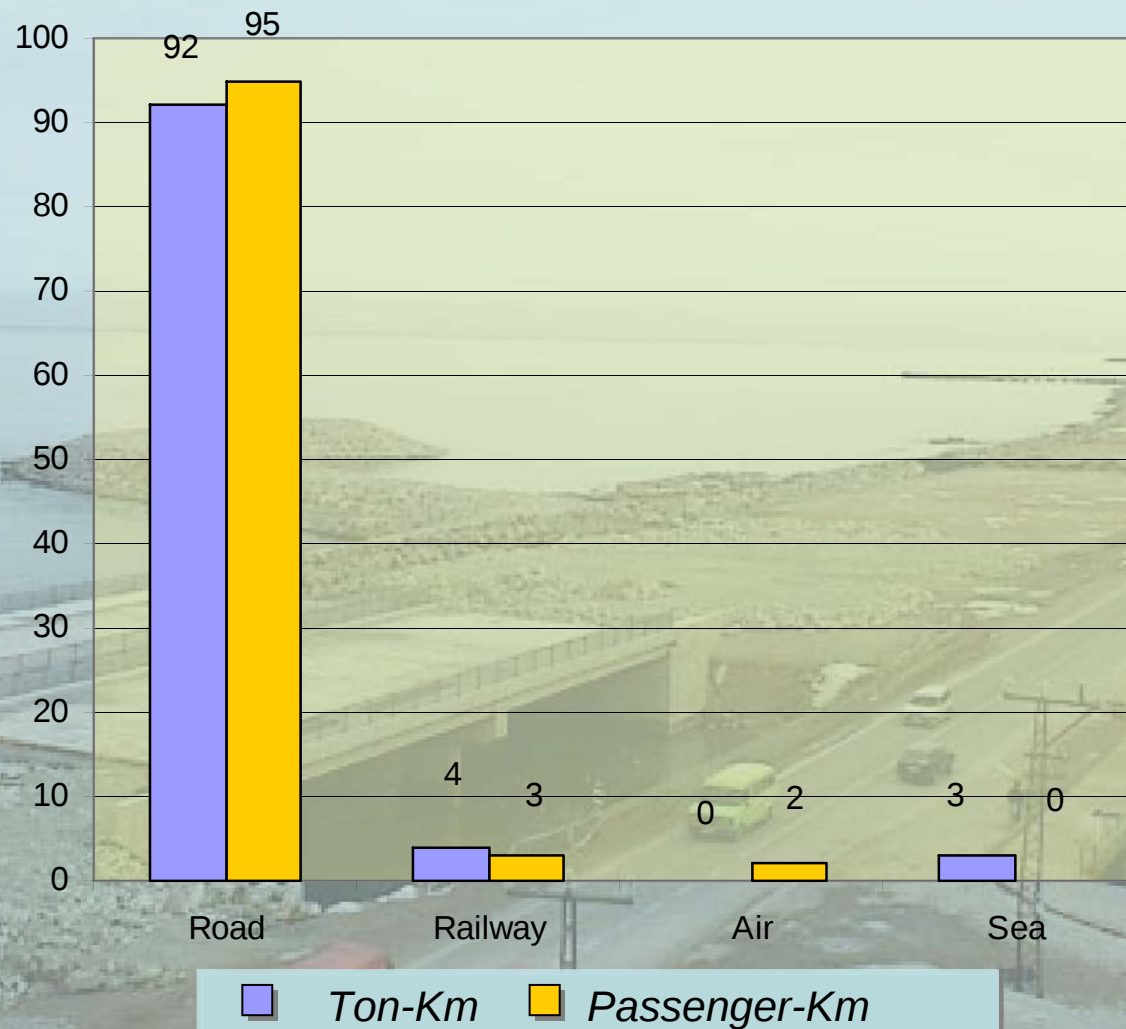
- 141,000 km- 32 member countries
- Agreement entered into force on **4 July 2005**
- 28 member States have signed the Agreement
- 23 member states are Parties
- Obligations of the Contracting Parties
 - Adopt AH network
 - Develop AH routes in conformity with AH design standards
 - Display AH route signs
 - Negotiating procedures
- Working Group on the Asian Highway -negotiating forum
- Signatory States -ratify, accept or approve the Agreement
- Member States can join through **accession**

