



20th Meeting of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration

6–7 October 2014

World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

PROVISIONAL REPORT

Day 1: 6 October 2014

Opening and welcome

The 20th United Nations Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC) meeting was hosted by the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland on 6-7 October 2014. The objectives of the meeting were to:

- discuss future global road safety initiatives;
- review membership requests;
- discuss current and future activities of the project groups; and
- provide updates on UNRSC partner activities

Opening of the meeting

Dr E. Krug (WHO) officially opened the meeting, welcomed Dr R. Guerrero, Mayor of Cali Columbia (keynote speaker) and recognized that this meeting heralded the 10th anniversary of the UNRSC which was inaugurated on 1 October 2004.

Since the 19th UNRSC which was held in New York in April 2014, the United Nations General Assembly Resolution (A/68/269) on Improving global road safety¹ was adopted which: reaffirmed the need for continued international collaboration to raise awareness through the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims annually in November; requested WHO and the UN Regional Commissions to facilitate the organization of activities for the third UN Global Road Safety Week; encouraged Member States and the international community to take road safety into consideration in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda; and welcomed the offer of the Government of Brazil to host the second high-level global conference on road safety in 2015. He encouraged UNRSC participants to use the 20th meeting to discuss how to make these activities a reality.

The report of the 19th UNRSC meeting held in New York, USA², as well as the agenda and objectives of the 20th meeting of the UNRSC were adopted.

Dr Krug then delivered a presentation describing 10 years of UNRSC activities. Since its inception, UNRSC grew from 42 members to 72 members in 2014 (Appendix 1). He presented the accomplishments of the UNRSC partners including producing normative and good practice documents, planning global events and activities towards implementing the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety such as the ministerial conferences and the Global Road Safety weeks, and supporting the creation and staffing of the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety and YOURS. He also acknowledged the continued commitment of Bloomberg Philanthropies in the field of road safety through a renewed USD 125 million grant³ over the next 5-year period (2015-2019).

¹ <http://www.who.int/roadsafety/about/resolutions/download/en/>.

² http://www.who.int/roadsafety/news/2014/09_04/en/

³ <http://www.bloomberg.org/press/releases/bloomberg-philanthropies-global-road-safety-program-inviting-select-cities-countries-compete-funding-support/>.

Dr E Molnar (UNECE) provided an update of activities in the European region including cooperation with transport, environment and health sectors in other UN Regional Commissions and with WHO. Dr Molnar informed members that the majority of the work of the Regional Commission involves regulatory improvements in road safety, vehicle safety and environmental performance, transport of dangerous goods, and implementation of the 1968 Vienna Convention on Road Traffic⁴. She highlighted other areas of work of the UNECE including analytical and technical assistance to regions through regional workshops, and development of normative documents on a broad range of issues including Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) technologies, the impact of transport on climate change and implications on safety, as well as awareness-raising on level crossings. Dr Molnar emphasized the UNECE's focus on building partnerships to implement these regulatory measures.

Dr Krug introduced Dr R. Guerrero, the current Mayor of the city of Cali in Columbia. A Harvard trained epidemiologist, Dr Guerrero is in his second term as Mayor of the city – the first was in the early 1990s. He was recently honoured with the first Roux prize from the Institute of Health Metrics and Evaluation for successfully turning evidence into health impact⁵. He received this prize for dramatically reducing the toll of violence and homicides in his city by using an epidemiological approach to assessing the problem, implementing good practices and evaluating the outcomes. In his second term he has turned his attention to looking at sustainable transportation issues in the city. He delivered a presentation on engaging Mayors on road safety (Appendix 2). He shared some of the lessons learned in building political support and solidifying buy-in from both health and transport sectors by: promoting the health benefits of public transportation, building bicycle paths and other road safety improvements; providing economic incentives and promoting long-term infrastructure changes that promote growth; building public-private partnerships for public transport improvements; engaging with urban planners to build sustainable commitment to road safety; and accessing multiple funding sources for improvements including shared national and city funding (70 percent and 30 percent respectively) from road user fees and health taxes. These user fees and taxes currently do not apply to motorcycles; however, as this is a growing vehicle sector in Columbia (currently they account for 50% of vehicles in the city). Expanding to this vehicle type is currently being explored.

Future global road safety initiatives

Mr S. Billingsley (FIA Foundation) delivered a presentation on the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda (Appendix 3). Highlights of the presentation included a proposed target of halving the number of deaths by 2020; however, it would be desirable to move the year from 2020 to 2030. It is expected that the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals will be finalized in September 2015. Participants discussed how to continue exerting influence on governments in pushing for the inclusion of road safety into the post-2015 SDGs. Mr Billingsley suggested using the second high-level global conference on road safety to be held in Brazil to discuss implementation of the post-2015 SDGs. He also will keep Members informed of progress and opportunities to support this effort.

