
2nd Road Safety Working Group Meeting (RS WG)
Brussels, October 18th, 2010

Present:

RS WG Members:

- Jean-Paul Repussard, DG MOVE, chairman of RS WG,
- Francois Begeot, DG MOVE, member of the SEETO Steering Committee,
- Antun Vonic, Head of Road Inspection, Ministry of the Sea, Transport and Infrastructure, Croatia,
- Valben Mustafa, Adviser, Ministry of Transport and Communications, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,
- Kiril Karkalasev, Agency for State Roads, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,
- Dalibor Milosevic, Adviser for Roads, Ministry of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Telecommunications, Montenegro,
- Demir Hadzic, Head of Road Safety Department, Ministry of Infrastructure, Serbia,
- Jasmina Jovanovic, Head of Road Safety Prevention and Transport Telematics Group, Ministry of Infrastructure, Serbia,
- Nenad Nikolic, acting General Manager, SEETO.

Guests and observers:

- Sloba Inic, Directory of Transport, Montenegro,
- Maria Teresa Sanz Villegas, DG MOVE,
- Gordon Purvis, Working Group Coordinator, IFI Coordination in Western Balkans and Turkey,

Apologies for absence from

- Besnik Petrela, Lawyer, Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Telecommunication, Albania,
- Kemal Karkin, Head of PIU - TTFSE Project Manager, Ministry of Communications and Transport, Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- Antolovic Drazen, Directorate of Strategic Infrastructure Objects, Ministry Of The Sea, Transport And Infrastructure, Croatia,
- Vjekoslav Bolanca, Directorate for Road Traffic, Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure, Croatia,
- Miroslav Masic, Advisor for Road Transport, Ministry for Infrastructure, Montenegro,
- Rame Qupeva, Director of Road Infrastructure Department, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244/99).

The background documents referred to in these minutes were sent in advance and hardcopies were distributed to all participants.

Introduction and welcome, adoption of the agenda

The Chairman of RSWG opened 1st RSA WG Meeting and welcomed all attendants. Mr. Repussard asked all representatives to introduce themselves.

Mr. Begeot stressed the importance of Road Safety and Railway Working Group in SEETO cooperation, informing the RSWG members on the Steering Committee decision to continue with Working Group activities. Proactive approach towards road safety in EU resulted with very good results and Regional Participants should improve their cooperation with support of the European Commission. Today`s meeting should give guidelines for next year activities.

Proposed Agenda of the 2nd RS WG meeting was adopted.

Item 1 EU Road Safety Programme 2011-2020

Mr. Repussard gave a presentation on EU Road Safety Action Programme 2011-2020. New Road Safety Action Programme was based on the results of Third EU Road Safety Action Programme and Mr. Repussard`s presented the results achieved from 2001 – 2009 stressing the EU countries with best performance.

Presenting Road Safety Action Programme 2011-2020, Mr. Repussard stated three strategic pillars: a common European road safety area; an integrated approach with other policies (health, environment, employment, etc.) and shared responsibility (EU, national, local...). Furthermore, 7 strategic objectives which should lead towards -50 % of killed in road accidents are presented: 1. Improve education and training of road users, 2. Increase compliance with road traffic rules, 3. Safer road infrastructure, 4. Safer vehicles, 5. Promote the use of modern technology to improve road safety, 6. Improve emergency and post - injuries services and 7. Improve safety of vulnerable road users.

One of the main issues for each action plan is how to reach the objectives? In RSAP 2011-2020 several activities are foreseen: Improved enforcement of EU law, Improved cooperation with Member States and Improved monitoring through data collection and analysis. Further information on RSAP 2011-2020 could be found at DG MOVE web site.

Putting the focus on road infrastructure safety, Mr. Repussard stressed that implementation of Directive 2008/96/EC is monitored by the European Commission. The information on implementation of the Directive will be collected through specially developed questionnaire, which is disseminated to the Member States. Regional Participants are encouraged to fill the questionnaire and to provide them to Mr. Repussard in order to show their progress in the Directive implementation (Questionnaire will be disseminated together with 2nd RSWG Minutes). In the same time information on implementation of Directive 2008/96/EC on secondary roads could be found at www.pilot4safety.fehrl.org. The implementation of Tunnel safety directive is tackled during the discussion and Regional Participants are informed on documents related with monitoring of Directive implementation.

Mr. Repussard informed the Regional Participants on state-of-the-art in data collection in the Member States, stressing the effectiveness of in-depth analysis of road accidents. It is foreseen to have a data base of in-depth cases on the European level.

Item 2 National road safety policies in the SEE Region

Each Regional Participant was kindly requested to present their experience on the subject matter of the topic.

Mr. Vonic said that Croatia has National Road Safety Program for 5 years and he presented main activities foreseen in the National Plan. New action programme is under preparation and it will cover period 2011-2015. It will be prepared by Inter-ministerial working group lead by MoI and main goals of EU RSAP 2011-2020 will be included. The Road Safety Action Programme is based on National Transport Strategy and in line with The Programme for construction and maintenance of public roads for the period 2009-2012.

Mr. Hadzic stressed that new Law on Road Safety is adopted in 2009 and that results of implementation of the new Law are evident. Ministry of Internal Affairs submitted this Law to the national Parliament. One of the main achievements so far is the establishment of the Road Safety Agency in 2010 and providing of stable grounds for Agency activities and other road safety activities. Mr. Hadzic said that several by-laws based on Law on Road Safety are adopted or in adoption procedure. He added that World Bank project for preparing the National Road Safety Strategy will start in March 2011.

