

High-level Panel:

Achieving sustainable targets through Vision Zero

Road safety has the same level of prominence as other global sustainability goals. Vision Zero has been widely accepted as the modern road safety strategy. The ultimate responsibility lies with those who manage, design and construct the transport system.

- Vision Zero suggests that it is morally irresponsible that people have to die while they are walking to school, biking to the park or driving to work, said Lena Erixon, director-general, Swedish Transport Administration. In a civilized society, we have a responsibility to ensure that people can move safely in their communities. This responsibility cannot be put solely on people in the system.
- Vision Zero clearly states that there is a shared responsibility between the road user and the designer of the system. Road safety enables other sustainability goals. It is time to address these goals simultaneously. Mobility must take place within the framework of a sustainable society.
 Mobility cannot grow on the expense of health or environment. The nine recommendations from the International Expert Group form the basis for the next steps to save lives in road traffic, said Erixon.

She pointed at one example. Beyond 2020 society expects governments, business and other fleet owners to practice zero tolerance against speeding. This can be achieved by requirements for procurement and sustainability reporting.

Panellists expressed that separation of bicyclists, pedestrians and cars supports both road safety and more cycling. Thus, road safety and sustainability goes hand in hand. Modal shift is also important for sustainability. Modern technology can support safe behaviour and "block" unsafe behaviour.

Introduction

Lena Erixon, Director-General | Swedish Transport Administration

Panel participants

Pip Spence, Deputy Secretary | Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications | Australia

Benny Engelbrecht, Minister of Transport | Ministry of Transportt | Denmark

Ibrahima Abdoul Ly, Minister of Transport and Urban Mobility | Ministry of Transport and Urban Mobility | Mali

Saleh Nasser Aljasser, Minister of transport | Transport ministry | Saudi Arabia

Cora van Nieuwenhuizen, Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management | Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management | The Netherlands

Henrik Henriksson, President and Chief Executive Officer | Scania