



IRU Declaration



**JOINT STATEMENT OF TRANSPORT MINISTERS
ADOPTED AT THE 1ST IRU/ EU PRESIDENCY ROAD TRANSPORT CONFERENCE**

Brussels, Kingdom of Belgium, 1 December 2010

Joint Statement of Transport Ministers

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European Transport Ministers, invited and hosted by the State Secretary for Mobility of the Kingdom of Belgium, participating in the 1st IRU/EU Presidency Road Transport Conference in Brussels on 1 December 2010,

Ministers

- Considering the essential role road transport plays in the everyday lives of EU citizens and in meeting the needs of a strong and dynamic European economy, interconnecting all businesses to every market and driving the sustainable mobility of people and goods;
- Acknowledging that commercial road transport plays a vital role in supporting supply chains, logistics, travel, employment and prosperity in the EU economy and society as a whole;
- Recognising the need to work together to develop a more ecologically friendly, safe, competitive road transport in line with the objectives of the Lisbon strategy;
- Emphasising that reducing the ecological impact of commercial road transport will require innovative, viable and sustainable solutions;
- Stressing that to effectively reduce the number of accidents involving commercial road vehicles will require that 85% of the causes of those accidents is remedied through appropriate training of professional drivers and other road users.

Have decided to coordinate their efforts to

- Work in partnership with the commercial road transport industry so that it can achieve further at source reductions of its environmental footprint by encouraging research into even cleaner vehicle technologies and viable alternatives to fossil fuels for heavy commercial vehicles while providing incentives to facilitate market take up of latest technologies and best practices;
- Coordinate national and regional transport policies in order to develop and maintain high quality infrastructure and interoperable ITS solutions while aiming to remove existing barriers to the free movement of people and goods and make best use of existing or planned infrastructure;

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- Integrate the different transport modes into a highly efficient and competitive European transport system that ensures sustainable mobility of people and goods through the creation of a competitive level playing field.
- Pursue a well balanced social policy for commercial road transport, taking account of the specific needs of its workforce, like sufficient protection for workers and professional training, while ensuring competitiveness for EU industry;
- Promote harmonised enforcement of all EU rules applicable to road transport;
- Commit to targeting the main causes of accidents involving commercial vehicles by further promoting effective training of drivers and by stimulating the introduction of road safety awareness programmes.;

have invited

- All interested parties to participate in an effective and continuous dialogue in the form of a public-private partnership to achieve progress towards the goals identified in this Declaration.

Signed on behalf of the EU Transport Council and the International Road Transport Union

State Secretary for Mobility of the Kingdom of Belgium, Mr Etienne Schouppe

President of the International Road Transport Union, Mr Janusz Lachny

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