Pakistan- Modal Share



➤ In India Roads carry 85 % of passenger and 70 % of freight traffic

Turkey- Passenger and Freight Transport



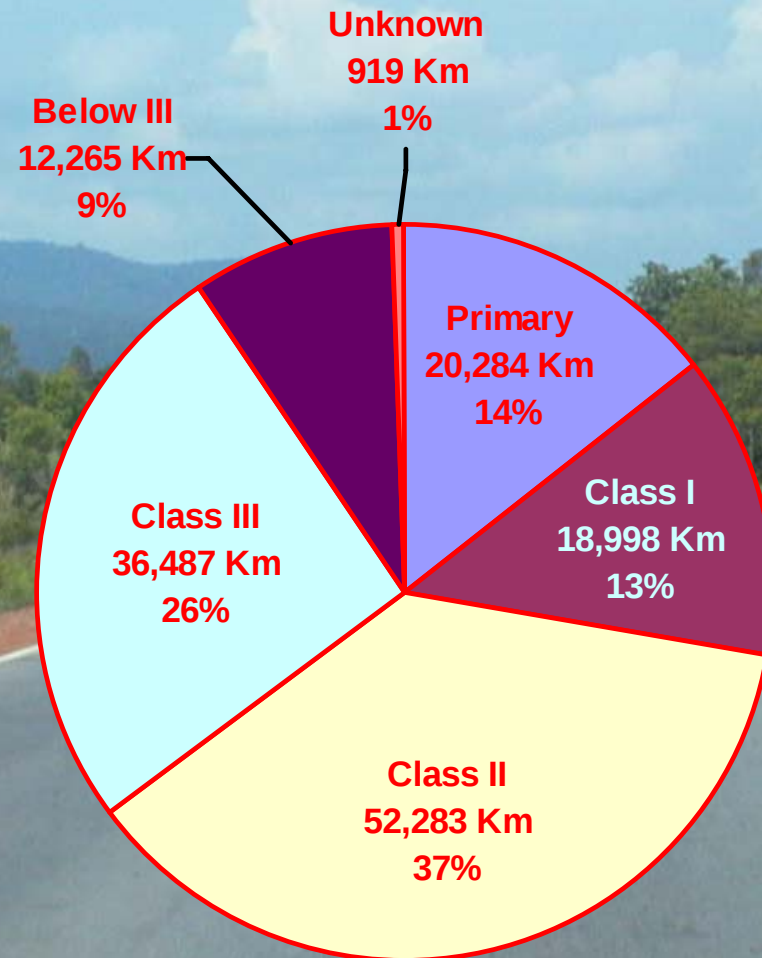
AH Classification & Design Standards

“Minimum” standards and guidelines for construction and upgrading of AH to facilitate international road traffic

