



INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION
FEDERATION ROUTIERE INTERNATIONALE



Marrakech, Morocco

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IRF REGIONAL CONFERENCE NORTH AFRICA - MEDITERRANEAN

Summary of Closing Remarks by Mr. Kiran Kapila, Chairman of IRF Geneva Programme Centre. IRF Regional Conference: North Africa & Mediterranean Marrakech, 19-20 March, 2013

The Way Forward

Road safety is a major problem in the North Africa & Mediterranean region. The region's safety record reveals 52,169 fatalities and 403,900 persons injured as a consequence of 209,386 accidents during the year 2011.

These problems must be urgently addressed using all the four 'Es': engineering, education, enforcement and emergency care.

I would also propose the following key recommendations:

- Carry out road safety audits to identify places where treatments are needed to improve the safety record.
- On a proactive level, ensure the conduct of design stage road safety audits from the outset of every new project.
- Incorporate Intelligent Transport Systems into the design of all new infrastructure projects.
- Enhance road safety education and awareness among the general public, notably using recourse to billboards, television promotional spots and cinema shorts.
- Integrate road safety awareness into the educational curricula of schools throughout the region.
- Mobilise ITS technologies to enhance enforcement and identify perpetrators.
- Review and improve the timely provision of emergency care.
- By reference successful experience in East Africa, consider the possibility of providing basic training in first aid for local, rural populations.
- Furthermore, in this respect, envisage the training of all HGV and bus drivers – often first on the scene of accidents - in first aid trauma care.

Given the importance attached in the region for the provision of efficient transnational motorway networks, IRF would be willing to organise training workshops aimed at the standardisation of engineering, design and all other relevant aspects.

