

Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 - to be launched globally on 11 May 2011

A. Summary

Officially proclaimed by the UN General Assembly **in March 2010**, the Decade provides a framework to countries and communities to increase action to save lives on the world's roads.

The Decade - and implementation of this Plan - will be evaluated at regular intervals by the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration under the aegis of the World Health Organization (WHO).

The plan is intended as a guiding document that will facilitate coordinated and concerted action towards the achievement of the goal and objectives of the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011–2020. It provides a context that explains the background and reasons behind the declaration of a Decade by the United Nations General Assembly. This global Plan serves as a tool to support the development of national and local plans of action, while simultaneously providing a framework to allow coordinated activities at the global level. It is directed at a broad audience that includes representatives of national and local governments, civil society and private companies willing to align their activities over the next decade with the global framework.

The Global Plan is now available in all six UN languages. Visit:

http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/plan/en/index.html .

The Plan provides an overall framework for activities which may take place in the context of the Decade.

The categories or "pillars" of activities are:

1. **Road safety management;**
2. **Safer roads and mobility;**
3. **Safer vehicles;**
4. **Safer road users;**
5. **Post crash response.**

Indicators have been developed to measure progress in each of these areas.

WP.29 is the **Pillar of Pillar 3**

Note: not all the activities of this pillar are in the purview of the World Forum

Pillar 3: Safer vehicles

Encourage universal deployment of improved vehicle safety technologies for both passive and active safety through a combination of harmonization of relevant global standards, consumer information schemes ¹ and incentives ¹ to accelerate the uptake of new technologies.

Activity 1: Encourage Member States to apply and promulgate motor vehicle safety regulations as developed by the United Nation's World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29).

Activity 2: Encourage implementation of new car assessment programmes in all regions of the world in order to increase the availability of consumer information about the safety performance of motor vehicles.¹

Activity 3: Encourage agreement to ensure that all new motor vehicles are equipped with seat-belts and anchorages that meet regulatory requirements and pass applicable crash test standards (as minimum safety features).

Activity 4: Encourage universal deployment of crash avoidance technologies with proven effectiveness such as Electronic Stability Control and Anti-Lock Braking Systems in motorcycles.

Activity 5: Encourage the use of fiscal and other incentives for motor vehicles that provide high levels of road user protection and discourage import and export of new or used cars that have reduced safety standards.¹

Activity 6: Encourage application of pedestrian protection regulations and increased research into safety technologies designed to reduce risks to vulnerable road users.

Activity 7: Encourage managers of governments and private sector fleets to purchase, operate and maintain vehicles that offer advanced safety technologies and high levels of occupant protection.

Note: Please note that activity 7 is relevant for the 1997 Agreement and for the adoption of its Rule No. 2.

Progress towards achievement of the Decade goal will be monitored through:

- (a) monitoring of indicators;
- (b) tracking milestones linked to the Decade; and
- (c) mid-term and end-term evaluation of the Decade.

Indicators

The following are some potential indicators that can be measured at a global level to monitor process and outcome.

¹ This activity is not in the purview of WP.29

Indicators: Pillar 3

- (a) CORE:
 - (i) number of countries who participate in the United Nations World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations and apply relevant standards;
 - (ii) number of countries that participate in NCAP ("New Car Assessment") programmes; ¹
 - (iii) number of countries enacting laws that prohibit the use of vehicles without seatbelts(front and rear).

- (b) OPTIONAL
 - (i) number of countries enacting laws to prohibit the manufacture of vehicles without specific vehicle safety features, such as Electronic Stability Control and Anti-Lock Braking Systems.

Note: in order to collate this information at the global level, an **Evaluation Working Group** will be set up. Baseline data will be obtained through country surveys conducted for the 2nd *Global road safety status report on road safety* due for publication in 2012. A third report will be published in 2014 and - should funding be secured - additional status reports will be developed. **During the evaluation process, both outcome and process indicators will be assessed.**

B. Actions

The secretariat suggests:

- (a) **WP.29 would clearly identify those areas of activities of Pillar 3 under its responsibility.**
- (b) **Address to its competent subsidiary bodies tasks in those areas where outcomes are expected.**
- (c) **Mandate its secretariat staff to participate to the meetings of the Evaluation Working Group.**

Moreover it is reminded that the Secretary General addressed:

"I call on Member States, international agencies, civil society organizations, businesses and community leaders to ensure that the Decade leads to real improvements. As a step in this direction, **governments should release their national plans for the Decade when it is launched globally on 11 May 2011.**"

C. Further information

Toolkit for organizers: A toolkit for organizers of launch events has been developed to guide Member States and their partners in preparing for the launch. This toolkit includes the description of an ideal launch event and can be found at:

http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/toolkit/en/index.html . It is currently available in English, and should be available in February as a pdf document downloadable in all six UN languages.

Calendar of activities: For the launch, a calendar of activities around the world has been developed, and http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/launch/national/en/index.html may be accessed at http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/launch/national/en/index.html . Examples of high-profile national events which were posted include those from Mexico and South Africa. Many of you have informed us of other plans and preparations. Once your plans for the launch of the Decade are finalized, please register your event by completing this online form http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/launch/planned_events/en/index.html .

Contacts: A listing of contacts for the Decade including national focal points has been developed and may be found at http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/focal/en/index.html . All governments are encouraged to nominate a national focal point to facilitate coordination at national level. These nominations should be sent to traffic@who.int or sminkeyl@who.int .

Facebook: The Decade is also on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Decade-of-Action-for-Road-Safety-2011-2020/178222832190853?v=wall>
