
6th Road Safety Working Group Meeting

November 3rd-4th, 2015

Zagreb

Conclusions

The 6th meeting of the Road Safety Working Group (RSWG) was held in Zagreb, and was welcomed and hosted by the representatives of the Ministry of Transport of Croatia which in addition to the support and active participation in this working group organized and offered an interesting site visit to the Traffic Control Center of Krapina, for the Zagreb-Macelj road section.

Conclusions of the previous meeting held in June, 2015 in Brussels were presented and adopted during the 45th Steering Committee (SC) Meeting in Sutomore, Montenegro. Two observers (IRF and EuroRAP) attended the 6th RSWG meeting.

EU Update. The focus of the Regional Participants remains on the implementation and/or alignment with the **EU Policies and best practices in road safety**, The meeting took note of relevant EU studies that were recently published or will be published next year, namely:

- The first EU-wide **data on serious injuries based on the new common definition** (MAIS3+) is being quality-checked and assessed.
- A report on the implementation of the **cross-border enforcement directive** is under way and will be finalised in 2016.
- A study on **distracted road users** is finalised end October and will be published on the website ec.europa.eu/roadsafety
- A study on road safety for **elderly road users** is in final stages and expected to be published early 2016.
- A study on serious injury road crashes will start early November 2015 with expected results a year later.

The meeting encouraged all participants to read these documents and see their applicability in their context.

Croatia Update. Representatives of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure brought examples and best practices in the steps undertaken for implementing the Directive 2008/96/EC on the road infrastructure safety management. Furthermore, Roads of Croatia through their presentation on the analysis and evaluation of the dangerous locations showed the main focus in black spot management. The Road Safety Strategy of Croatia for 2010-2020 is in line with EU Policy and UN Decade of Action calling for 50% fatalities reduction by 2020. Croatia has achieved a 50% reduction in fatalities between 2001 and 2014 mainly due to a large road investment program during that period (approximately 10 bill Euros) and improved enforcement . Even bigger reduction was showed in fatalities during the period 1991-2001 - from 1360 to 650 people. From management point of view, Road Safety in Croatia is mainly under the scope of the Ministry of Interior, but after joining the EU the Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure was more engaged in road safety mainly through the implementation of the Road Infrastructure Safety Management Directive

2008/96/EC and Tunnel Safety Inspection Directive 2004/54/EC. Most important parts of the Directive 2008/96/EC are included in the road act, to improve the Road Safety in TEN-T roads network and the last act about the education of the road safety auditors is still missing the legal part. On the preparation for **RSA/RSI guidelines** the Faculty of Transport is engaged and the procedure will be finalized soon. Audit committee will control the complete system for implementing the directive. National Road Safety of Croatia is primary under the scope of the Ministry of Interior, which has a Management Body that includes staff from the Ministry of Transport and Association of the professional drivers hopefully are expected to cover the infrastructure safety in the future. Implementation of the **ITS Directive** on the TEN-T road network currently ongoing will hopefully be used as a good example which can be extended in the whole road network later on.

The Sustainable Development Goals cover several topics two of which are related to Road Safety. The first goal is the same with the EU and the Regional Participants' national strategies target: 50% reduction of the fatalities by 2020 compared to 2010. The second goal is related to the urban road safety for public transport users. The ministers of Transport, Interior and Health met on November 17-18 2015, in Brasilia during the 2nd Global High-level Conference in Road Safety. The main aim was to review progress in implementation of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 and identify concretely how to achieve its stated goal. It was a unique moment to bring a new impetus to the Decade of Action at its mid-point – a time to reaffirm commitments and propose new strategies for the next five years, in light of the scenario that should emerge from discussions on the new Sustainable Development Goals.

International Road Federations (IRF) having members in 92 countries and fellows in 118 countries gave an overview of their work and activities on the development and maintenance of better, safer and more sustainable roads and road networks around the world. In support of conducting training gap analysis to determine immediate up-skilling needs, and develop a continuing road safety education program IRF is realizing in December 2015 a Policy Statement on "Minimum qualifications for Road Safety Auditor Team Leaders" and as next steps is considering to work on creating a global accrediting center for road safety auditor training programs (voluntary process).

