

**International Symposium on
“The Impact of Law Enforcement and Monitoring on Traffic Safety”
Abu Dhabi –United Arab Emirates
2-3 November 2016**

General framework

Preface:

Road accidents are considered one of the leading causes of fatalities in many countries. Estimates of 1,240,000 people die annually in road accidents worldwide, not to mention that deaths and injuries resulting from traffic accidents cause enormous economic and social losses.

Due to the considerable losses in people’s lives, in addition to losses on the financial level, this real human agony requires the collaboration of all efforts to meet the goals of the international work contract for road safety 2011/2020.

For the sake of making this success a reality, all elements of traffic process and factors leading to such accidents have to be taken into consideration. These include road users (drivers, passengers and pedestrians), the road itself, the vehicle, weather conditions, surrounding environment, education, and awareness. Traffic legislations including laws, systems, regulations and bylaws work to regulate the traffic process as a whole.

The fundamental aspect of traffic regulation is utilizing law enforcement technologies and carrying out numerous studies related to the development and implementation strategies that enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of police processes.

Studies and researches have varied to identify the most methods and pivots regarding reducing road accidents; they can be summarized in the following key elements:

- Environmental/ geometrical
- Educational
- Law enforcement legislations
- Human behavior
- Traffic civic responsibility culture that all drivers should demonstrate.

Since law enforcement is deemed to be the most efficient tool which governs the behavior of road users by using proactive, convincing and punitive precautions to make an effective and safe shift in traffic flow. Accordingly, the process of law enforcement can be highly costly. Many concerned entities have created methodologies to push up the proficiency of law enforcement process and guarantee the aspired feasibility.

Penalty plays a pivotal role in reducing traffic violations. It is not considered a target by itself, but rather a mean for serving justice among all road users and prevailing social justice on the one hand and deterrence, on the contrary, to ensure the highest credibility of laws pertaining to traffic safety, and provide it with a sufficient momentum and ability to positively affect the behavior of drivers and all road users.

Likewise, it is good to focus on drivers' behavior, to urge them to avoid recklessness and those transgressions that we notice on a daily basis, which is considered reasons to make necessary benchmarking to ensure that the driver in our Arab communities demonstrates full responsibility and commitment to traffic systems and rules, strictly implementing laws in a civilized way as it is noticeable in developed states.

Law enforcement is considered incomplete unless preceded by tremendous efforts to set the proper foundation that paves the way for law respect as culture, and methodology which requires a sustained educational effort leading to a sophisticated human behavior of all road users based on the principle of respecting pedestrians and viewing the vehicle as a means for facilitating life and services rather than a tool for killing people and causing harm to humans and the economy alike.

The law in its essence is a methodology for road users to keep them well informed about their rights and duties and boundaries of their freedom. Laws are enacted to serve and enlighten citizens rather than to scold and punish. The sense of the citizenship culture is so vital that it reflects responsibility towards others and creates a civilized behavior that needs to be entrenched despite all communication and technological variables and its impact on man.

➤ **Objectives of the symposium:**

1. To measure the effectiveness of legislations and law penalties imposed on traffic rules violators, their behaviors and examine its role in reducing these violations.
2. To shed light on traffic law enforcement strategies and deterrence techniques.
3. To focus on the importance of linking law enforcement to the implementation of scientific strategies.
4. To encourage road users to follow responsible traffic behaviors and provide awareness on public safety threats on roads and measures of prevention for a safe environment.
5. To ensure the significance of relevant UN legal agreements of road safety and the adopted measures to apply regulations regarding vehicles' safety and road engineering.
6. To be acquainted with different international, regional and local experiences and to exchange expertise and skills in that field.

The symposium's pivots:

1. Legislation

- Current laws adherence to the updates and traffic situations, their impact on traffic violations and accidents.
- Targeting and deterrence strategies of repeated violation.
- Intensify penalties generally and in some serious violations.
- Law enforcement mechanisms in line with concerned authorities.
- Alternatives penalties and their role to enhance road users' behaviors.
- Decrease the speed tolerance margin limits and its role to reduce over-speeding to ensure a higher level of adherence to the identified speed limit.
- The importance of setting a comprehensive policy for road safety, generating long term strategies.

2. Operational monitor

- To increase monitoring levels, penalties effectiveness, quick and efficient management to apply punishment.
- Operational patrols and intensified short-term law enforcement operations (on the spot field campaigns).
- The efficiency of traditional actual deterrence enforcement operations, incapability of road users to predict the police operations.
- Selective implementation strategies specially designed to target high risks sites regarding traffic incidents and road users' behaviors.
- The best spatial deployment plans for the available police resources, the efficiency of implementation operations and quick response.
- Automated law enforcement techniques, enhancement of control process.
- Direct communication and raise awareness among traffic police officers and road users and its role in changing their behaviors.

3. Training

- To develop training curriculum in line with new updates.
- Training and educational programs for police officers in law enforcement operations, and different methods of dealing with road users.
- The educational curriculum role in various educational levels to respect the law and enhancing traffic safety.
- Educational and training programs for non-commission officers, the importance of studies and assessment to provide feedback.

4. Media and awareness

- The media role in supporting law enforcement operations to ensure a positive reaction of road users resulted from their awareness and responsibility.
- Media and awareness role in raising the community awareness on road safety issues.
- The importance of awareness role in enforcing the law to reduce traffic accidents and risk factors, in addition to protection and prevention measures.
- Ensuring that means of communication have a decisive and influential role in educating people based on responsibility and the dangerous consequences of road accidents.
- The importance of different means of communication to reach road users.
- To crystallize a benchmarking on "the impact of law enforcement and highway safety monitor."
- Ensuring the importance of media messages' content issued by the concerned authorities in law enforcement and traffic safety monitoring.