

High-level Panel:

Decade of Action a success – but still too many deaths

We reached several accomplishments during the Decade for Road Safety 2011–2020. However, the target to reduce road deaths by 50 percent will not be achieved by 2020. Today we have 1,34 million fatalities per year. More action is urgent.

- We are still paying an unacceptably high price for our mobility, said Etienne Krug, director of Social Determinants of Health at WHO. We have built a solid foundation and framework for further action, but we should not be satisfied with the current situation.
- We have to move towards reinforcing the entire road transport system. All actors of society including governments, civil society, academia and private sector must be engaged. Political will at the highest level of government is the key to more effective action, said Krug.

Panellists expressed that the private sector is keen to contribute and that a deep connection between governments and the private sector is needed. The private sector cannot make profit without being sustainable.

Panellists also emphasized that 50 percent reduction of fatalities to 2030 is an extreme challenge given the population growth and the need for more transports. 90 percent of road traffic fatalities occur in low and middle-income countries. We cannot do more of the same; we must do things different and turn words into action.

In order to achieve good results experts from health, human rights, transport and environment must work together. "Bridge the silos, instead of breaking the silos". Better law enforcement is also an important issue. Laws are often in place, but enforcement I falling behind.

Introduction

Etienne Krug, Director of the Department of Social Determinants of Health | World Health Organization

Panel participants

Anutin Charnvirakul, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Public Health | Ministry of Public Health | Thailand

Mikhail Chernikov, Chief | Main Directorate for Traffic Safety of the Russian Federation

Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport and Highways | Ministry of Road Transport and Highways | India

Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary | United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Bright Oywaya, Executive Director | ASIRT | Kenya

Florent Menegaux, Chief Executive Officer | Michelin