Professor M. Ramos (FEVR) discussed plans for the November 2014 World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims (Appendix 4). He shared the success of prior WDOR celebrations including improved coordination among nongovernmental organizations through the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety, and showed the proposed poster for the 2014 WDOR celebration to partners. Professor Ramos made a plea for financial support for the celebrations and for partners to publicize the WDOR. Partners proposed exploring not only financial support but also secondment of social media expertise as well as other in-kind support.

Mr F. Lieshout (YOURS) provided an update on preparations for the third UN Global Road Safety Week to be held in May 2015.⁶ The Week's activities will target children less than 18 years of age. While Mr Lieshout said there were no plans to translate the Week's campaign site, he said it can be explored and asked partners to support translation. In addition WHO will develop a complementary document which will be available in the six official UN languages and in Portuguese. Participants discussed engaging UNICEF

⁴ http://www.unece.org/trans/roadsafe/publications/road_traffic.html.

⁵ <http://www.globalhealth.org/dr-rodrgo-guerrero-wins-roux-prize/>.

⁶ <https://prezi.com/dhd0jaieevii/third-un-global-road-safety-week/>.

country offices, reaching out to potential partners such as Mayors in cities to participate in the Week's campaign, as well as Scholastic⁷ which provides educational content for multiple campaigns around the world. While social media will be a major tool for the campaign, participants also discussed the need to find alternative activities for communities in low- and middle-income countries. The campaign will culminate with road safety declarations from children to policy makers. In addition, other advocacy materials and issues to be addressed in fact sheets will be suggested by the Project Groups. Indicators of success for the Week also need to be agreed-upon. Mr Lieshout demonstrated a draft version of the website for the Week and, once finalized, the link will be provided on the UNRSC, WHO and other partner websites. Development of an animation video explaining the campaign during the Week is under development.

Dr Krug provided a brief update on the second high-level global conference on road safety to be held in Brasilia on 18-19 November 2015. Dr Krug informed participants that regrettably, due to elections in Brazil, Brazilian delegates were unable to attend the UNRSC meeting. However, he shared with participants that an inter-ministerial group, led by the Ministry of Health and with the support of office of the President, has been established to prepare the conference. He also informed participants that a meeting of the Friends of the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020⁸ will be held on 14 November 2015 in Brasilia to brainstorm on a main theme, speakers, agendas, etc. for the conference. UNRSC partners suggested that the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety be modified to prioritize activities and indicators for the remainder of the decade and then re-launched during the ministerial conference. Dr Krug asked project group chairs to review the plan during their project group discussions the following day and provide suggestions back to plenary on their specific pillars. He also encouraged UNRSC participants to communicate the date of the conference to their own Ministers and high-level government officials, and to promote representation at the conference.

New members

Three organizations requested membership and were welcomed as full members of the UNRSC without objection. These included The George Institute (Appendix 5), the Observatorio Iberoamericano de Seguridad Vial (OISEVI) (Appendix 6), and the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety⁹.

UNRSC participants discussed the need to relook at the UNRSC Term of Reference and whether changes were needed in light of the growth in membership, and to clarify conflict of interest issues and criteria for umbrella organizations that wish to become members. No decisions were made and these issues will be tabled again at the next UNRSC meeting following a review by the secretariat of the current ToRs.

Day 2: 7 October 2014

All project groups met during the second day to discuss their activities and progress on implementing their work plans. The terms of reference and work plans of the current project groups were approved at the 16th meeting of the UNRSC held on 15-16 November 2012 in Geneva, Switzerland.¹⁰ Subject to Section 7.3 of the UNRSC Terms of Reference, project group work plans have a 3-year tenure and automatically expire unless continued by members at a plenary meeting. Therefore, Dr Krug requested that each project group review their work with the aim to propose any changes at the spring 2015 UNRSC meeting. In addition, he requested that project groups use the meeting to also review the indicators in the Global Plan for their areas of work with the aim to propose any modifications in preparation for the second high-level global conference on road safety. Project group chairs reported back to participants in the plenary following the meetings (Appendices 7-13).

⁷ Scholastic is a global organization with operations in 13 countries, <http://emea.scholastic.com/>.

⁸ http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/friends/en/.

⁹ <https://prezi.com/oxkpxtdvtber/unrsc-lotte-brondum-alliance/>.

¹⁰ See Report of 16th meeting of the UNRSC at, http://www.who.int/roadsafety/events/2012/unrsc_16_meeting_report.pdf?ua=1.

