

## **Day 1: 5 November 2013**

### **Opening and welcome**

The 18<sup>th</sup> United Nations Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC) meeting was hosted by the Abu Dhabi Municipality, in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates on 5-6 November 2013. The objectives of the meeting were:

1. To update partners on progress on the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 and discuss future events.
2. To discuss progress on global road safety initiatives.
3. To discuss current and future activities of the project groups.
4. To provide updates on UNRSC partner activities and review UNRSC membership requests.

### **Opening of meeting**

Dr E. Krug, WHO, officially opened the 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the UNRSC. He noted that the meeting is timely in that it takes place shortly after the release of the UN Secretary-General's latest report *Improving global road safety*<sup>1</sup>. In his report the UN Secretary-General highlighted recent achievements during the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020, including the launch of the *Global status report on road safety 2013*, creation of the Global Alliance for Care of the Injured, the Second UN Global Road Safety Week on pedestrian safety, and the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims.

Eng. E. Mubarak Al Mazrouie, Abu Dhabi Municipality, provided welcome remarks (Appendix 1). He expressed trust that the meeting will bring the benefit of its fruitful discussions to bear on road safety efforts in Abu Dhabi and globally. He described several initiatives of the Abu Dhabi Municipality to improve the safety on its roads, through its multisectoral traffic safety committee which has contributed to a decline in road traffic fatalities over the past three years (2010–2012). He offered their experience to others, and asked for continued collaboration with the international community to further progress. He described Abu Dhabi Municipality's open door policy to friends of road safety, and said that he and his colleagues are pleased to host the 18<sup>th</sup> UNRSC meeting which will provide an important opportunity to renew contacts and share knowledge and experience.

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<sup>1</sup> UN General Assembly Report (A/68/368), 6 September 2013,  
<http://who.int/roadsafety/about/resolutions/download/en/index.html>.

The meeting programme and report of the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the UNRSC were adopted by participants without comment. Participants then introduced themselves.

## **Progress on the Decade of Action for Road Safety**

### **Decade of Action: progress and challenges**

Dr Krug presented on the progress in the Decade of Action, noting a number of achievements in all pillars of the Global Plan since the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the UNRSC (Appendix 2). He also highlighted some global advocacy efforts. Despite progress, some of the challenges he noted included the fact that the initial enthusiasm for the launch of the Decade of Action is not matched by continued support, lack of internationally agreed upon targets and indicators and a reporting mechanism, lack of ownership by governments and lack of funding. During the discussion which followed his presentation, he asked participants to reflect on these issues. Among the ideas proposed by participants included the sharing of best practices across countries, ensuring a greater investment by the public health community, and collaborating to a greater extent with police. The lack of national actions plans in many countries, weak enforcement of road safety laws, and lack of funding were all noted as hindrances to progress. Some noted that although there are challenges, the Decade of Action has served as an excellent advocacy framework and it has contributed to concrete achievements in many areas, and this should not be forgotten. Activities identified as key to continued progress include the ability to engage with other global health and development agendas, such as environment and governance, and ensuring that road safety is reflected in the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals. Participants also discussed if there was a need for the UNRSC to review or rethink the pillar-based approach to the Decade of Action, in particular as we approach the mid-term review conference for the Decade of Action, as many countries are picking and choosing from the pillars, instead of addressing road safety in a holistic manner. However, no consensus was reached.

Action points for UNRSC members:

- Continue to support countries to develop and launch national plans for the Decade of Action.
- Further explore innovative funding mechanisms for the Decade of Action.
- Advocate for greater ownership of the Decade of Action by the public health community.
- NGO members, follow the experience of NGOs in the HIV/AIDS and tobacco fields and highlight in a very vocal manner the gaps in legislation and enforcement in countries.
- Police or former police members, collaborate and put forward a proposed set of activities.
- Continue to advocate for road safety to be included in post-2015 SDGs.

Mr M. Al Katheeri, Head of Traffic Services Section, Abu Dhabi Municipality and Mr A. Mehmood, Road Safety Specialist, Department of Transport, Abu Dhabi presented on the progress in Abu Dhabi Municipality. Mr Al Katheeri's presentation focused on the high risk conditions around schools, behaviour of youth and some of the strategies employed to

address these risks, including the increased use of speed radars and targeted education and awareness programmes. Mr Mehmood discussed the work of the Joint Committee for Safety and Traffic Solutions (JCSTS), such as development of the first official road safety code in Abu Dhabi Municipality, infrastructure improvements (e.g., pedestrian bridges), campaigns to improve pedestrian safety and overall compliance. Both presenters confirmed the strong political commitment to working with other neighbouring countries to improve road safety in the region.

