

MEDIA RELEASE

Paris, 16 October 2017

Road Safety Needs Better Data!

Road safety experts from around the globe adopt “Marrakech Declaration on Better Safety Data for Better Safety Outcomes”

Improving the quality of road safety data is essential to reducing the number of road deaths and injuries. This is the message of the “Marrakech Declaration” adopted by international road safety experts from more than 40 countries meeting in Marrakech, Morocco for the 6th IRTAD conference on 10-12 October.

Around 1.3 million people are killed and 20 to 50 million injured in road crashes around the world every year. The United Nations are targeting to halve the number of road deaths in the near future.

The “Marrakech Declaration on Better Safety Data for Better Safety Outcomes”, adopted on the final day of the conference, makes a number of recommendations aimed at policy makers and other leaders with responsibility for road safety. These include:

- Clearly **identify which data are needed** for making decisions in road safety.
- **Address underreporting** of road crashes and casualties.
- Use more **data on injury crashes** - fatality data are insufficient to fully understand road safety problems. A common definition for injuries will allow comparisons.
- Better knowledge of road safety also relies on better **safety performance indicators**, exposure data and context information.
- Let a **national agency** analyse and publish road safety data collected at state and national levels.
- **Monitor the main risk factors**. Make results publicly available and use them to adapt road safety strategies.
- **Harmonise road safety data** based on common definitions. Develop common methodologies to enable meaningful comparisons.
- **Share road safety data among countries** and co-operate within international initiatives. Benchmarking between countries, regions and cities, has proven effective, for instance through the regional road safety observatory in Latin America. Similar initiatives would be beneficial in other regions, including Africa.

“Good road safety data is fundamental to achieving the road safety objectives set by ambitious countries and contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals”,

said Young Tae Kim, Secretary-General of the International Transport Forum (ITF), who also presented the organisation's Road Safety Annual Report 2017 with latest road safety data for 40 countries.

"Reliable data are essential to understand, assess and monitor the nature and magnitude of the road safety problem and the related solutions", added Fred Wegman, chair of the IRTAD Group, the ITF's permanent working group on road safety. "Improvements made to the quality of road safety data will also improve the quality of data driven policy decisions."

Go to the text of the Marrakech Declaration: <https://www.itf-oecd.org/road-safety-data-marrakech-declaration>

Go to the Road Safety Annual Report 2017: <https://www.itf-oecd.org/road-safety-annual-report-2017>

Media Contact:

Michael KLOTH
Head of Communications
International Transport Forum
M +33 (0)1 45 24 95 96
E michael.kloth@itf-oecd.org

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT FORUM

Who we are

The International Transport Forum is an intergovernmental organisation with 59 member countries. It acts as a think tank for transport policy and organises the Annual Summit of transport ministers. ITF is the only global body that covers all transport modes. The ITF is administratively integrated with the OECD, yet politically autonomous.

What we do

ITF works for transport policies that improve peoples' lives. Our mission is to foster a deeper understanding of the role of transport in economic growth, environmental sustainability and social inclusion and to raise the public profile of transport policy.

How we do it

ITF organises global dialogue for better transport. We act as a platform for discussion and pre-negotiation of policy issues across all transport modes. We analyse trends, share knowledge and promote exchange among transport decision-makers and civil society. The ITF's Annual Summit is the world's largest gathering of transport ministers and the leading global platform for dialogue on transport policy.

Learn more: www.itf-oecd.org