The **European Road Assessment Program (EuroRAP)** is making a proposal to the Danube Transnational Programme for a multi-country road assessment project called "**Risk Assessment on Danube Area Roads (RADAR)**". Three Regional Participants from SEETO will be included in this proposal. Road Authorities have a crucial role in this project, therefore involving of the Road Managers and the relevant Ministries it is key for the success of the implementation of such project. Three of the SEETO Regional Participants that are part of the Danube Region supported the idea of the project. It was agreed that EuroRAP will link with the three Regional Participants and keep them updated on the results of the proposal.

ECORoads Project aiming to fill the gap between the two directives, on the Road Infrastructure safety management Directive 2008/96/EC and Tunnel Safety Directive 2004/54/EC is expected to bring a new novelty in the EU countries and SEETO area as well as regards to the transition period from an open road entering to a road tunnel and vice-versa. SEETO as one of the partners is mainly responsible for drafting the definition of the common procedures that the experts will follow during the inspections on the chosen test sites. Currently 5 test sites were selected: two in the EU countries and three in the region. The selected test sites in the SEETO area are: 1) Tunnel of Krrabe, Corridor VIII, Albania 2) Demir

Kapija tunnel in Corridor X, Macedonia and 3) Strazevica tunnel Corridor X, Serbia. The application is still open till April 2015.

Western Balkan 6 (WB6) Summit held in Vienna, August 2015 adopted the list of the soft measures under Connectivity Agenda and which will be monitored from SEETO. One of the soft measures which asks the attention and gives benefits to the Road Safety Working Group and the region is the **adoption of the Road Safety Inspections guidelines, curricula and training**. Given the fact that some of the RP have adopted their own RSI guidelines and others can use the SEETO guidelines, it was agreed that the scope of this measure will be focused more on drafting an RSI curricula and providing training.. The deadline for submitting the Terms of Reference is December 15, 2015.

The EC Technical Assistance in support of SEETO Strategic Working Programme (SWP) 2012-2014, Track D, "Preparing Road Safety Audit guideline, curricula and training" was finalized with the last RSA Training held in Macedonia. The training was the continuation of the previous one, theory part held in Brussels, November 2014. Demir Kapija - Smokvica section in Corridor X was the selected test site for Road Safety Auditing Phase II and III of the project. The Project Manager gave a detailed presentation of the project and provided in advance all the drawings and auditing procedures which were used as a base materials for the participants in the training. The new EC Technical Assistance in support of SEETO SWP 2015-2017, expected to start soon, have foreseen to allocate financing for road safety which will be used for "Monitoring of the road safety strategies in SEETO's regional members and draft a regional short term **action plan**."

EC Directive 2009/96 on road infrastructure safety management: In the EU countries none of the governments are issuing certificate; this is being handled by outside institutions and universities under guidelines issued by Governments. This is not the case in the SEETO area where this issue is under the scope of Ministry of Transport or the Lead Road Safety Agency in case of Serbia. The certification of inspectors and auditors in the SEETO region is still an issue that has not been resolved yet by law. Serbia is close to have a process where the revised law will assign the responsibility of certification to the Road Safety Agency. Other Regional Participants are in process of changing their road safety law too but the Ministries will maintain the mandate of issuing the certifications. The capacity of the Ministry to manage the certification process in Croatian is a constraint, other regional participants can learn from this experience. The principles of the Road Safety curricula are almost the same and best examples are the engagements of the Universities, Research and Training Institutions and the Ministry of Education. IRF is a possibility in offering the accreditations of the certificates. Road Safety Audit guidelines recently released from SEETO are a good base to be used by the Regional Participants that do not have yet a Rule Book in their countries.

