



**24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration**

**16–17 March 2017**

**UNESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand**

**PROVISIONAL REPORT**

The 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC) was hosted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in Bangkok, Thailand, on 16-17 March 2017. The objectives of the meeting, as provided in the agenda (see Appendix 1), were:

1. To discuss the implementation of the UNGA and WHA resolutions
2. To discuss activities required to meet the road safety related SDGs
3. To update the UNRSC terms of reference
4. To discuss current and future activities of the UNRSC project groups
5. To review membership requests and provide updates on UNRSC partner activities

The meeting convened over 90 people, representing international organizations, governments, NGOs, academia, foundations and private companies.

The meeting was chaired by Dr E. Krug from WHO and co-chaired by Mr Y. Li from the UNESCAP. The Vice Minister for Transport of Thailand, Mr T. Rodprasert and the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for Road Safety Mr J. Todt were the keynote speakers.

**Day 1: 16 March 2017**

**Opening and welcome**

The meeting was opened by Dr E. Krug who welcomed all the participants and specifically the two key note speakers namely Mr T. Rodprasert, the Vice Minister for Transport of Thailand, and Mr J. Todt, the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for Road Safety. He also thanked UNESCAP for hosting the meeting.

Dr E. Krug highlighted the success of the UNRSC as a unique platform for information exchange and coordination of activities to support, among others, the development of good practice manuals, the elaboration of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety, the preparation of UN Secretary General's reports, the organization of high level ministerial conferences, as well as global advocacy events such as the UN Global road safety weeks and the World Day of Remembrance of Road Traffic Victims. He recalled the progress made since 2004 towards the recognition of the road safety issue at a global level –including through the proclamation of the period 2011-2020 as the Decade of Action for road safety as well as the inclusion of road safety in the global agenda and specifically SDG target 3.6 – but also stressed that efforts are to be accelerated to decrease significantly the number of road traffic deaths. Dr E. Krug also emphasized the need to look beyond 2020 and define a meaningful strategy for the long term. In this context he presented two of the initiatives led by WHO: the Save LIVES package –a technical package identifying the most effective road safety interventions – and the development of targets and indicators for key risk factors and service delivery mechanisms to reduce road traffic fatalities and injuries. He also referred to the need to strengthen the coordination of country work and explore more creative ways to build on broader agendas and initiatives such as Habitat III, or the Sustainable Mobility for All initiative.

Mr. Y. Li also welcomed the participants and informed them of the regional efforts to improve road safety through the adoption of the updated Regional Road Safety Goals and Targets for Asia and the Pacific 2016-2020 at the Ministerial Conference on Transport in 2016. He stressed that the issue of road safety as well as other road related issues such as air pollution, GHG emissions, energy consumption, cross-border operations stemmed from the fact that road sector was less formalized and regulated. He indicated that an international road organization to set and recommend common standards and rules can contribute significantly to addressing road safety and other road related challenges for sustainable development

Keynote speaker, Mr T. Rodprasert, Vice Minister for Transport, Thailand, thanked the participants and specifically, WHO, UNESCAP and Jean Todt. He provided some information on Thailand's current road safety situation and its characteristics in terms of the number of vehicles per category, road network and road traffic deaths which are showing an increasing tendency. He indicated that Thailand placed road safety as a priority on the national agenda and has adopted an action plan in line with the Global Plan for the Decade of Action and its 5 pillars. He also referred to the short term Action Plan to Reduce Road Crashes from 2016 - 2017 and the long term Action Plan from 2018 – 2020 as a framework for the integrated implementation of all concerned agencies under the Ministry of Transport. Finally he mentioned some of the current initiatives to increase safety such as the inclusion of a GPS system in public transport vehicles, the development of stricter rules to obtain driving licenses, the obligation for transport operators to inspect vehicles against a specific checklist as well as the improvement of the enforcement of road safety laws.

Keynote speaker, Mr J.Todt (UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for Road Safety), also thanked WHO, UNESCAP and other participants. Referring to the data from the Global Status Report on Road Safety, he stressed the vulnerability of riders of two wheelers accounting for over 70% of the deaths in Thailand. He then referred to a series of workshops organized in Argentina, Kenya (Nairobi) and Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur) to support road safety efforts and the implementation of the UN Conventions on road safety. Mr J. Todt also underlined that the rapid urbanization and increased motorization in Asia and Africa results in an increased risk of road traffic injuries. He indicated that UNECE work on minimum safety standards to eliminate regional differences. He underlined that his role as the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy is to promote the adoption and the implementation of the UN Convention. He then provided some updates on the setting of a road safety fund (consultation organized at the WP1 at UNECE, 21-24 March 2017 and proposed inclusion in a UNGA Resolution). Finally he welcomed the large number of films submitted in the context of the road safety festival and informed participants that the Pope recorded a video to promote road safety.

Dr E. Krug then presented the agenda (cf. Appendix 1) which was adopted by participants.

