

Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM)

The Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM), having taken notice of the information already published concerning the Third Road Safety Week in the ECE Region, wishes to submit the following information concerning its own programme of Road Safety promotions already in preparation for the year 2000.

European Young Motorcycle Rider of the Year

This new event first held in 1999 is expected to be repeated in 2000. Each European country in EU membership is encouraged to hold a national event for young motorcyclists under 26 years of age. The winner is then invited to participate in a final event for the European Young Rider of the Year.

This year's organisation was under the auspices of FIM and FEMA national bodies in the EU. 13 countries were represented in the final which took place in Milan from 15th to 19th September. The event was filmed and is expected to form the subject of a television programme early in 2000.

Experienced Rider Training Symposium B 26-28 May 1999

This symposium took place in Frankfurt/Germany. 70 participants from 17 countries took part in training session on road and track dealing with hazard avoidance techniques and advanced rider training skills which help to develop accident avoidance. A folder of the written material on this subject is in course of preparation and will be available early in the year 2000 in time for repetition of this exercise later in the year.

Tunnel safety and accidents

The FIM regrets that it has not the facilities to report on this question in detail, but it would like to take this opportunity to report details of the courageous actions of a motorcyclist at the scene of the Mont-Blanc tunnel fire in March 1999. The motorcyclist Pierlucio Tinazzi entered the smoke filled tunnel from the Italian side a number of times and successfully brought out on his motorcycle many motorists whose vehicles had been trapped inside the tunnel. Unfortunately, he failed to return from his final visit into the Tunnel and himself became a victim of the tragic inferno.

In recognition of his brave and totally unselfish actions, the FIM has decided to posthumously award Pierlucio Tinazzi its Gold Medal for Motorcycling Merit Distinctions. This is the highest FIM award of which only two are permitted annually.