The road project financed lately from the IFI's are being request to implement an audit during the design phase Due to the lack of an accreditation process , SEETO's Regional Participants are hiring certified auditors from the EU (ie. Denmark, UK etc.) The working group members are advised to take the role of observer during these formal audits and make sure they can use this situation and learn from the collaboration with the external Road Safety Auditors until the issue of training and accreditation is solved by law in the region. Though the international RSA expert have excellent knowledge, the local expertise is useful in the design phase.

IRTAD questionnaires send to the RP though demanding was fulfilled just from Albania while others are lacking capacity in people and coordination between different institutions. SEETO advised that the National Data Coordinators to be used in fulfilling this task. The IRTAD

offer to create a regional IRTAD database for SEETO (similar to IRTAD-Latin America) has to be reconsidered as it helps in having a central database and improve the **road safety data management** in a regional level. Serbia is becoming member of the IRTAD in 2016 year and perhaps could take the lead in a regional IRTAD database.

Next Steps:

1. The outline of the **SEETO Road Safety Annual Report** was accepted with minor comments. The Members of the RSWG shall submit the information required to complete this report by February 15, 2016. It is expected that the 2015 annual report will be *published by March 31, 2016.*
2. The RSWG members should send their final comments on the ToR "Monitoring of the road safety strategies in SEETO's regional members and draft a regional short term **action plan.**" The delivered Action Plan will be used by the RSWG members to work on a regional level road safety actions. The RSWG members shall provide SEETO with the recent adopted National Road Safety Strategies that will be a background for the consultant.
3. The RSWG members should provide to SEETO information on the current guidelines and procedures that are used at the national level for road safety inspection. The information will be used to draft the ToR "*Update SEETO's Road Safety Inspection Guidelines, Prepare Training Curricula and Offer Training Sessions.*"
4. It was agreed to hold the 7th meeting of the RSWG in the spring of 2016 in Belgrade.

Annex1: List of participants of the 6th SEETO RSWG

Present:

RSWG Members:

- **Said Dahdah**, Senior Transport Specialist, World Bank Group - **RSWG Chairman**
- **Nikolin Berxhiku**, Expert of road safety, Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure of Albania
- **Dražen Antolović**, Head of sector, Directorate of Strategic Infrastructure Objects, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure of Croatia
- **Snežana Hadžić**, Expert Associate, Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **Kiril Karakalasev**, Road Transport Engineer, Public Enterprise for State Roads, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- **Igor Banović**, Deputy State Secretary, Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs of Montenegro
- **Dalibor Milošević**, Adviser for Road Transport, Ministry of Transport and Maritime Affairs of Montenegro

Guest and observers:

- **Steve Lawson**, Partnerships & Research Director, EuroRAP
- **Carlo Polidori**, President, AIPSS
- **Brendan Halleman**, Director of International Programs, IRF
- **Ariana Hasani**, Albanian Road Authority, Ministry of Transport of Albania
- **Ivica Jujnović**, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Transport and Infrastructure of Croatia
- **Josip Lazarevski**, Advisor in Department of Maintenance and Toll Collection, Public Enterprise for State Roads, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- **Desimir Desnica**, Advisor, Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of Serbia
- **Olivera Stević Ledenčan**, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of Serbia
- **Xheme Veseli**, Director of the Secretariat for Road Safety, Ministry of Infrastructure Kosovo*
- **Gjynejt Mustafa**, Expert on Multi-Modal Transport Demand, Ministry of Infrastructure Kosovo*
- **Cerkin Dukolli**, Director of the Inspectorate Department, Ministry of Infrastructure Kosovo*

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

SEETO Secretariat:

- **Liljana Čela**, Information Resources Manager, SEETO
- **Sanja Dodig**, Administrative Assistant, SEETO

Apologies for absence from

- **Velben Mustafa**, Councilor, Ministry of Transport and Communications of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- **Saša Stojanović**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure of Serbia
- **Rame Qupeva**, Head of Road Infrastructure Department, Ministry of Infrastructure of Kosovo