

Summary of Proceedings Second CAREC Road Safety Workshop

16 to 18 August 2016, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Background

1. The 14th Ministerial Conference of the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) program in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia on 25 September 2015, endorsed a joint commitment to road safety. Through it, CAREC countries agreed to work together to promote a common shared approach on road safety through the development of a road safety strategy for the CAREC region and implement measures contained therein.

2. Preparation of the CAREC road safety strategy has adopted a participatory approach involving stakeholders from each of the CAREC countries. In the first CAREC Road Safety Workshop held in Bangkok, Thailand in April 2016 (Bangkok Workshop),¹ country delegates (i) considered the strengths and weaknesses of their own existing regulations and processes by which they manage common road safety challenges, (ii) identified areas considered suitable for regional collaboration and cooperation, (iii) agreed on a common vision to "Make CAREC international road corridors safe, efficient and attractive for all road users", and (iv) agreed that the strategy shall comprise of five pillars for road safety management, safer roads, safer road vehicles, safer road users and post-crash care.

3. The outputs of the Bangkok Workshop were subsequently discussed and endorsed by the 15th Transport Sector Coordinating Committee (TSCC) held in Bangkok on 20-21 April 2016. The draft CAREC road safety strategy² was circulated to all CAREC countries and development partners for comments in May 2016 and comments received were considered in a revised document. This document was subsequently considered at the mid-year Senior Officials Meeting held in Islamabad on 19-20 July 2016, and was accepted for further development and consideration for approval at the 15th CAREC Ministerial Conference in Islamabad, Pakistan in October 2016.

Objectives of the Second CAREC Road Safety Workshop

4. On 16-18 August 2016, delegates from CAREC countries, Georgia (as observer) and development partners took part in the 2nd CAREC Road Safety Workshop to discuss and agree on the remaining components of the CAREC road safety strategy. The list of participants is in Appendix 1. The Workshop was chaired by Pakistan in its capacity as Chair to the CAREC program in 2016. The Workshop was jointly organized with the Malaysian Institute of Road Safety Research (MIROS).

5. The Workshop served as a platform for delegates to share knowledge and experiences of high relevance to the CAREC road safety strategy. Delegates provided extensive data and

¹ <u>http://www.carecprogram.org/uploads/events/2016/03-Road-Safety-Workshop/CAREC-ROAD-SAFETY_Summary.pdf</u>

² "Safely Connected: A Regional Road Safety Strategy for CAREC Countries 2017 – 2030"

information on the characteristics of road crashes on CAREC corridors in each country. Delegates also learnt of the extensive efforts undertaken in Malaysia to improve their road safety condition, comprising of actions in all five pillars of the United Nations Decade of Action on Road Safety. Delegates appreciated the important function played by MIROS, in providing policy makers in Malaysia and in the ASEAN region with high quality research, to support evidence-based policy making in favor of road safety. Delegates learned from efforts being taken by non-government organizations such as the Eastern Alliance for Safe and Sustainable Transport, HAYAT, Georgian Partnership for Road Safety, "Common Roads", Kyrgyz Freight Operators Association, Public Association for Road Safety actions in the CAREC region. The Workshop also recorded strong support from the World Health Organization and the European Investment Bank in supporting the implementation of the CAREC road safety strategy.

6. Informed by the above, the Workshop considered 3 important elements of the strategy, namely, (i) the targets to be set for the strategy, taking into consideration global initiatives (such as the Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety), (ii) the actions required by each country to deliver the strategy, and (iii) the results-based framework which will be used to monitor actions and outcomes of the strategy.

Target

7. The delegates discussed the importance and need for targets to achieve results. It was agreed that an ambitious but achievable target was preferred to encourage efforts to improve road safety in the CAREC region. Delegates noted the targets established under the Sustainable Development Goals to reduce road fatalities (and injuries) by 50% by 2030. Delegates agreed that the same level of ambition is needed in CAREC countries, and adopted the target for the CAREC road safety as "By 2030, the number of fatalities on CAREC International road corridors are reduced by 50% (compared to 2010).

Action Plan

8. Delegates discussed the necessary actions to meet the target, under each of the five pillars of the strategy as agreed earlier. Consideration was given to individual actions, the responsibility associated with each action, its indicative relative cost, proposed time frame and indicators needed to measure progress against each activity. This culminated in an action plan, which will be an integral part of the CAREC road safety strategy, and will be updated from time to time by the Transport Sector Coordinating Committee. The agreed draft Action Plan covering the initial implementation period 2017 to 2020 is included in Appendix 2.

Results-Based Framework

9. Delegates discussed the importance of monitoring and evaluation to ensure the sustained and effective implementation of the CAREC road safety strategy. The agreed results-based framework is provided in Appendix 3. Delegates reconfirmed the importance of each country providing the necessary data and information to track collective progress against the indicators. Such progress will be reported on an annual basis as part of the CAREC transport sector progress reports, as agreed upon at the 15th TSCC.

Next Steps

10. Delegates agreed to the following timeline for completing the draft CAREC Regional Road Safety Strategy. The CAREC Secretariat will circulate the completed draft strategy, containing the outcomes of the Workshop to CAREC countries, Georgia and development partners by 1 September 2016. Comments and feedback will be welcomed by 22 September 2016. The draft strategy will in parallel be circulated on 1 September 2016 as reference material for the CAREC National Focal Points (NFP) meeting scheduled on 20 September 2016. NFPs will also be invited to comment on the draft strategy at this meeting. Following receipt of all comments, the CAREC Secretariat will prepare the final draft document which will be circulated on 4 October 2016 for consideration and approval by the year-end Senior Officials' Meeting and subsequently by the 15th CAREC Ministerial Conference.

Appreciation

11. Delegates thanked the relevant authorities of the Government of Malaysia, and in particular MIROS, for their generous hospitality and support to the CAREC road safety agenda.