

COMMUNIQUE

ISSUED AT THE
PRI INTERNATIONAL ROAD SAFETY FORUM
THEME: TRAFFIC SAFETY IN DEVELOPING ECONOMY
HELD AT
SHERATON HOTEL & TOWERS, ABUJA
ON THE
5TH & 6TH MAY, 2011

Preamble

The Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) in collaboration with **La Prevention Routiere Internationale, PRI (The International Road Safety Organization)** organized an International Road Safety forum, in furtherance to the global objectives of mitigating the effects of Road Traffic Crashes (RTC) with special attention on *Traffic Safety in Developing Economy*. The participating countries are Benin Republic, Burkina Faso, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Italy, Liberia, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Niger Republic, Sierra Leone, South-Africa, Togo, and The Netherlands

- The Forum addressed issues relating to Global Road Safety Administration, Management and the emerging trends in traffic management in developing nations, with special emphasis on the UN Decade of Action on road safety.
- The event was heralded by a brief opening ceremony under the Chairmanship of the PRI President Mr. Joops Goos, while the technical session commenced immediately at the same venue. During the technical session which was made-up of four (4) segments, twenty-three (23) well researched papers were presented.

In order to achieve the 50% reduction in road fatalities as stipulated in the UN Decade of Action Plan, the Forum noted need for the following:

1. Massive education for road users
2. Improved road and road infrastructure
3. Improved legal framework and enforcement process
4. Improved investment in road safety issues especially data gathering

Therefore, the following recommendations were made:

1. The Accra declaration of 2007 should be fully implemented as a key step in meeting the target of the UN Decade of Action

2. The forum endorsed the UN lead agencies approach to road safety issues and also pledged commitments to the six pillars of the UN Decade of Action
3. Road safety agencies should be legally empowered to conduct or ensure that safety audit on all categories of public roads in member countries at Pre-Construction, Construction and Post-Construction stages.
4. Enforcement should be intensified on the use of safety helmets, seatbelts and speed regulation in all member countries.
5. The forum also recognises the needs for improved data collection, collation, storage, management and maintenance of a robust database on traffic management in each country.
6. Pedestrian and child safety issue should be given top priority in the implementation of road safety activities.
7. Education of drivers and other road users including young road users who must undergo mandatory driver training, testing and regular re-assessment process before issuance of licenses, or renewal of such.
8. Lead agencies should adopt multi-sectoral approach and increase collaboration with all relevant agencies involved in making the roads safe.
9. Investment in Post crash trauma management should be enhanced and given priority by member countries.
10. Safety standards should be set in line with global best practices and harmonised for all commercial vehicle operators including tanker and articulated Lorries to meet specific safety standards in member countries.
11. Climate change impact on road traffic safety should be identified and appropriate mitigation strategies put in place.