To All Members of the European Parliament
European Parliament
Rue Wiertz
ASP 14E116
BE-1047 BRUSSELS

European Transport Safety Council

Brussels, 27 June 2007

REF: Forthcoming vote Commission Proposal for a Directive on Infrastructure Safety

Dear Members of the European Parliament,

A wide majority of experts and professionals from the European road safety community is urgently calling on the European Parliament to support the Directive on road infrastructure safety management.

We see this Directive as a step in the right direction to reach the European goal of halving the number of deaths on the European roads by 2010, for several reasons:

- The proposal has the potential of saving 600 lives and avoiding 7,000 serious injuries every year in the EU;
- The EU has a clear responsibility in guaranteeing a high and uniform level of safety on the Trans-European Road Network;
- The instruments proposed in the Directive are highly cost-efficient;
- The proposal has received wide support from road safety experts and stakeholder organisations;
- A Recommendation or the mere exchange of best practice would not bring any substantial results: progress on road infrastructure safety would not be any faster than today if we rely on what national governments are already committed to;
- The proposal does not impose technical standards or procedures but merely invites Member States to make better use of existing procedures and practices, thereby preventing bureaucratic burden recently denounced by members of the Transport Committee.

We therefore regret the decision of the Transport Committee to reject the European Commission's proposal on road infrastructure safety management at its meeting on June 5th 2007.

We believe that the July plenary session is an occasion for the European Parliament to reassert its role in improving safety on European roads thereby contributing to the achievement of the ambitious EU target. If the EU is serious about halving the number of road deaths by 2010, it must exploit all policy instruments available. Political wisdom, resolve and responsibility on the part of the European Parliament will be paramount in this process.

European Transport Safety Council

We therefore wholeheartedly hope that you will support the Commission proposal and help us improving Europe's roads **by voting against the recommendation of the TRAN Committee asking for withdrawal of the proposal.**

With our best regards,



Jörg Beckmann
Executive Director

Signatories: