

## PRESS RELEASE



Another thought provoking session was organised by the ITA Committee for Underground Space (ITACUS) during the WTC 2016 in San Francisco, which focussed on the new urban agenda and the role underground space can play for cities.

Setting a New Urban Agenda is the main objective of the Habitat III conference to be held in October 2016 in Quito, Ecuador. UN Habitat is responsible for organising this conference. As a NGO with UN Consultative Status, ITA and ITACUS work together with others inside the World Urban Campaign to gain recognition for the need to plan and manage urban underground space.

Through this open session, ITACUS developed new insights into the role that urban underground freight networks could take in this regards. The new Hyperloop technologies were discussed in this context. ITACUS has developed a CargoCheck instrument, in order to help stakeholders in port areas to become aware of the possibilities of urban underground freight systems.

*“During the session, we also heard a presentation on the possibilities of mixed-use tunnels and the implications this could have, Han Admiraal, Chair of ITACUS, explains. Rather than building a tunnel for just one use, the future could bring urban network providers creating underground spaces to be used by multiple parties. Urban system integrators would bring these parties together to ensure that the underground space is used in an efficient way. In the future, metro systems will not only move people, they will also be able to move cargo, and to carry cables that are essential to modern societies. Furthermore, they could be producing energy for the city beneath which they operate. The World Tunnelling and Underground Space Congress is the occasion to share innovative ideas that will be of high value developing the cities we need”.*



Opening of session		
14:00 – 14:10	Opening and introduction	The ITACUS Chair and Vice Chair, Han Admiraal and Antonia Cornaro, will host this Open Session and introduce the topics of this afternoon. The ITACUS Road Map aims to advance the quest for an urban underground future. In this session we are taking a look at where we are standing and heading and how this all fits into the larger global agenda such as the 'New Urban Agenda' that will be agreed at Habitat III later this year.
Session I – A new agenda; past, present, future		
14:10 – 14:35	Tokyo Declaration – 25 years of Underground Space Exploration	Prof. Dr <b>Ray Sterling</b> , Emeritus Professor Louisiana Tech University and member of the ITACUS Steering Board.
14:35 – 14:55	Development of Underground Facilities for Transport and Hazard Prevention Systems in Japan	Dr <b>Nobuharu Isago</b> - Director, Tunnel research team, Road technology research group, Public Works Research Institute, Japan
14:55 – 15:15	Heading towards the 'City we need'	<b>Sanja Zlatanic</b> , Secretary-General of ACUUS on the latest developments on the road to Habitat III and ACUUS-ITACUS cooperation.
15:15 – 15:30	Q&A	Audience participation
BREAK FOR TEA/COFFEE		
Session II – A new agenda; challenging common perceptions		
16:00 – 16:20	CargoCheck – moving towards urban underground freight.	<b>Yvette Körber</b> , ITACUS Steering Board Member and leader ITACUS Activity Group 1.
16:20 – 16:40	Mixed-use Mass Rapid Transport Systems –integrating new functions into a metro system to transport passengers but also freight, energy, heat, water, waste, and information.	<b>Nicolas Ziv</b> , PhD candidate, Direction des Etudes Amont et de l'Innovation, EGIS RAIL.
16:40 – 17:00	Young Professional Think Deep Programme – what is it and how can you be involved?	<b>Petr Salak</b> , ITACUS Steering Board Member and leader ITACUS Activity Group 2.
17:00 – 17:15	Q&A	Audience participation
Close of session		
17:15 – 17:30	Wrap up of session	Antonia Cornaro and Han Admiraal sum up this session and together with the audience select the Top 5 takeaways from this session.