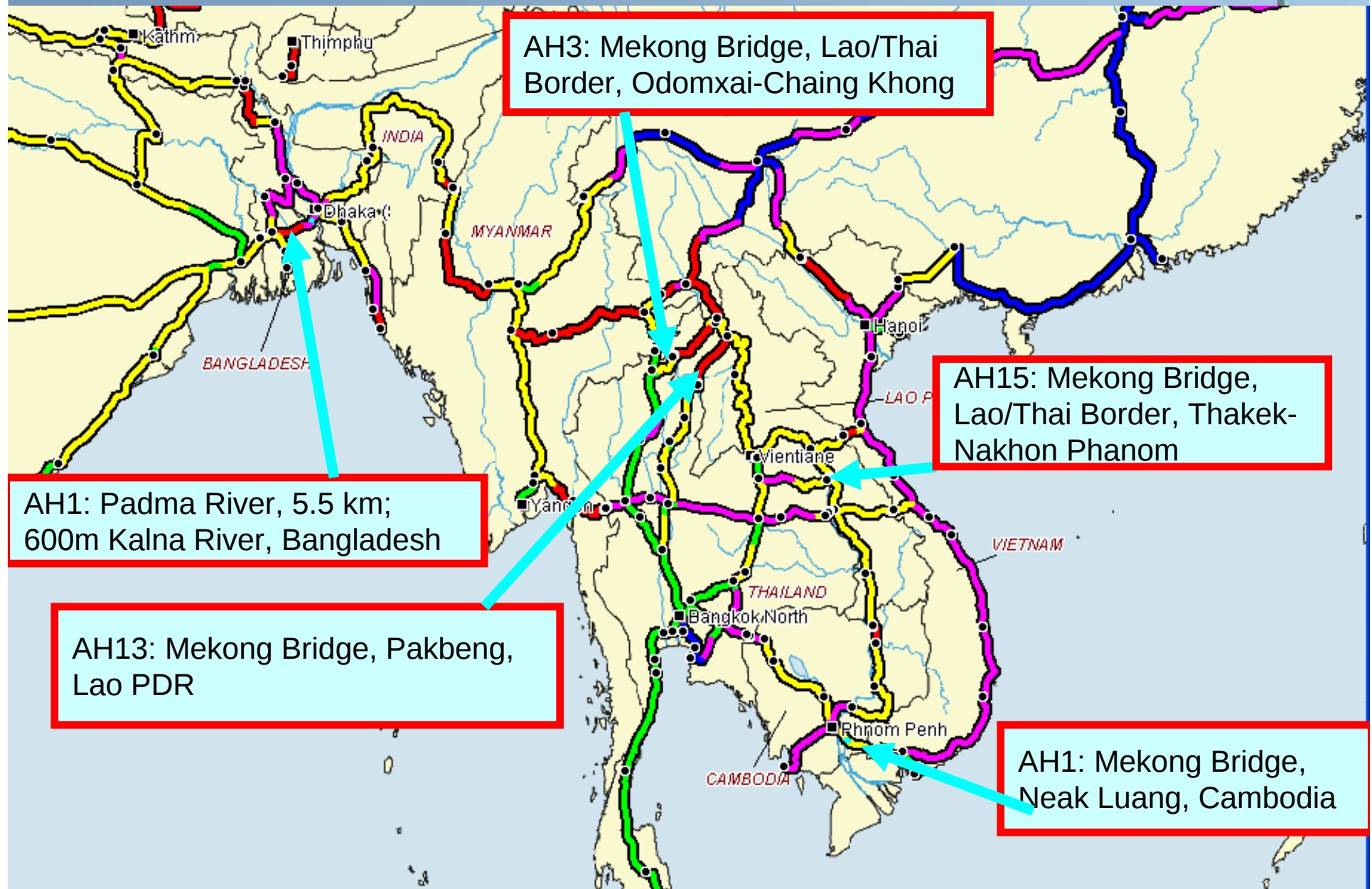
Primary Class	Access controlled highway, Design Speed of 60-120 km/hr, 4 lanes or more
Class I	Design speed of 50-100 km/hr, 4 lanes or more (divided)
Class II	Design speed of 40-80 km/hr, 2 lanes (wide:7m)
Class III	Design speed of 30-60 km/hr, 2 lanes (narrow: 6m), Surface Treatment (DBST) can be used for pavement