## **Discuss the implementation of the UNGA and WHA resolutions**

Dr M. Peden (WHO) provided an update on the development of global performance targets on key risk factors and service delivery mechanisms to reduce road traffic fatalities and injuries. Recalling the mandate received by WHO from UNGA Resolution A/70/260 and WHA Resolution 69.7, she updated participants on the criteria used to develop such targets and corresponding indicators. Dr M. Peden then provided an overview of the current first version of the WHO Discussion Paper and she also invited interested participants to attend the project group on monitoring and evaluation where this would be discussed further (see Appendix 2).

Dr E. Krug then introduced the discussion on the 4<sup>th</sup> UN Global Road Safety Week (8-14 May 2017) on the theme of *Save Lives, SlowDown*. He indicated that this speed related theme is in line with efforts to realign energies around the safe systems approach which holds speed as central to road safety. Dr E. Krug underlined that the Week serves as an advocacy opportunity to increase understanding of the dangers of speed and generate action on measures to address speed, thereby saving lives on the roads. He indicated that activities are planned in regions and countries, rather than at global level, because these are most likely to lead to lasting change. Dr E. Krug stressed the need to ensure that people are aware and plan activities for the Week.

He then presented some of the resources available for the week including a WHO document on managing speed ([http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/publications/road\\_traffic/managing-speed/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/publications/road_traffic/managing-speed/en/)) and a toolkit organizers of Slow Down Days, drafted with the support of 20's Plenty for Us ([http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/publications/road\\_traffic/SlowDown\\_Days/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/publications/road_traffic/SlowDown_Days/en/)).

This introduction was followed by a presentation of the UN Global road safety week website (<https://www.unroadsafetyweek.org/en/home>) by Mr F. Lieshout (YOURS) and a presentation on the preparation of a Slow Down Day by Mr R. King (20's Plenty for US) (see Appendix 3).

Discussion followed around the framing of the speed issue: participants encouraged the opportunity to link lower speeds not only with road safety gains but also reduced pollution and reduced driving costs. There was also a general agreement that the speed issue should be framed within the safe system approach where the responsibility is not targeted primarily on the individual but should be shared by all stakeholders including governments. In addition, a suggestion was made to include on the website information about proper infrastructure for motorcyclists and pedestrians as well as information on correct standards for safe motorcycles.

Ms J. Auert (WHO) then updated the participants on the next UN Secretary General Report due in September 2017. She reminded participants about the context of this report and communicated timelines for its development (cf. table 1 below). She also provided some general guidance as to the requirements for reporting information (see Appendix 4).

**Table 1-Estimated timelines to develop the UN Secretary General Report**

Send report outline and request inputs	5 -19 May 2017
Draft submitted to UNRSC for comments	26 June - 11 July 2017
Final due in New York	Early September 2017

### **Discuss activities required to meet the road safety related SDGs**

Mr R. Nowak (UNECE) informed participants on progress made on the development of a UN Road Safety Fund. He invited participants to consult the latest proposal on the establishment of the road safety fund (see Informal Document ITC (2017) No.9

[https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2017/itc/Informal\\_document\\_No\\_9\\_UN\\_RS\\_fund.pdf](https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2017/itc/Informal_document_No_9_UN_RS_fund.pdf)).

Mr R. Nowak also referred to the informal Document No 2017/11 providing for a decision on the United Nations Road Safety Fund

[https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/commission/EXCOM/Agenda/2017/90Excom-2\\_March\\_17/Item\\_3-2017\\_11-Draft\\_Commission\\_decision\\_UN\\_Road\\_Safety\\_Fund.pdf](https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/commission/EXCOM/Agenda/2017/90Excom-2_March_17/Item_3-2017_11-Draft_Commission_decision_UN_Road_Safety_Fund.pdf)).

Dr M. Peden (WHO) provided an update on the Save LIVES package, which is a technical package identifying the most effective road safety interventions. She reminded participants of the six components of the package. She announced that the Save LIVES package will be released during the UN Global Road Safety Week and informed the participants on the communication and marketing plans (see Appendix 5).

Participants indicated that they would like to get a standard presentation of the Save LIVES package that they can use to promote this package.

Dr S. Job (World Bank) then presented the Sustainable Mobility for All Initiative. He referred to its four objectives (namely universal access, efficiency, safety and green) and explained that these objectives are all linked to SDG targets. Dr S. Job explained how this initiative can influence road safety providing, for example, synergies between road safety, efficiency, access for all and climate change/green (through lower speed limits for example). He then indicated that a working group has been set up for each of the four arenas. The safety group is chaired by Ms H. Gomez (CAF). At the end of his presentation, Dr S. Job referred to the development of a Global Mobility Report and informed the group on the corresponding steps and timeline (see Appendix 6).

Dr J. Fleiter (GRSP) reported on the progress made to enhance the coordination of country work among UNRSC members. She reminded participants of the context and rationale of this initiative and recapped the discussions from the previous UNRSC meeting. Dr J. Fleiter then showed a visual of a possible tool that can be used to map country work and highlighted some of its features. She then updated the group on progress made and challenges encountered and suggested the tool to be piloted by a subgroup of members and then rolled out to all members after May 2017 (see Appendix 7).

