PRESS CONFERENCE INVITATION
EU Council – Press room
Rue de la Loi 175, 1048-Brussels

10 October 2007, 10h30 - 11h30

Luxembourg, France and Portugal to fulfil EU road safety goal

The ambitious EU target of halving road deaths by 2010 is becoming increasingly unrealistic to attain. While three countries will be able to reach a 50% reduction in road deaths over 2001 to 2010, the EU will cut the yearly number of road deaths to 25,000 only by 2015, or five years later than foreseen in its road safety plan.

ETSC has assessed the EU countries' performance in reducing road deaths between 2001 and 2006 in its latest Road Safety Performance Index (PIN) ranking. The report shows that only Luxembourg, France and Portugal will achieve the EU target of halving road deaths by 2010 at the current rate of advance. At the other end, Lithuania, Hungary and Estonia have actually seen the number of road deaths increase in 2006 compared with 2001, while only a slight reduction was registered in Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia.

At the press conference, ETSC will present the detailed findings from the latest PIN research demonstrating recent trends in road safety in the EU and individual countries. National politicians and experts from the countries that have achieved best results in reducing road deaths will explain their effective strategies in the struggle against major road offences and risks.

Speakers at the ETSC press conference include:

Lucien Lux, Transport Minister for Luxembourg
Paulo Marques, President of the National Road Safety Authority, Portugal
Jean Chapelon, Secretary General of the National Road Safety Observatory, France
Graziella Jost, PIN Programme Manager, ETSC

Please bring your EU Council or national press accreditation. If you don't have any of those documents, please send your personal details (name and date of birth) to evgueni.pogorelov@etsc.be by 12h00 Tuesday 9 October at the latest and show your ID at the press room security check.

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