2006

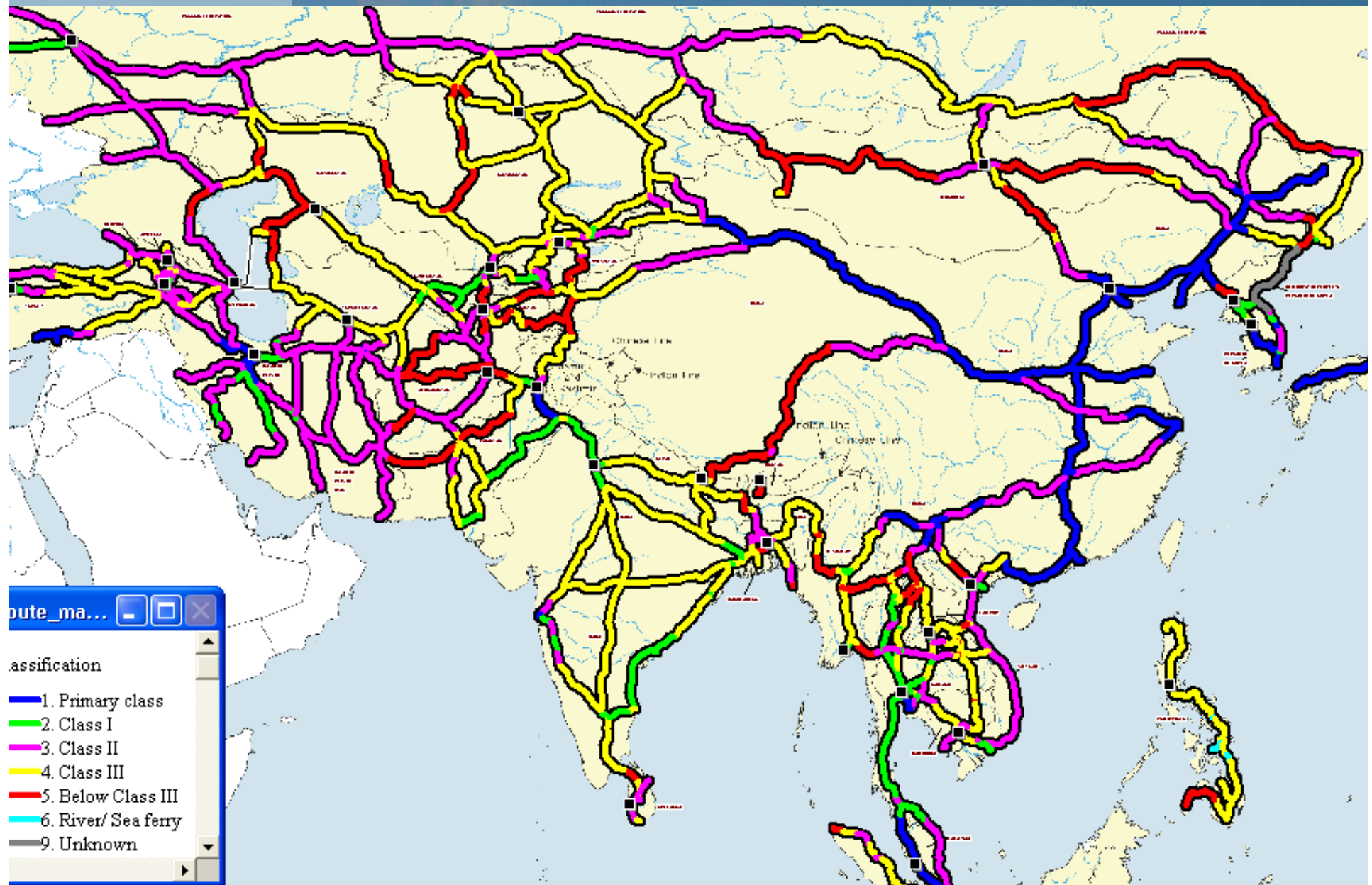
AH Conformity to Design Standards (2006)