### **Update the UNRSC terms of reference**

Dr M. Peden introduced the topic of the revision of the UNRSC terms of reference. She referred to the last UNRSC meeting where participants agreed to such a revision to bring them in line with the Framework of Engagement with Non-State Actors (FENSA) and other WHO rules of governance. She then indicated that a draft zero had been shared with some UNRSC members to collect their comments and that a revised draft had been prepared to reflect, as far as possible, the comments received. This revised draft was circulated to all UNRSC members a few days ahead of the meeting (see Appendix 8).

Mr I. Matta, senior legal officer from WHO, gave an overview of the modifications introduced into the draft revised UNRSC Terms of Reference. All participants were in agreement with the changes proposed except for UNECE. Therefore the Chair suggested continuing the discussions within an informal working group. It was therefore agreed that WHO would meet with UNECE the next morning to discuss further the changes introduced.

### **Day 2: 17 March 2017**

#### **Discuss current and future activities of the UNRSC project groups**

Project groups met during the second day to discuss their activities on implementing their work plans. These included the following project groups: safer roads and infrastructure, safer vehicles, safer road users, post-crash response, monitoring and evaluation and work-related road safety. The project Group on road safety management did not meet face to face but did communicate electronically. All groups present at the meeting reported back in plenary (see Appendices 9-14 for the minutes of all group discussions).

#### **Review membership requests and provide updates on UNRSC partner activities**

##### **New members**

Two organizations were welcomed as new members into the UNRSC. They are the Australasian College of Road Safety (ACRS) (see Appendix 15) and the Towards Zero Foundation (TZF) (see Appendix 16).

##### **Revision of the UNRSC terms of reference**

In the morning of day 2, WHO and UNECE met to discuss the proposed changes to the terms of reference. However there was insufficient time to review all the sections and some key points of contention arose which require further discussion. It was therefore agreed that WHO and UNECE will meet after the UNRSC meeting to discuss further the changes and finalize a draft to be adopted at the next UNRSC meeting.

## Update on partner activities

Participants provided an update on their global activities:

- Progress in the establishment of global intergovernmental road organization, presented by Mr Y. Li, UNESCAP (see Appendix 17);
- ESCAP Regional Road Safety Goals and Targets for Asia and the Pacific 2016-2020, presented by Ms. T. Rasamit, UNESCAP (see Appendix 18);
- Update on road safety progress in the USA, presented by M. Sturgeon, Deputy Permanent Representative to UNESCAP from the U.S. Embassy Bangkok;
- UNICEF Child Road Traffic Injury update, presented by Mr A. Silverman, UNICEF (see Appendix 19);
- ISO 39001 and ISO 39002 standards, presented by Mr P. Hartzell, ISO (see Appendix 20);
- Global Forum of Legislators, presented by Ms J. Truong, TZF (<http://www.ourglobalforum.org/about/>);
- Saving Lives: The journey from passage to enforcement of a national helmet law, presented by Mr P. Kim, AIPF (see Appendix 21);
- Walk This Way and keeping children safe on the road, presented by S. Mignott, Safe kids (<https://www.safekids.org/walk-way/>);
- Decade of Action in China, presented by Ms Wu Shu Xia, CATARC (see Appendix 22);
- Launch of new FIA “3500 Lives” road safety campaign, presented by Mr N. Carty, FIA (see Appendix 23);
- Employer Engagement Campaign – SPEED (slow down...save lives), presented by Ms S. Lee, Johnson and Johnson (see Appendix 24);
- The FIM road safety campaign, presented by Mr J. Christensen, FIM (see Appendix 25);

## Upcoming projects/events

- 21-24 March 2017: WP1 meeting, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland (<https://www.unece.org/trans/main/welcwp1.html>)
- 3-6 April 2017: 5<sup>th</sup> Global Meeting of Nongovernmental Organizations advocating for road safety and road victims
- 8-14 May 2017: 4<sup>th</sup> UN Global Road Safety Week (<http://www.who.int/roadsafety/week/2017/en/>)
- 26-29 July 2017: Childhood Injury Prevention Convention, Baltimore, Maryland, USA (<http://www.prevcon.org/exhibiting-2/>)
- 14-17 November 2017: IRF World Road Meeting (<https://www.wrm2017.org/>)

Visit [UNRSC partner websites](#) for additional information about upcoming events.

## Closing and next meeting

In closing Dr E. Krug thanked participants for their collaboration during 2017 and encouraged members to accelerate preparations for the 4<sup>th</sup> UN Road Safety Week. He also thanked Dr Barry Watson (GRSP) and Ms Kate Carr (Safe Kids Worldwide) for their contributions to global road safety over many years and wished them both well in their new assignments. He announced that Dr M. Peden would also be moving to the UK at the end of August and he expressed his gratitude and appreciation with regards to the long and successful years spent together to promote road safety around the world.

The next UNRSC meeting will most likely take place in November 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland hosted by WHO.