## Road safety week

Ms L. Sminkey, WHO, presented on the Second UN Global Road Safety Week held in May 2013 on pedestrian safety (Appendix 3). This Second UN Global Road Safety Week was a great success. The calendar of events on the Week's global web site<sup>2</sup> reflected nearly 200 events in 78 countries, although there were many more events which were not registered. She noted high-level regional policy discussions in Argentina, Belgium and the Russian Federation; national policy-oriented discussions, many of which used the *Global status report on road safety 2013*<sup>3</sup> as a key reference document; interventions such as painting cross walks and improving safety around schools in several countries; and engagement with the media in many countries. She highlighted the "Long Short Walk" campaign as a key activity contributing to the success of the Week, in that it was a common activity that all groups – government and nongovernment alike – could host and rally around. It was also a highly visible activity, in that it involved the general public, took place on the streets, and was photographed and videographed. Materials made available to support these events include *Pedestrian safety: a road safety manual for decision-makers and practitioners*<sup>4</sup>; its complementary advocacy document *Make walking safe*<sup>5</sup>; and other materials such as a toolkit for organizers, posters, and a short film. She reminded the group that during an earlier discussion of road safety weeks, the UNRSC had agreed that these weeks should be held more regularly during the Decade of Action, as a means of ensuring continued momentum.

Participants discussed the need for evaluation, the support to countries to follow up on their commitments, and the themes and dates for the Third UN Global Road Safety Week. It was generally agreed that the weeks are an advocacy opportunity, and while no formal evaluation is needed, there could be some process indicators such as number of events, newspaper articles, followers on social media, hits on the global web site, etc., that should be collected so that we have some information to share with partners and donors when we describe the success of the Week. In terms of continued follow up, the importance of working not only at national level, but also at city level was reiterated, especially for an issue such as pedestrian safety which demands interventions at city level. Regarding themes for the Third UN Global Road Safety Week, several proposals came forward: trauma care, legislation, environment, and children. The group voted that "keeping children safe on the roads" should be the theme for the Week, given that children are at high risk of road traffic death and injury, the topic has an emotional appeal, and in terms of events and activities, many stakeholders can become involved. The timing of the next Week will be very important, in that there are two other key events which are in 2015, the launch of the *Global*

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.who.int/roadsafety/week/2013/en/index.html>.

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/road\\_safety\\_status/2013/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/road_safety_status/2013/en/index.html).

<sup>4</sup> [http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/79753/1/9789241505352\\_eng.pdf](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/79753/1/9789241505352_eng.pdf).

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/publications/road\\_traffic/make\\_walking\\_safe.pdf](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/publications/road_traffic/make_walking_safe.pdf).

*status report on road safety 2015*, and hosting of the mid-term review conference for the Decade of Action; therefore, all three events must complement each other in terms of objectives and messaging. It was agreed that the Week should take place in 2015, however, both the theme and timing of the Week will be negotiated with countries ahead of the next UNGA resolution which will be discussed by the UN General Assembly in New York in Spring 2014.

Mr Alexander Alimov, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation was invited by Dr Krug to discuss the process and timelines for the resolution. He emphasized that a lot of work needs to happen ahead of the tabling of the resolution in the UNGA. He informed participants that the road safety community needs to provide information and push governments to support the resolution as this is a negotiated process involving mostly diplomats who are not road safety experts. The Friends of the Decade could be a valuable resource in framing the terms of the resolution, and this process can be initiated about one month prior to the launch of open-ended negotiations on the resolution set for Spring 2014. Mr Alimov will provide more information to the Chair as key dates for the resolution are established.

### **Mid-Decade review conference**

Dr Krug announced that Brazil has offered to host the next Ministerial Meeting during the second half of 2015. However, the date and hosting will need to be discussed during the UNGA resolution negotiations. The conference will also serve as a mid-term review of the Decade of Action. Key points brought forward by members on the content of the conference included:

- Whether there was a need to revisiting the Global Plan in light of activities, achievements and challenges in the first half of the Decade of Action, with a view to retuning the plan and re-launching it for the second half of the Decade, if necessary.
- Generating regional comparisons to focus discussions around expansion and replication of road safety initiatives during the conference. For example, much progress has been made in Latin America and good examples could be drawn from the region for replication.
- Building a fund-raising component into the mid-term conference.
- The World Innovation Summit in 2013 also released a report on Road Traffic Injuries and Trauma Care that reviewed innovations in these topics which can serve as a good reference document.<sup>6</sup>

### **Progress on Global road safety initiatives**

Ms E. Murphy, WHO, provided information about the *Global status report on road safety 2015*. She highlighted that while many aspects of the previous report will be maintained, the 2015 report will include new data including more legislative criteria, as well as data on infrastructure and vehicle standards. Ms Murphy presented the timeline for the 2015 report with a launch date expected towards mid-2015 ahead of the Ministerial Meeting (Appendix 4).