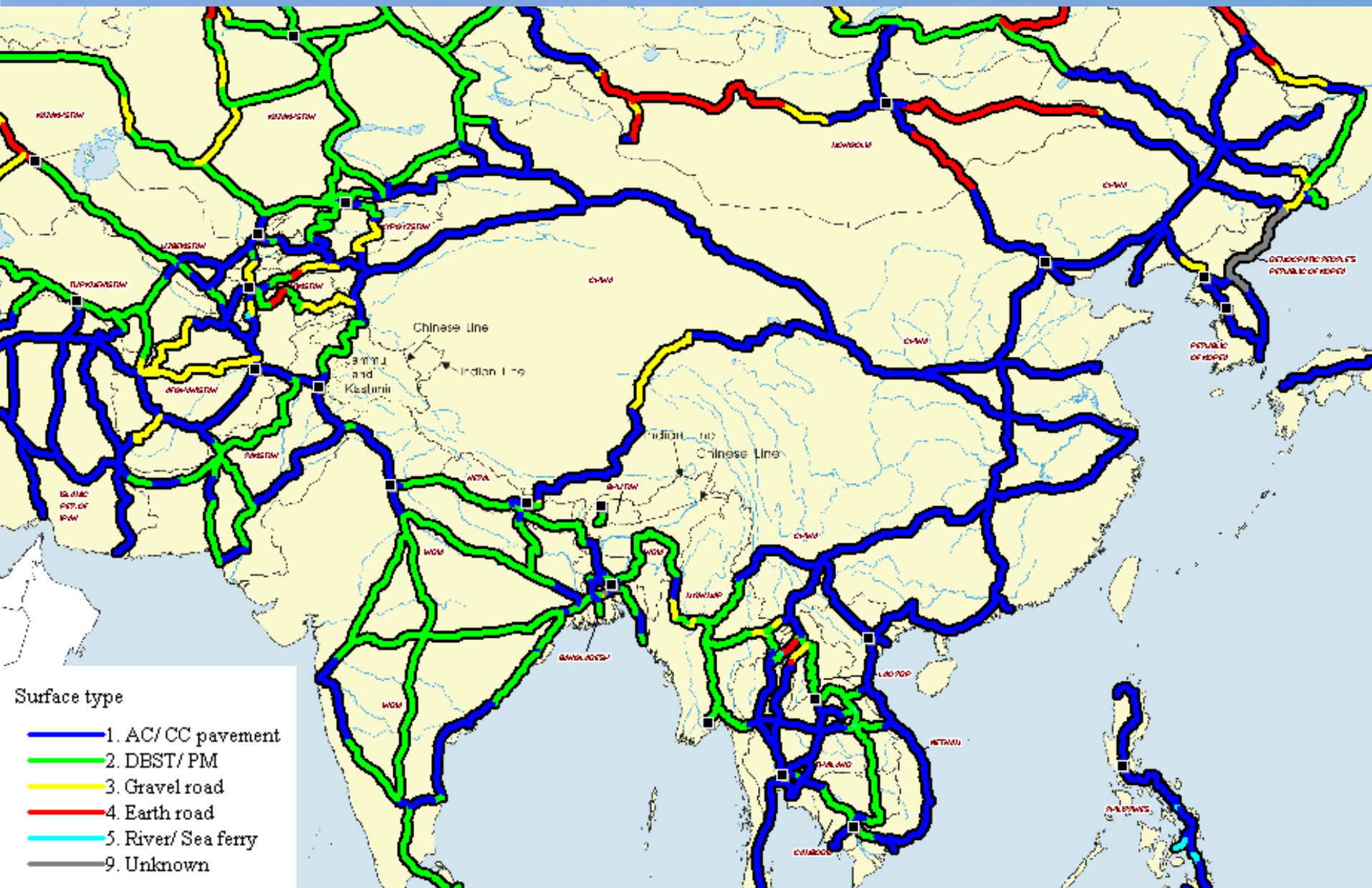
Asian Highway: Missing Bridges



AH Class

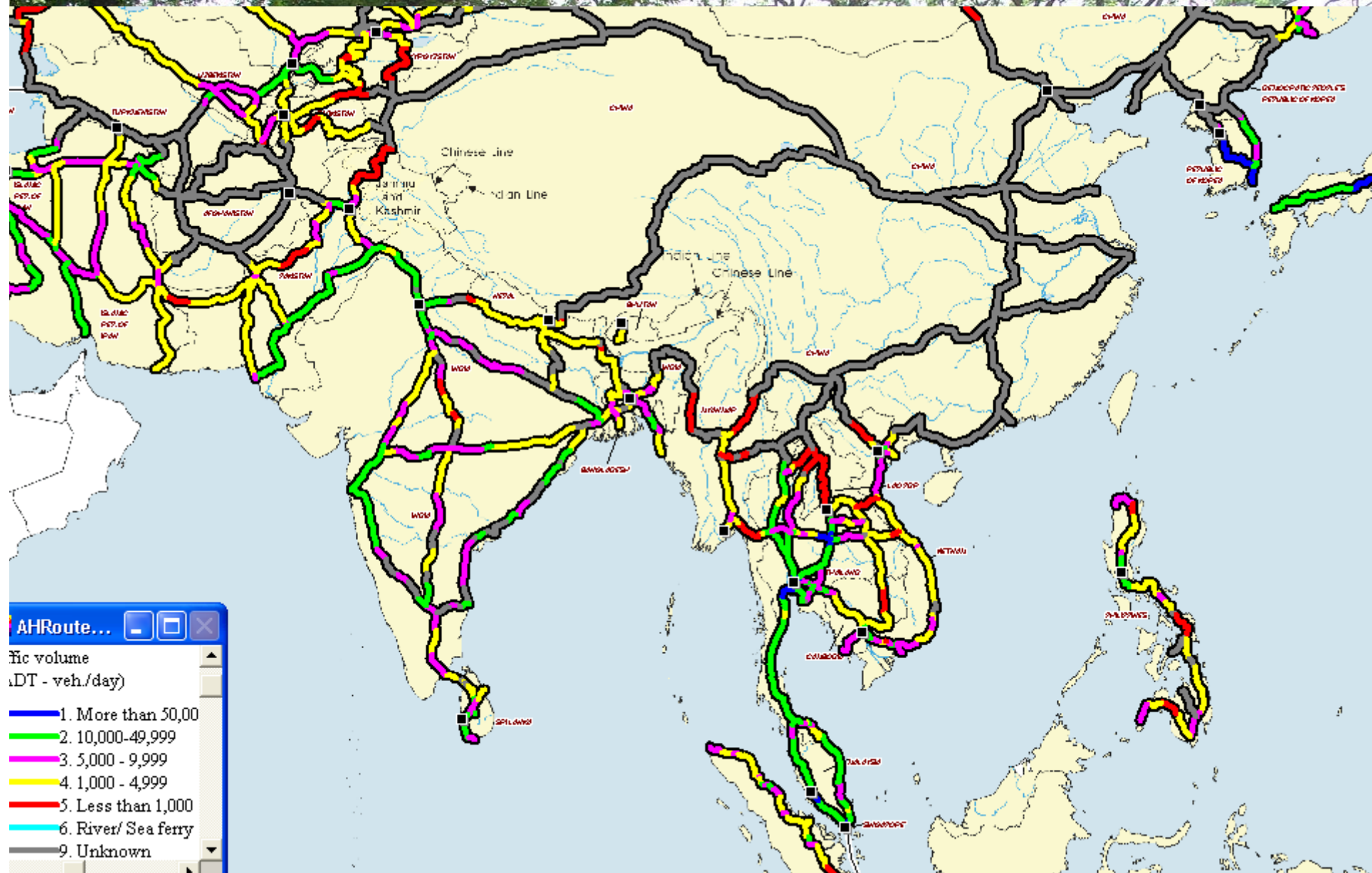


Pavement type



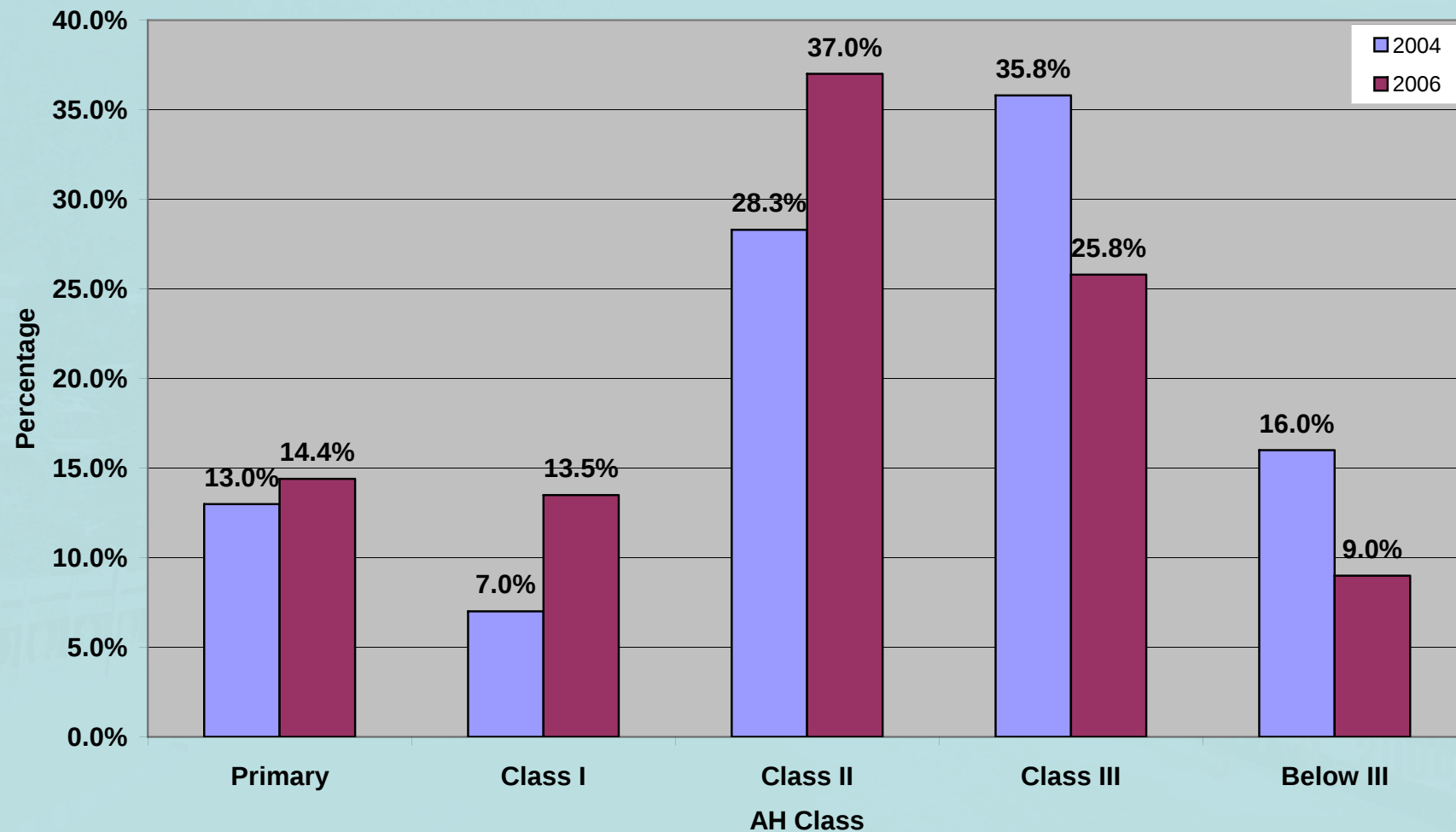


Traffic