Mr. Milosevic said that Road Safety Strategy in Montenegro is adopted in 2010 and that MoI were in charge for preparation. One of the goals is to cut road deaths for 30% in 2020 in comparison with 2007. Process of introducing RSA will receive significant boost through amendments on Law on Road Safety which should be passed to Parliament this year. Data base on road safety indicators are in the Ministry of Internal Affairs. They are collecting and maintaining data base and sometimes there is difficulties to obtain data for scientific research.

Mr. Mustafa said that on the basis of Transport Strategy – Road Safety Strategy was adopted in December 2008. The road safety vision, according to the Strategy is to provide the same level of safety and security as on the European roads. In 2009, Coordination body for monitoring of Strategy implementation is established, having all relevant stakeholders onboard. Mr. Mustafa stressed that new Road Safety Law is in preparatory phase and that new Road Signs and Signals Catalogue is adopted in 2010.

Mr. Nikolic suggested to Regional Participants to use Regional Road Safety Strategy (result of RWR/RSA Project) as platform for development of their national road safety strategies.

Item 3 EU Road Safety Data and Data Base

Mr. Repussard and Ms. Sanz Villegas presented to Regional Participants grounds for establishment of European Road Safety Observatory (ERSO). The ERSO is created as EU

Instrument for monitoring and reporting on road safety situation. The mission of ERSO is to collect, analyse and disseminate road safety data and knowledge. ERSO web site includes: Accident data with various levels of detail, Risk exposure data, Road safety performance indicators, Framework for independent accident investigation and Knowledge (studies, research, reports, etc). Part of the ERSO activities is collection and storing of several road safety data types through CARE data base. Data are submitted by national authorities and meetings with national experts for data verification are regularly held two times per year. Data are collected on NUTS level, and there is a plan for collection of exact location of accidents.

Ms. Sanz Villegas made a presentation of possibilities of CARE data base, using already collected data for several analyses.

Item 4 Regional Participants road safety data collection

Mr. Vonic stated that in Croatia three types of data on road safety are regularly collected: data on roads and equipment – collected by Hrvatske ceste, data on black spots and traffic counting - collected by Hrvatske ceste and data on accidents – collected by Ministry of Interior. He informed RSWG on results in road safety in 2010 in some categories, showing that in 2010 better road safety record could be expected.

Mr. Hadzic informed RSWG that in Serbia data on road accidents are collected by Ministry of Interior, data on roads and equipment are collected by Putevi Srbije, while data base on hospital care are collected by Ministry of Health. It is foreseen that cross-reference of those data base are performed by Road Safety Agency.

In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia data on accidents and vehicles are collected by the Ministry of Interior, data on Roads by Agency for State Roads and Ministry of Health reporting on hospital care. Coordination body on national level is established to monitor road safety situation and implementation of National Road Safety Strategy.

Item 5 Implementation of RWR/RSA Project Results

In Croatia implementation of Directive 2008/96/EC will be provided by new Law on Roads which is into the billing procedure. In the same Law grounds for strict implementation on Tunnel Safety Directive will be presented and new by-laws will follow. The idea of regional training for Road Safety Auditors is good, because trained specialists are needed.

Mr. Repussard stated that there is an especial form for Tunnel Safety Directive reporting and it will be disseminated to Regional Participants together with all RSWG materials.

In Serbia mandatory implementations of RSA/RSI are foreseen in the Law on Road Safety and currently several by-laws are in the billing procedure.

Mr. Mustafa stated that new Law on Road Safety will make RSA/RSI mandatory on Macedonian roads. Currently, for road Demir Kapija – Smokvica RSA procedure is

performed and project is in implementation phase. In the same time programmes for elimination of black spots are ongoing.

Item 6 Possible topics and RSWG work programme for 2011

Mr. Repussard stated that he will leave Commission till the end of 2010 and that new RSWG Chairman will be appointed. He stressed that work of RSWG is important and it should be continued with such a practice. Two questionnaires presented to Regional Participants will be delivered together with RSWG material and Participants are welcome to send their answers to European Commission.

Mr. Hadzic said that possible topics for next WG meetings should be related to infrastructure safety. Also, road safety management and organization are good topics. Finance for RSA training should be found and project should be launched soon.

Mr. Begeot highlighted the possibility to invite some external experts to cover some of the topics and to share best practice and new ideas to Regional Participants.

Mr. Nikolic asked RSWG members to send their ideas by e-mail and thanked to all Participants for their contribution. Also, he thanked to Mr. Begeot who provided all necessary arrangements for RSWG meeting to be held in Brussels.

Conclusion:

- *Participants stress the importance of RSWG sustainability.*
- *Several proposals for 3rd RS WG meeting topics are presented, and any new ideas are welcome.*
- *Training and certification of auditors on the regional basis are supported and possibilities for financing should be explored.*

Item 7 Next meeting, Conclusion and AOB

Mr. Nikolic pointed out that two meetings of RSWG are foreseen in 2011. Participants will be informed on venue and dates as soon as available.

Mr. Repussard thanked to all attendants for participation, closing the meeting.
