

# **A Shared Approach to Managing Road Safety**

**Joint Statement by the African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, Islamic Development Bank and the World Bank<sup>1</sup>**

## **Global call for action**

1. We acknowledge the scale of the public health crisis arising from deaths and injuries on the roads of developing and emerging countries, the recommendations of the *World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention*<sup>2</sup>, the global call for action from World Health Assembly Resolution WHA57.10 (*Road safety and health*) and UN General Assembly Resolutions 56/289, 60/5 and 62/244 (*Improving global road safety*).

## **Systematic, multisectoral response**

2. We recognize that a systematic, multisectoral response is required to address this global crisis including interventions that improve the safety of road infrastructure, vehicles, road user behavior and post-crash services, and we support the principles of the *Safe System* approach<sup>3</sup> aiming at (i) developing road transport systems prevention, reduction and accommodation of human error; (ii) taking into account social costs and impacts of road trauma in the development and selection of investment program; (iii) establishing shared responsibility for road safety among all stakeholders; (iv) creating effective and comprehensive management and communications structures for road safety; and (v) aligning safety management decision making with broader societal decision making to meet economic, human and environmental goals, and to create an environment that generates demand for safe road transport products and services. We recognize the relevance of this approach to all countries irrespective of their economic or road safety performance. More specifically, we note that a significant and sustained contribution to fatality reduction will come from road infrastructure safety improvements.

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<sup>1</sup> The findings, interpretations, conclusions and agreements reached in this statement do not necessarily reflect the views of members of the governing bodies of the organizations party to this agreement or the governments they represent.

<sup>2</sup> Eds. Peden M, Scurfield R, Sleet D, Mohan D, Hyder A, Jarawan E, Mathers C (2004). *World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention*, World Health Organization, Geneva.

<sup>3</sup> OECD, International Transport Forum (2008). *Towards Zero. Ambitious Road Safety Targets and the Safe System Approach*, Joint Transport Research Centre, OECD/ITF, Paris.

## Shared approach

3. We also recognize that our respective organizations expect to remain significantly engaged in the provision of road infrastructure in developing and emerging countries over the coming decade, and beyond, and we commit to share our organizational practices and knowledge to support (i) the strengthening of road safety management capacity of our clients; (ii) the implementation of safety approaches in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of road infrastructure projects, particularly to improve safe access and protection for vulnerable road users who represent a significant proportion of the people served by the projects we finance; (iii) the improvement of safety performance measures; and (iv) the mobilization of resources for road safety.

4. To achieve this approach we will share the complementary skills and practices we each develop in our respective operations in the areas of:

*(i) Strengthening road safety management capacity*

- Help establish country-specific mechanisms for improving road safety management functions and safety practices aiming at achieving the sustainable, effective, and cost-efficient reduction of road casualties.
- Create awareness for safety in order to achieve informed decisions by countries on the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of road infrastructure assets and networks.
- Improve communications, cooperation, and collaboration among global, regional and country institutions in the area of road safety and facilitate the dissemination of up-to-date safety-related information.
- Provide our staff development and training to facilitate the successful implementation of shared procedures, guidelines and related tools.
- Contribute to the training of transportation safety professionals in developing and emerging countries by financing efforts such as the development of road safety education programs, manuals and training materials promoting good practices related to road safety, to facilitate the implementation of improved road safety practices and procedures.

*(ii) Implementation of safety approaches in the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of road infrastructure projects*

- Develop shared procedures, guidelines and related tools to implement a safety approach to the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of road infrastructure projects.
- Ensure that safety is integrated in all phases of planning, design, construction, appraisal, operation and maintenance of road infrastructure.

- Promote the adoption of good practice, proactive approaches to improve the safety of road infrastructure including the use of road safety audits, road safety inspections, and road safety impact assessments.
- Develop specific approaches to address the safety requirements of vulnerable road users (pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists), including a special focus on urban areas where a high proportion of trauma occurs.

*(iii) Improvement of safety performance measures*

- Promote the establishment of sustainable management systems for road crash data collection, entry, verification, storage, retrieving and analysis, including GIS-based applications.
- Promote the use of good practice quantitative and qualitative indicators to measure safety results.
- Promote the development, piloting, and objective validation of innovative safety indicators, such as the safety rating of roads.

*(iv) Mobilization of resources for road safety*

- Transfer road safety knowledge and experience across and within our organizations, and to our global, regional and country partners.
- Support the mobilization of additional domestic and external resources for road safety.
- Support the mission and goals of the Global Road Safety Facility in its promotion of innovative solutions to road safety issues.
- Establish as needed an expert technical group comprising staff from our respective organizations and international specialists to assist in the development of shared approaches to road safety.
- Identify, and pursue opportunities for scaling up road safety in countries strategies.

**Timetable for action**

5. We will commence the development and implementation of this shared approach to managing road safety immediately and we will meet in 2010 to assess progress of the implementation of this statement.