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<sup>6</sup> <http://www.wish-qatar.org/reports/2013-reports>.

Mr S. Billingsley, FIA Foundation, provided an overview of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, including the creation of a High Level Panel and open working groups on Sustainable Development Goals for 70 countries. Results from the open working groups will be presented in September 2014 to the UN General Assembly. This will be followed by inter-governmental negotiations at the UN leading to new Development Goals in September 2015. He shared information from many of the Post-2015 consultation meetings and events held in several countries during 2013. He highlighted the next steps in preparation for the UN Consultation to be held on 7 January 2014, including: developing consensus around post-2015 targets for road safety, a discussion paper being drafted by UNEP on sustainable transport on behalf of UN agencies and encouraged the UNRSC and other coalitions to support road safety in Open Working Groups (Appendix 5). He also noted the film from the Long Short Walk initiative<sup>7</sup> launched in 2013 as part of the UN Global Road Safety Week as a way to raise awareness about road safety issues.

Mr S. Mouwakdie made a presentation regarding the theme for the World Day of Remembrance on behalf of Professor Ramos, FEVR who was unable to attend the meeting. Mr Mouwakdie reminded UNRSC members of the agreed motto for the World Day of Remembrance of Road Traffic Victims throughout the Decade of Action for Road Safety which is *"From Global Remembrance to Global Action across the Decade"*. As agreed during the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, an annual theme, based on the Global Plan for the Decade of Action, is to be agreed mutually among the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety and UNRSC members. The agreed theme for 2013 is on Pillar 2 Safer Roads and Mobility is *'Let's have roads that are safe for all'*. Activities are underway for the 2013 WDOR, and can be viewed at <http://www.worlddayofremembrance.org/>. The proposed theme for 2014 based on Pillar 3, Safer Vehicles is *'Design out speed - speed kills'* (Appendix 6). There were no objections from UNRSC participants regarding this theme.

Mr J. Witte, AMEND, President of the Board of Directors of the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety provided an update of Alliance activities. The Alliance has grown to 140 member NGOs active in more than 90 countries. It serves as a clearinghouse of information about and for NGOs. Mr Witte acknowledged continued support from institutions including the Global Road Safety Facility and the Road Safety Fund administered by the FIA Foundation and WHO, which contributed US\$ 100,000 to the Alliance to support 40 NGO members to plan and host events for the Second UN Global Road Safety Week (Appendix 7). Given the continued growth of the Alliance and activities, the Alliance is now in need of an Executive Director. Mr Witte asked for support from participants through referring potential candidates and financial support. The Alliance would like the Executive Director to start in February 2014. The position will be for a 2-3 year commitment. A position description will be shared with those interested in finding out more.

Mr J. Witte presented AMEND's School Area Road Safety Assessment and Improvements (SARSAI) programme. Under SARSAI, Amend implements light infrastructure modifications and advocacy to select schools based on a needs assessment. The interventions are currently taking place in Tanzania and Amend is looking to expand to other schools (Appendix 8).

Dr P. Venter, GRSP presented the Global Road Safety Initiative (GRSI). GRSI was established in 2005 with the following stated objective: "to improve the quality of life through improved

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<sup>7</sup> <http://youtu.be/5cr5nhjive8>.

road safety in the communities in which we operate, work and live.” GRSI currently is in 8 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America (Appendix 9).

Ms H. Gomez, CAF provided an update on the Forum for Motorcycles Safety held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in September 2012 and made a proposal for a mechanism for partners to address motorcycle safety in a holistic manner. The following needs were identified in the forum: motorcyclist safety plans; research and creative ideas for motorcycle road safety design; the need for NCAP for motorcycles; research for safer motorcycles; novice driver restrictions; special legislation for workers on motorcycles. Two proposals from the Forum included forming a project group and developing a good practice manual on the subject. (<http://prezi.com/c5mjkjzidn8w/road-safety/>). The idea of forming a project group will need to be determined in the context of the UNRSC Terms of Reference and the good practice manual was already discussed in Washington DC some years ago and will be started in 2014.

## **Day 2: 6 November 2013**

### **Discussion of current and future activities of the project groups**

All project groups met during the second day to discuss their activities and progress on implementing their work plans. Each project group reported back to participants in plenary. See Appendix 10 for reports of project group discussions.

