

PREFACE

The present volume on Freight Transport and the Environment originates from a symposium, ENVIROTRANSPORT, that was planned to be held in Scheveningen, The Netherlands in July 1990. Unfortunately, the attendance from outside the Netherlands as known a few weeks before the symposium, promised to be disappointingly low, which induced the organizers, the Ministry of Housing, Physical Planning and Environment and the Ministry of Transport and Public Works to cancel the symposium. Instead, the prospective speakers at the symposium were asked to write a contribution for a monograph at the subject of freight transport and the environment.

The present volume contains the collected papers which, for the major part, cover the elements intended to be dealt with at the symposium. Most of the papers date from the end of the summer of 1990; some, including those that were originally intended to be presented in German and have now been translated, were received during the autumn of that year.

The book has an introductory part referring to the present situation with the environment and transport of goods and continues with the prospects for improvements during the next decade and the beginning of the next century along three main tracks:

- the potential for technological solutions
- the new approaches in logistics and transport policies
- the new concepts in distribution and their application in cities.

The editors hope that the present volume will help the transport sector and governments to find the solutions which are necessary to ensure a sustainable transport system in Europe in the future.

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