



## Declaration by the Council of the World Road Association



### Supporting the United Nations Decade of Action on Improving Global Road Safety

THE COUNCIL,

**Having considered** the above Resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, which called for a Decade of Action for 2011-2020 for the purpose of achieving substantial reductions in fatalities and injuries on the world's roads,

**Appreciating** the impact of road safety and road trauma on public health and the economic and social well-being of countries worldwide, and the resulting urgency of this matter,

**Welcoming** the significant attention that the Decade of Action promises to bring to the problem of road safety and the need for concerted political and financial commitments to generate desired reductions in traffic fatalities and injuries,

**Acknowledging** the importance of national road safety policies and programs, and of safety-conscious road infrastructure design and operation as essential elements in any effort to improve road safety, as well as the consideration of these issues as part of the action plan being formulated to support the UN Decade,

**Recognizing** the unique position of the World Road Association as an international body marshalling a broad range of professional expertise pertaining to effective road safety policy and to the safe design, operation and maintenance of roads,

**Recalling** the mandate of the World Road Association to exchange knowledge and techniques on roads and road transportation systems, including through the development of tools and guidelines to support the implementation of best policies and practices in the management and operation of road networks,

**Noting** the longstanding investment of the World Road Association in advancing knowledge pertaining to road safety through its past and current Strategic Plans, and

**Considering** the positive contribution that the Association's products can make to the efforts undertaken within United Nations Member States to achieve the goals of the Decade of Action, including *inter alia* the Road Safety Manual, Road Tunnel Manual, Road Safety Audit Guidelines, Road Safety Inspection Guidelines, and Human Factors Guidelines,

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1. **Encourages** its member governments to pursue development of comprehensive national road safety strategies designed to reduce injuries and fatalities in a manner consistent with the goals of the UN Decade of Action;
2. **Encourages** its regional, collective, and individual members to maintain and enhance their current action to implement improved road safety policies and practices, and identify means by which they can support national undertakings;
3. **Commissions** the Executive Committee to pursue structured relationships with the United Nations Global Road Safety Collaboration and other appropriate organizations and groups to identify areas in which the Association can contribute to efforts prescribed in plans for the Decade of Action;
4. **Pledges** to employ its unique position and composition to facilitate communication and establish relationships between the UN Global Road Safety Collaboration and the leadership of national road administrations;
5. **Calls upon** the Executive Committee to identify existing products of the Association that address road safety and foster the development of new or updated products to enhance the knowledge and capacity of policy makers, road administrators, and practitioners;
6. **Instructs** the Executive Committee to ensure that the next Strategic Plan of the Association provides for support of efforts related to the UN Decade of Action consistent with its mission and capabilities, including the generation and refinement of reports and tools, exploration of novel topics in the area of road safety, and other measures it may deem appropriate;
7. **Agrees** to ensure that the international seminar program undertaken in its future Strategic Plans will address topics relevant to countries working toward the goals of the UN Decade;
8. **Commits** that the UN Decade of Action will be among the topics considered at the 2011 World Road Congress in Mexico City and future Congresses scheduled throughout the Decade; and
9. **Resolves** that the World Road Association will give attention to the progress of efforts around the world to achieve the goals of the UN Decade of Action, establish for itself an active role in UN-led processes to support the Decade, and continually assess how it can favourably contribute to related national initiatives of its Members.

Mexico City, 24 September 2011