

Meeting of the Technical Committee on Road Safety

Virtual Meeting - Skype Call
April 21, 2020
Tuesday 21, 2020 – 10.00-12.00 a.m.

Conclusions

1. The Interim Director Alain Baron gave a Keynote Speech through which he emphasized the importance and the priority that shall be given to Road Safety from each regional participant. The good work that is done in the past needs to continue to ensure that we all achieve the goals set. The situation during the strict measures set due to COVID 19 and the lock down of the cities might have a positive side in terms of reduction of the number of road crashes, but the region shall be prepared for the situation that will come after the de containment.
2. From most of the Regional Participants there are no reported safety issues as a consequence of the new measures set for the transport of goods due to COVID 19, besides an accident reported from Serbia which has caused one fatality. The accident has happened due to the presence of Convoys.
3. The permanent Secretariat informed all partners that Directive 2008/96/EC on road infrastructure safety management is amended and the new **Directive (EU) 2019/1936** has entered into force from December 16, 2019.
4. Regional Participants informed that they have partially transposed the Directive 2008/96/EC on road infrastructure safety management. Some of the Regional Participants have recently adopted the New Law on Road and others are still in process of adopting it. The latter, which will be followed by several by-laws, will ensure the steps towards the full transposition of the Directive 2008/96/EC, including its amendments.
5. Regional Participants confirmed that they will continue to work on the Table of Concordance in the forthcoming days and give evidence to the transposition of the Directive 2008/96/EC on road infrastructure safety management. The Regional Participants, which did not participate in this exercise of submitting the Table of Concordance to DEU, will be provided with the template of the table by the Permanent Secretariat. The deadline for submitting the Table of Concordance will be extended. Montenegro is exempted from this exercise as they did submit the latest version of the Table of Concordance.
6. The Permanent Secretariat announced to the participants that the Road Safety Action Plan is subject to approval by the Regional Steering Committee (RSC) members. Deadline for RSC comments is 23rd April, and in case there are no comments the Action Plan will be considered adopted.
7. The Permanent Secretariat will start to prepare a report in which it will elaborate the current state for each action for all regional participants. The monitoring methodology will be the same as used for monitoring of the Connectivity Reform Measures.

8. CONNECTA Team missions are finalized. Due to COVID 19. All the materials and documents required from Regional Participants are submitted directly to CONNECTA consultants. Despite the current situation, CONNECTA does not see a reason for delays and will respect the deadlines set out in the project. In case that the COVID 19 situation would last for a longer period of time and traveling would remain banned, CONNECTA site visits and inspection on selected road sections may be affected.
9. The Permanent Secretariat is preparing a post COVID proposal for small scale projects that will be a follow up to the CONNECTA study on improving safety measures in the high-risk road sections. The proposal will be subject to endorsement at the next Western Balkans SUMMIT and will use the road sections and RSI reports from the CONNECTA study: *“Preparation of Road Safety Inspections and Audit plans for the Core/Comprehensive road network in Western Balkans and Piloting them”*. The Permanent Secretariat will share with the members of the Technical Committee the list of high-risk road sections and ensure that there is no overlapping of the future work plans of Regional Participants for the forthcoming two years.
10. The next meeting will be scheduled for the third week of June via Teleconference (Skype).