AH Network Development

Progress in Upgrading of Asian Highway



Placing Asian Highway Route Signs

AH1

AH4

AH42

- Obligation of countries to place AH route signs within 5 years from the date of entry into force of the Agreement for the Party concerned
- AH followed by route number
- Flexible - colour and size of sign, frequency

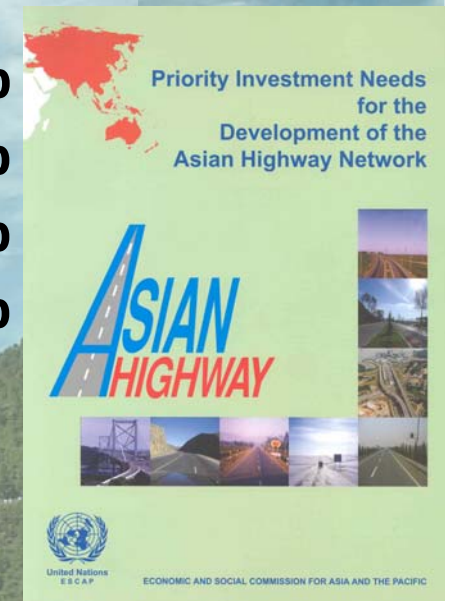
Asian Highway: Priority Investment needs

