

Vulnerable road user Organisations In Cooperation across Europe

A Europe-wide campaign to protect vulnerable road users

NEWS RELEASE
9th June 2006

Transport ministers want to do more for Vulnerable road users

Today in Luxembourg EU Transport Ministers called for additional measures to protect vulnerable road users, especially pedestrians and cyclists.

The Ministers were responding to the Commission's mid term review of the Community's third Road Safety Action Programme⁽¹⁾, and agreed that intensive work on road safety needs to be continued if the Community is to prevent 25, 000 road deaths each year by 2010⁽²⁾.

VOICE applauds the ministers recognition of the priority protecting our most vulnerable road users should play in European Transport policy and calls upon the Commission to respond to the Minister's call for action with proposals that:

1. Deliver a transport system designed and accessible for all users
2. Effectively manage speed with lower limits and stronger speed limit enforcement.
3. Stronger enforcement of traffic laws in general and improved access to justice for victims and their families.
4. Deliver improved technologies for the protection of vulnerable road users, not just car occupants
5. Promote a shift to safer transport via higher quality affordable public transport and improved conditions for cyclists and pedestrians

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Notes and further details follow on second page



La plate-forme Européenne des Personnes Âgées



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The Members of the VOICE Network are:

AGE – The European Older People's Forum. ANEC – The European Consumer Voice in Standardisation. BEUC – The European Consumers' Organisation. EEN - The EPHA Environment Network. ECSA - The European Child Safety Alliance. EDF - The European Disability Forum. T&E - The European Federation for Transport and Environment. ETSC - The European Transport Safety Council. Voetgangersbeweging (Pedestrian Movement) / International Federation of Pedestrians.



NOTES

(1) The Third Road Safety Action Programme " Road Safety a shared responsibility" was reviewed by the Commission in February. Despite concluding that greater efforts were needed to meet Community road safety targets, no additional measures accompanied this review. For more details see: http://ec.europa.eu/transport/road/roadsafety/rsap_midterm/index_en.htm

(2) The White Paper on the Common Transport Policy adopted 12/9/2001 established the target of halving road deaths in the Community by 2010. At that time with 15 EU Member States that amounted to saving some 20, 000 road deaths annually. With enlargement the target has risen to saving 25,000 road deaths annually because EU 25 road deaths had been 50, 000 per year.

For more details a Four page position paper on the mid term review of the road safety action programme see: www.etsc.be/voice/midtermreview.php

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