

Day 1: 14 March 2013

Opening and welcome

The 17th United Nations Road Safety Collaboration meeting was hosted by the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, on March 14-15, 2013. The objectives of the meeting were:

- To discuss current and future activities of the project groups.
- To update partners on progress of the Decade of Action for Road Safety.
- To update partners on the preparations for the 2nd UN Global Road Safety Week.
- To discuss progress on global road safety initiatives.
- To provide updates on UNRSC partner activities.

Participants were welcomed by the Chair, Dr Krug (WHO) and Co-chair, Mr M. Pesut (UNECE) on behalf of Dr Molnar. The agenda and the report of the 16th meeting of the UNRSC were adopted by the General meeting.

Discussion of current and future activities of the project groups

With the exception of the Safer Vehicles project group, all project groups met during the afternoon of the first day to discuss their activities and progress implementing their work plans and reported back to participants at the general meeting. See Appendix 1 for reports of project group discussions.

Day 2: 15 March 2013

Progress on the Decade of Action for Road Safety

Dr Krug provided an update of progress at the global level in the second year of the Decade, highlighting key achievements including the launch of the *Global Status Report on Road Safety 2013*, the release of results of the 2010 Global Burden of Disease project, establishment of road safety lead agencies in countries, and advocacy initiatives. He also recognized several major global events in 2013 which will increase visibility and foster progress of the Decade. He also mentioned progress on the preparation of the UN Secretary General's report to the UN General Assembly on improving global road safety which is due in August 2013 (Appendix 2).

Dr Molnar provided an update on behalf of the UNECE and UNESCAP. She made reference to the finding in the *Global status report on road safety 2013* which indicate that a great majority of countries have not yet introduced basic national legislation in the area of road safety and linked this to the need to encourage greater accession of countries to the existing United Nations legal instruments. The UN conventions and agreements – according to Dr. Molnar - are fundamental and necessary building blocks to create a solid foundation for road safety in the world.

In this context, she also noted the need to focus on improving geographical coverage of UN legal instruments by encouraging countries not only to accede to these instruments, but also to improve their implementation. Dr. Molnar stressed that technical assistance to countries with implementation problems should be made available and that it is necessary to obtain feedback from these countries. She also highlighted the progress made to reduce casualties. She explained that both UNECE and UNESCAP are currently taking a leading role in this area of work while other Regional Commissions need more encouragement to participate in enhancing road safety. UNECE's work will continue to focus on encouraging the greater use of multi-disciplinary crash investigations, supporting greater implementation of ITS technologies, reducing casualties at level crossings and promoting more effective implementation of the 1968 Convention on Road Signs and Signals. Dr. Molnar also informed UNRSC that UNECE has developed guidelines on how governments and others can join WP.29 and participate in the process of making vehicles safer.

While UNECA was unable to attend the meeting, a report of their 2011-2012 activities in the region was submitted for inclusion in the meeting report (Appendix 3).

Her Excellency Dr N. Abdula, the Deputy Minister of Health of Mozambique, provided a progress update on Decade-related activities in Mozambique. She highlighted the human and economic burden of road traffic injuries and fatalities, but also that significant progress has been made in raising public awareness about the issue, developing a national plan, strengthening legislation, and finalizing a national strategy for pre-hospital care. Despite many resource challenges, she highlighted that there was high-level government commitment to road safety in the country (Appendix 4).

Ms T. Moya and Mr A. Ismail from the South African Ministry of Transport provided a progress update on Decade-related activities in South Africa, including both road traffic management challenges and opportunities. They also outlined South Africa's road transport response to meeting the Millennium Development Goals and the country's Road Safety Strategy (Appendix 5).

Preparations on the second United Nations Global Road Safety Week

Ms L. Sminkey updated participants on preparations for the Second UN Global Road Safety Week to take place from 6-12 May 2013 on the theme of pedestrian safety (Appendix 6). She noted that WHO as the Decade secretariat has prepared the following to date:

- the global web site in six languages (<http://www.who.int/roadsafety/week/2013/en/index.html>) with long-term and short-term goals, key messages, links to the tag symbolizing the Decade, web buttons, etc.;

- a toolkit for organizers, which is a brief guide to help governments, NGOs and their partners to plan activities and events during the Week; and
- a global calendar of events by country, with a form for groups to register their events.

WHO has promoted these materials as well as the "Long Short Walk" initiative through various channels including the Decade's Facebook and Twitter platforms, Decade e-updates, and others. WHO has also informed its regional and country offices around the world about the Week, and the steps that they should take to prepare related events and activities.

Ms Sminkey encouraged all UNRSC members to promote the Week through their respective country offices and networks and noted that a brief advocacy document on pedestrian safety and a series of posters are under preparation. Several preliminary concepts for posters and other visuals were shared with the group for comment.