Update on UNRSC partner activities

The partners provided an update on their global activities:

- Mr M. Pesut, UNECE, shared an awareness-raising video on saving lives at level crossings.¹¹
- Mr G. Kardos, Johnson & Johnson, provided an update on activities targeting vulnerable road users (Appendix 14) and shared a related video¹².
- Ms E. González Presto, Fundación Gonzalo Rodriguez, presented the results of feasibility study on implementing the mandatory use of child restraint systems in Latin American Countries (Appendix 15).
- Mrs V. Feypell, OECD, provided an update of the IRTAD safe system project (Appendix 16).
- Ms S. Zammataro, IRF, provided an update on IRF activities towards meeting the goals of the Decade of Action (Appendix 17).
- Mr S. O'Connor, Fedex, made a presentation on collaborations between corporations and nongovernmental organizations to improve pedestrian safety (Appendix 18) and shared a video on distracted driving¹³.
- Mr F. Camarero Rodriguez, MAPFRE, provided an update on activities around safe schools environments (Appendix 19).

Upcoming projects/events

The following projects/events were announced by members:

- The International Labour Organization (ILO) meeting on priority health and safety in transport will be held on 12-16 October 2015 in Geneva. The meeting will also review ways to further promote the HIV/AIDS in Road Transport Toolkit as well as the International Maritime Organization-ILO-UNECE Code on safe packing of containers.
- The Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit will host the International symposium on road safety in low- and middle-income countries on 16 October 2014, in Baltimore, Maryland, USA and will be streamed live.¹⁴
- The International Roads Federation (IRF) webinars on ABC of Road Safety will be held on 29 October 2014 in English and on 30 October 2014 in Spanish.¹⁵
- Safekids Global Road Safety Summit will be held 11-12 December 2014, in Washington, D.C., USA.¹⁶
- The Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety meeting will be held during the second half of March 2015.
- The Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP) 2015 Asia Pacific Road safety seminar will be held in Manila in late May to early April. The focus will be on children and road safety. Exact dates will be available on the GRSP website.¹⁷
- Asia and Australia Regional Conference hosted by IRF and Roads Australia Regional will be held 4-7 May 2015 in Sydney, Australia.¹⁸
- Towards Zero Conference, organized by the Swedish Transport Administration in collaboration with the Minister for Infrastructure and the Swedish Transport Agency will be held 9-10 June 2015, in Gothenburg, Sweden.¹⁹

¹¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIT_I331lwzM&index=2&list=PL4iZR0KvjSQ9VxjaqLHPk0yeXOYssy-Tz.

¹² <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TM1Qf4MVzcg>.

¹³ http://youtu.be/g_3saftYsZM.

¹⁴ <http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/johns-hopkins-international-injury-research-unit/>.

¹⁵ <https://www.irfnews.org/events/category/webinars/>.

¹⁶ <http://www.safekids.org/safe-roads-summit>.

¹⁷ <http://www.grsproadsafety.org/news/grsp-asia-seminar-success>.

¹⁸ <http://www.irfnet.ch/eventdetail.php?catid=1&id=705&title=IRF%20&%20RA%20Regional%20Conference%20Asia%20and%20Australia>.

¹⁹ <http://www.trafikverket.se/towardszero/>.

Closing and next meeting

Dr Peden reviewed the following action points from the meeting:

- Regarding project groups:
 - project group chairs to coordinate finalizing their review and modification of the work plans and terms of reference; these should be tabled during the spring 2015 UNRSC meeting;
 - chairs will also initiate discussion on the possibility of partners co-branding any products to be produced by the project groups;
 - project groups are to review the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety and submit proposed changes to Mr D. Ward; the changes will be compiled and shared at the next UNRSC meeting; and
 - for future UNRSC meetings, there was consensus that additional time should be allocated to project group discussions, including opportunity for project group chairs to meet separately to identify areas of overlap and collaboration in their work plans.
- Regarding the third UN Global Road Safety Week:
 - ideas for activities and fact sheets content, as well as documents already produced by partners that can be used during the Week should be submitted to Mr F. Lieshout;
 - partnerships with paediatric units in hospitals for the Week's activities is encouraged;
 - activities and advocacy documents should cover the full spectrum of primary prevention to rehabilitation; and
 - website for the Week will be updated.

To improve communication between the secretariat and the UNRSC participants, Dr Peden encouraged the UNRSC focal points in each organization to take responsibility for sharing communications from the secretariat within their organization as WHO does not maintain an up to date list of all representatives from each organization but rather of focal persons.

WHO will share a proposal for possible dates and location for the 21st UNRSC meeting in spring 2015 electronically with participants in the coming weeks for input.

Dr Krug closed the meeting by reminding participants to reach out to Governments to inform them about the high-level global conference on road safety and advocate for multisectoral representation by Ministers and from the highest levels of Government. He encouraged participants to stay informed about the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda and keep advocating for inclusion of road safety. Finally, he invited participants to submit agenda items for the meeting of the Friends of the Decade and thanked everyone for fruitful meeting.