- **US \$ 26 being invested or committed for AH (2005)**
 - **Upgrading of 26,000 km requires further US \$ 18 billion**

–South Asia	3,434 km	US\$	2.2 b
–Central/SW Asia	12,038 Km	US\$	7.3 b
–South-East Asia	3,570 Km	US\$	4.6 b
–North-East Asia	6,546 Km	US\$	3.2 b

- (Upgrading to class III and improvements)
- Further assessment of priority AH corridors
- Publication available at
- Available at:

http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/Publications/TIS_pubs/pub_2424/pub_2424_fulltext.pdf



3 9 2006

Highway Investment Needs



India	NHDP I-VII	\$ 53 billion
	Rural roads (Bharat Nirman Yojana)	\$ 11 billion
Bhutan	Gelephu-Phuentsholing Highway	\$ 143 million
Nepal	Koshi Bridge and widening of bridges	\$ 35 million
	Kathmandu-Birjung new link	\$ 260 million
Bangladesh	AH1:Padma Bridge, 5.5 km	\$ 1.2 billion
	AH1: Bhaitiapara-Benapole	\$ 30 million
Pakistan	Medium Term Dev. Framework	\$ 943 million
	National Trade Corridor Improvement	\$ 5.3 billion
Sri Lanka	10 year Investment plan	\$ 200 million
Myanmar	AH1 & AH2	\$ 185 million
Thailand	Intercity Motorway project	\$ 14 billion
Lao PDR	Road Improvement Plan-2020	\$ 345 million
Cambodia	Road Investment Master Plan	\$ 2.6 billion
Viet Nam	Expressway Network	\$ 8 billion
Philippines	Medium Term Investment	\$ 725 million
Turkey	AH5: Gered Merzifon	\$ 350 million

Upgrading of Priority Routes

- Promote investment in priority projects
- **Assessment of priority AH routes**
- **Prefeasibility studies of selected priority sections**
- Pilot studies in **Armenia, Bangladesh, Mongolia and Myanmar**
 - International linkages
 - Route assessment
 - Traffic projection
 - Economic Evaluation
- **Asian Highway Investment Forum- 16 November 2007**
 - Government, donors and private sector
- **Public Private Partnerships**
 - Construction
 - Operation
 - Logistics Services

Facilitation of International Road Transport

- **International Transport Conventions**

- ESCAP resolution: 48/11—seven transport facilitation conventions

- Road Traffic, Road Signs and Signals
 - TIR Conventions, Temporary Importation of Commercial Vehicles, Customs Convention on Containers
 - Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods, International Carriage of Goods by Road

- **Transport Facilitation Agreements** (Bilateral/Subregional/Regional)

- SAARC Transport Corridors

- ASEAN

- Facilitation of land transport in the Greater Mekong Subregion (with ADB)

- Intergovernmental Agreement on International Road Transport with Shanghai Cooperation Organization

Concluding Remarks

- Routes of the Asian Highway are in different state
- Recent progress on upgrading of the AH is encouraging
- Utilize the regional infrastructure for cross-border transport
- *Land Transport Links Feasible in Asia*
- AH routes- increasingly being used for international transport
- Build on existing national, subregional and regional initiatives:
 - GMS, SAARC Transport Corridors, CAREC, ASEAN, ECO, SAFTA, SASEC, BIMSTEC,
- Implementation of Intergovernmental Agreements
- Increasing role of private sector in Transport Operations and provision of logistics services
- UNESCAP ready to collaborate with academic institutions, private sector organizations and member countries
 - Continue to promote development and integration of regional transport modes

04/05/2005



Thank you!

Transport and Tourism Division

Tel: 66-2-288 1570

Fax: 66-2-288-3050

Email: escap-ttd@un.org

<http://www.unescap.org/ttdw/>