It was announced that the Road Safety Fund will contribute USD 100,000 to the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety for it to distribute to members which are planning events and activities for the Week. The disbursement of these funds will be based on brief written proposals from the NGOs to the Alliance. WHO will also provide limited funding to WHO country offices for the events their governments will host, and encouraged other UNRSC members to support their country offices in a similar way. Much more work is needed to promote the Week generally and to reach many of the world's pedestrian associations to encourage their participation in the Week.

Action points identified during the discussion include:

- UNRSC members to promote the Week at every opportunity.
- UNRSC members who are able to provide even limited funding to governments, NGOs and others to support the events and activities they are planning.
- UNRSC members to register the events and activities they are planning and encourage others to do so.
- UNRSC members to join the "Long Short Walk" campaign.
- UNRSC members to make use of the Week's advocacy materials, as appropriate.

Mr R. Nowak, UNECE and on behalf of UNESCAP, gave an overview of the proposed activities of UN regional commissions for the Week. For UNECE, the Week will be commemorated in Geneva, Switzerland, with four key events and several side events including a poster signing ceremony and poster exhibition. The events are a symposium on regional perspectives on drinking and driving, an interactive youth and young leaders session "Scouting for Global Road Safety", a roundtable and poster exhibition dedicated to International Level Crossing Awareness Day, and a discussion forum on insurance and road safety (see <http://www.unece.org/trans/welcome.html> for more details). UNECE is also partnering with an Italian toll way motor operator to distribute promotional material publicizing the Week. UNESCAP is organizing a Road Safety Expert Group Meeting in Seoul, Republic of Korea, on 8-10 May 2013. The Meeting is expected to attract stakeholders from national governments, NGOs, academia and other intergovernmental organizations.

Mr S. Billingsley, FIA-Foundation, updated UNRSC members on the "Long Short Walk" campaign, which encourages groups around the world to take photos or videos of their

daily walks and share these with the campaign organizers (Appendix 7). Images of short walks and marches from around the world will be combined into one long walk as a call for action for safe walking. Four easy steps were noted: take a short walk, hold a banner describing why you are walking, take a photo or video, and upload the images to the campaign's Flickr site. The Long Short Walk web site (www.longshortwalk.org) provides editable banner artwork, editable 'I'm walking for...' signs, and advice on how to take part. Groups can also register their walks at www.mylongshortwalk.org. Short promotional films are available to download via YouTube.

To date short walks have taken place in Cambodia, India, Kenya, the Philippines, Tanzania, and the United States. Others are planned in Antalya, Turkey in the context of the Third Global Meeting of NGOs for Road Safety and Road Traffic Injury Victims, Brussels, St Petersburg and Washington, DC. The ultimate goal of the campaign is to lead the call for including sustainable transport in the post-2015 Development Agenda.

Mr S. Billingsley also encouraged all UNRSC members and their networks to visit "My World. The United Nations Global Survey for a Better World" here: <http://www.myworld2015.org/>, and select "Better transport and roads" as one of six priority areas for future action. On the same form in the category "Suggest a priority", he encouraged groups to add "Road safety". This is a platform which allows people worldwide to influence the post-2015 Development Agenda, and we should take this opportunity to ensure that road safety is included.

Global road safety initiatives

Dr Molnar provided an overview and update on the Millennium Development Goals post-2015 agenda and the inclusion of transport and road safety in the agenda. She outlined the post-2015 agenda which builds on key strengths of the MDG framework with clear goals and targets; described the process for formulating the Post-2015 agenda which includes multi-sector consultation; and provided highlights of UNECE's role in these post-2015 agenda discussions particularly with respect to the commitment to include sustainable development and transport in the agenda (Appendix 8).

As a follow-up from the 16th UNRSC meeting, Professor Ramos, FEVR discussed the need for earlier planning and agreement on a theme for the World Day of Remembrance for this year (it will be on the third Sunday in November 2013). A proposal was circulated prior to the 17th UNRSC meeting with suggestions (Appendix 9). Participants agreed that the theme "Let's have roads that are safe for all" should be adopted for World Day of Remembrance this year. Dr Krug noted that it is important to follow this type of process and to agree on a theme for the World Day of Remembrance every year.

Professor F. Wegman, SWOV gave a presentation on "Global Road Safety: promising routes to further improvement". He described successful strategies such as the inclusion of road safety on the political agenda, identifying future road safety challenges, potential effective solutions, and how key players at international, regional and national levels can help achieve the objectives of the Decade (Appendix 10).

Mr D. Ward, FIA Foundation, made a presentation focusing on safer vehicles, specifically on the need to encourage Member States to adopt and implement motor vehicle standards developed by the UN's World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP 29),

as well as the deployment of crash avoidance technologies. He also shared the Global NCAP results. Finally he informed participants about the Enhanced Safety of Vehicles meeting to be held on 27-30 May 2013 in Seoul, South Korea. This will be followed by the 2013 Global NCAP Annual on 30 May 2013 also in Seoul (Appendix 11).