### **Global activities by UNRSC members**

Several participants provided an update on activities:

- Mr M. Shotten provided an update on RoadPol through which host governments can advocate for an international policing organization that can provide training and capacity building on enforcement. Discussion items included how to expand dialogue on road policing beyond the World Bank and how UNRSC partners can collaborate and generate ideas to improving enforcement globally. In light of the importance of this topic, Dr Krug requested an in-depth discussion on this topic be included on the next UNRSC meeting agenda.
- Mr J. Valmain provided an update of progress in France in the areas of speeding, drink-driving, distracted driving and motorcycle safety, as well as a focus on the elderly and road safety (Appendix 11).
- Professor A. Hyder discussed the launch of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, International Injury Research Unit (JHSPH-IIRU) online course on Road safety training for Low and Middle-Income Countries Certificate programme<sup>8</sup>. The Certificate programme launched in January 2013 (Appendix 12) is a free online training programme on Road Traffic Injury Prevention and Control in Low- and Middle-Income Countries.
- Dr P. Venter gave a presentation on the World First Aid Day and other first aid initiatives on behalf of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent

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<sup>8</sup> [http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-andinstitutes/johns-hopkins-international-injury-researchunit/training/Courses\\_in\\_Injury\\_Prevention.html](http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-andinstitutes/johns-hopkins-international-injury-researchunit/training/Courses_in_Injury_Prevention.html).

Societies. The theme of World First Aid Day in 2013 was road safety. This included a review of first aid knowledge by European drivers and examples of World First Aid Day activities in several countries (Appendix 13).

- Mr F. Lieshout discussed approaches to engaging youth such as through social media, through youth serving peer-to-peer facilitators, supporting youth as community mobilizers, and advocates for road safety (<http://prezi.com/user/floorlieshout/>). Mr Lieshout called for partners to collaborate and publish a global technical manual on how to engage youth more structurally based on best practice and examples from other public health initiatives. Dr Krug asked him to develop a concept note and circulate it for discussion in the next UNRSC meeting.
- Mr J. Bradford provided an update of the iRAP Star rating programme in several countries, focusing on reducing risk associated with poor infrastructure on 10% of the world's highest volume roads (Appendix 14).
- Mr S. Kamal discussed the TRL crash system work in low and middle-income countries.
- Ms G. DiPietro presented on the role of Red Cross Red Crescent volunteers in road safety (Appendix 15).
- Mr G. Kardos highlighted Johnson and Johnson's commitment to the Decade and the outcomes of implementation of motorcycle helmet wearing programme and pedestrian safety through the SAFE Schools project in South Africa (Appendix 16).
- Ms E. González Presto discussed progress on child safety, focusing on child restraints, safe transportation to school, and safer vehicles in Latin American countries through advocating for legislative change, research training and education (Appendix 17).
- Mr O. Lenz presented FIA's contributions to its motor clubs in several countries to support activities during the Second UN Global Road Safety Week (Appendix 18).

## **Memberships**

Two new organizations were accepted into the UNRSC according to the UNRSC Terms of Reference: The UPS Foundation and the International Motorcycle Manufacturers Association (IMMA). UNRSC members were particularly interested in additional information regarding concrete activities to support the goal of the Decade. However, due to time constraints there was insufficient time to discuss concrete activities that the new members will contribute in future to the Decade. Therefore, both organizations were invited to present additional details on how they will support the Decade through the UNRSC at the next meeting.

## **Upcoming projects/events**

- An international conference with the theme "Youth and Road Safety ... Challenges and Solutions" will take place in Abu Dhabi on 27-28 November 2013. The conference is being held by The Emirates Traffic Safety Society (ETSS), La Prévention Routière Internationale (PRI) and Arab Road Safety Organization (AROSO).
- A road safety conference in Lyon, France on the theme: "elderly and road safety" 26-27 November 2013.
- The GRSP-Asia meeting will be held in February 2014 in Manila, Philippines.

- The UN General Assembly will hold the discussion on the resolution on Improving Global Road Safety in April 2014.
- The First International Child Safety Forum will be held 20-21 May 2014 in Montevideo, Uruguay. More information about the Forum is available at [www.gonzalorodriguez.org](http://www.gonzalorodriguez.org).
- Global Road Safety Film Festival will be held in September 2014 in San Paulo, Brazil.
- The Decade of Action for Road Safety mid-term review is tentatively scheduled for 2015 to be confirmed based on the 2014 UN General Assembly resolution.

### **Next Meeting and Closing**

Before Dr Krug proceeded with closing the meeting, the issue of a possible UN Special Envoy for Road Safety was raised by participants. They expressed their wish that the UNRSC be involved or consulted in the process, should a person be nominated in this capacity. Dr Krug clarified that while a UN Special Envoy would be helpful, these are high-level political appointments made by the office of the UN Secretary-General.

Dr Krug closed the meeting thanking all participants for their support. It was noted that the next UNRSC meeting will take place in either Geneva or New York. If it were held in New York, it would be hosted to coincide with the next discussion on road safety in the UN General Assembly. Local and dates will be confirmed later taking into consideration the UN General Assembly agenda.