18 October 2005

ETSC's Transport Safety Lunches

"Half way to halving road deaths?- The Mid-term Review of the 3rd Road Safety Action Programme"

Chairpersons: E. Hedkvist Petersen (MEP), D. Koch (MEP)
Panelists: E. Grillo Pasquarelli (DG TREN European Commission), K. McMahon (Department for Transport, UK), R. Gifford (PACTS, UK), K. Machata (KfV, AT)

Welcome by: H. de Croo (MP, Speaker, Belgian Chamber of Representatives)

The Mid-term Review of the third Road Safety Action Programme was eagerly awaited amongst transport safety experts for autumn 2005. The Review's delay now gives European road safety stakeholders one last opportunity to highlight some key policies and measures before the anticipated adoption in end of 2005 / early 2006.

The Review is to take in the progress made towards the target of halving road casualties by 2010. It is set to be characterized by an inequality of road risk across Europe. Why is that? Most of the new Member States are having considerably higher fatality and injury rates than the old EU 15. The Mid-term Review will outline each of the Member States' road safety performance and propose new measurable targets.

This Lunch is the opportunity to hear from the U.K. as one of the best-performing EU countries on road safety, with the opportunity it will have to extend this experience across Europe during the UK Presidency. This should therefore ensure that the discussions of the Mid-term Review focus on what can be done by all Member States, as well as how those with the greatest challenges can be assisted in decreasing their levels of road risk. We are also keen to hear from another well-performing country, Austria, which effective measures it is taking to improve road safety and what policies Austria will support during its upcoming presidency.

The Mid-term Review should also be accompanied by concrete European policy initiatives – such as a package of measures on infrastructure. Road infrastructure improvements can make a significant contribution towards reducing the frequency and seriousness of road traffic accidents. The European Commission should fulfill its commitment to developing best practice guidelines in the fields of urban safety management, speed reduction, low cost measures and safety audit.

Generally in conjunction with the Mid-term Review, ETSC urges the Commission to resume its duty and propose more innovative legislation in order to be in a better position to achieve the common target of halving road fatalities by 2010.

ETSC's Transport Safety Lunches are the site for openly debating promising and successful European approaches to prevent both accidents and injuries in transportation. They bring together decision makers from the transport sector in Brussels, thus establishing a platform to exchange information and views for all those interested in transport safety.

Following a buffet lunch the experts provide the audience with an insight into innovative transport safety work in the particular country. By addressing the most pressing problems they are paving the way for sharing knowledge and experience of how to best reduce transport-related accidents and injuries. The debates will explore possibilities of how key actors can develop the political and organisational leadership that it takes to implement effective safety schemes.

The Lunches provide good opportunities for both public authorities from all EU countries and private companies from all transport sectors to present their technical and organisational measures for the improvement of safety and security within the different modes of transport.



Professor Herman De Croo MP ; Speaker, Belgian Chamber of Representatives

ETSC's Transport Safety Lunch

On 18th October 2005 from 12:45 – 15:00

"Half way to halving road deaths?-
The Commission Mid-term Review on the 3rd RSAP"

At "Autoworld", Parc Cinquantenaire, 1000 Brussels

Free of charge

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