Mr R. Trottein, Laser Europe informed participants about the upcoming Global Road Safety Festival to be held between 23-24 April 2013 in Paris, to promote road safety. There will be 6 award categories in a variety of fields including films by young people, road safety campaigns and advertisements, driver education and training, new technologies, road safety prevention and media coverage from Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America and North America (Appendix 12).

Dr M. Khayesi and Ms E. Murphy led a discussion about training and capacity building. This was requested by delegates during the 16th UNRSC meeting in order to better coordinate information and disseminate notices about regional or international training and capacity building opportunities. Dr Khayesi and Ms Murphy provided a summary of the analysis of information gathered from members following an informal survey (Appendix 13). It was noted that a similar effort has been initiated under the Safer Roads and Mobility project group (but limited to Pillar 2-related training). To prevent duplication and facilitate better coordination, volunteers were tasked with further reviewing the information from both processes and presenting a proposal for next steps at the next UNRSC meeting. It was noted that this information gathering processes was not meant to include relevant degree courses or other certified training that occurs at a national level.

Global activities by UNRSC members

Several participants provided updates on activities:

- Mr J. Valmain provided an update of Decade-related activities in France. He noted that provisional data showed a reduction in road traffic fatalities between 2011 and 2012 putting France within the EU average. He also described recent activities undertaken in France to set 2020 targets, focusing on ITS technology, road user behaviour (especially among the elderly), and the exchange of experiences and approaches among French-speaking countries (Appendix 14).
- Ms D. Issard, IFRC described the Global First Aid Reference Centre and linkages with road safety, including a discussion on the World First Aid Day (September 2013) which this year will be dedicated to “First Aid and Road Safety”. She highlighted that the Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies all advocate for the inclusion of first aid training during driving licensing processes (Appendix 15).
- Mr J. Hanley provided an update on NETS activities to support pedestrian safety, including a press release and information disseminated to members through email and the NETS newsletter (Appendix 16).
- Dr G. Craft provided an update of the AIPF’s Helmet Vaccine Initiative and collaboration in Asia and Africa (Appendix 17).

- Dr R. Baluja, IRTE provided an update on capacity building in traffic management (Appendix 18).

Membership

There were no new membership applications. At the request of participants from the 16th UNRSC meeting, Ms Murphy presented a proposal on membership termination for consideration (Appendix 19). Participants had requested termination of members who do not attend 3 consecutive meetings.

To address this request, WHO proposed using lack of attendance at 3 consecutive meetings as a preliminary step to identify members who may be considered for termination in the context of the TOR. However, following a discussion, it was agreed that a formal process for termination was not required due to the nature of the Collaboration. A preliminary analysis also showed that a negligible number of member organizations are not able to participate in UNRSC meetings or project group activities.

UNECE stated the following and asked that it be included in this report: “The UNECE believes that paragraph 12.2 of the UNRSC Terms of Reference is self-explanatory and unambiguous in terms of providing clear reasons for which UNRSC members may be terminated. Specifically, paragraph 12.2 of the UNRSC TOR does not allow for membership termination on the basis of infrequent participation in UNRSC meetings”.

In conclusion, it was agreed that the existing termination provisions in Section 12 of the TORs will be applied. It was also agreed, that an interview be conducted by the UNRSC secretariat with members who voluntarily terminate or no longer regularly participate in the UNRSC in order to identify if there are issues or concerns that need to be addressed generally.

Upcoming projects/events

Additional 2013 upcoming projects and events announced include:

- ASIRT annual gala to be held 20 May 2013 in Washington DC.
- Prévention Routière Internationale (PRI) and the NGO “Ukrainian Road Safety Association” will hold an International Conference on Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety with the support of the Cabinet of Ministers in Ukraine on 19-22 June 2013 in Kyiv, Ukraine (see www.pri.kiev.ua and www.roadsafety.org.ua).
- FIA Foundation Zenani Mandela scholarship awards to held July in South Africa.
- European participants were encouraged to sign the European Citizen’s Initiative "30 kmh – making streets liveable!" campaign. One million signatures are needed. UNRSC participates from the EU are encouraged to support the initiative, see www.30kmh.eu.
- Shell Eco-marathon, challenging student teams to design, build and drive energy-efficient vehicles will be taking place in the Americas, Europe and Asia in 2013, see <http://www.shell.com/global/environment-society/ecomarathon/about.html>.

The 16th UNRSC meeting report provides a list of other 2013 events that were announce during that meeting.

Next Meeting and Closing

Dr Krug closed the meeting thanking all participants for their support, reminded participants to register their events for the UN Global Road Safety Week. The proposal to hold the next meeting in autumn in Abu Dhabi was accepted. Dates will be confirmed later.