

**“ TOGETHER
WE CAN SAVE
5 MILLION
LIVES
ON ROADS AROUND
THE WORLD ”**





“Together we can save five million lives on roads around the world”

Paris, 11 May 2011

The Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) is proud to support the launching of the UN Decade of Action, the aim of which is to save five million lives over the next ten years.

We are proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the FIA Foundation, the World Health Organisation and the World Bank, as well with as our member clubs around the world, in order to commit ourselves to achieving the objectives of this most worthy of initiatives.

Today, all over the world, events are being held to raise public awareness of the ravages caused by road traffic accidents, synonymous with unspeakable suffering and financial woe for millions of people.

Each year around the world, 1.3 million people are killed on the roads and another fifty million are injured, some of them very seriously.

The United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety aims to curb this human and social catastrophe by advocating a series of measures, which once adapted to meet the needs of each country, will lead to a clear improvement in the lives of millions of individuals.

For a number of decades, the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile has been implementing actions designed to lead to an enhanced level of safety on public roads, as well as on circuits. As the body responsible for regulating global motor sport, it is our duty to make motor racing safer for the competitors and for the general public alike. Since we are a federation comprising 228 automobile clubs and 60 million members, we have the power to implement road safety campaigns on a global level.

In France there has been a spectacular fall in the number of road traffic victims: 48 per cent between 2000 and 2009. This excellent result is the fruit of a concerted policy initiated by President Jacques Chirac and continued by successive governments. Nevertheless, we must refrain from any thoughts of triumphalism: every single death and injury leads to despair and terrible grief, and also has a significant social cost.

The FIA is lending its full support to the UN Decade of Action and has, indeed, launched its own parallel initiative, the "*FIA Action for Road Safety*," which aims to commit all of our clubs to ambitious projects, with results that are both tangible and quantifiable, in order to achieve the objective set by the UN of saving five million lives in ten years.

www.fia.com/ActionForRoadSafety.org

Message from Mr Jacques Chirac on the occasion of the launching of the Decade of Action for Road Safety

It is with particular pleasure that I lend my support to the Decade of Action for Road safety in the world, which begins today.

This initiative, instigated by the United Nations, is source of great hope.

I encourage each and every one of you and also countries, international organisations and private actors, to get fully behind this noble cause.

In France, in 2002, confronted with the bloodbath on the roads that was blighting our country, with more than 8,000 deaths on our roads every year, I decided to make road safety a priority of my second presidential mandate.

By ensuring the total mobilisation of the public authorities, we managed to change people's behaviour and the number of people injured and killed on the roads was reduced considerably. These are figures of which I am very proud. And I know that the French authorities remain mobilised to this day.

This experience is the proof that if there had been a real desire, none of these deaths might have happened. The desire to act in order to save lives.

Driving must be a synonym for freedom and not for tragedy. We should never stand back and watch lives being shattered, families being plunged into mourning and people being mutilated just because they, or others, have failed to respect the Highway Code and have driven recklessly fast.

Road traffic accidents are one of the main causes of violent death everywhere in the world. They cannot be regarded as merely the result of bad luck or a manifestation of the modern world.

Today, it is first and foremost in the countries of Africa, Asia or South America where we must act. The primary victims of these accidents are young people, the vibrant life forces of these countries. This is just not acceptable.

I sincerely hope that this movement, which gets underway all over the world this 11 May, will turn out to be highly successful.

Together, we have to mobilise ourselves to ensure that the world's roads become safer.

We must turn to education, in order to make sure that each one of us faces up to his or her responsibilities.

Together we can save five million lives.

I am counting on you!

Message from Monsieur Jean Todt, President of the FIA, on the occasion of the launching of the Decade of Action for Road Safety

Every single day, 3,500 people die on the world's roads.

These victims are most often the younger members of our societies. Each accident is a drama for the families concerned and for society in general. Dying on the road has become the main cause of death among young people aged between 15 and 29 years.

Ninety per cent of these victims had been living in developing countries.

In 2010, road accidents resulted, worldwide, in the deaths of 1.3 million people with nearly 50 million injured. Not only the human cost but also the economic and social consequences of this sad reality are simply unacceptable.

If current rates continue, if we fail to react, it has been estimated that in 2020, 1.9 million deaths will occur on the roads and road deaths will become the 5th most common cause of death in the world. From such a perspective, it would be undignified and intolerable not to act.

One year ago, the United Nations decided to designate the years 2011 – 2020 the Decade of Action for Road Safety. Along with the World Health Organisation, the World Bank and the regional development banks, a planet-wide mobilisation will begin this Wednesday, 11 May, in order to slow down the number of deaths on the road.

This is the time to raise awareness and mobilise people's good intentions, so that we can provide the proper response to this terrible scourge.

We know that considerable progress is possible. The French situation provides a perfect illustration of this. Thanks to the impetus provided in 2002 by President Jacques Chirac, our country has seen the number of road victims decrease by nearly 50 per cent in less than ten years. I think it only right and proper that I praise this action and I thank him for once again lending his support, today, to this Decade of Action.

By associating itself with this initiative, the FIA is remaining true to its mission. The search for greater safety has always been one of the key objectives of our organisation. On the sporting side of things, there have been significant developments thanks to the initiatives of the FIA. All drivers who take part in motor sport will testify to this. We must also apply this for the benefit of the ordinary road users.

With a presence in 132 countries and representing more than 60 million motorists, the FIA will be playing an active role in the Decade of Action.

As such, I wanted all the automobile clubs around the world that are members of the FIA, as well as all the national sporting federations to mobilise in their own countries, in order to intensify these actions to promote road safety.

The FIA will also play a full role in order to rise to the challenge to save, together, 5 million lives.

In addition to Ban Ki-Moon, the Secretary General of the UN, Margaret Chan, the Director General of the WHO and a variety of well-known personalities such as Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Michael Bloomberg Mayor of New York, Michael Schumacher, I invite everyone to act now.

I invite all motorists to face up to their responsibilities.

I hereby invite everyone connected with the FIA to get the education and mobilisation underway in their countries.

If we all work together, we really can make a difference.



The Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile

The Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) is a not-for-profit organisation comprising 228 automobile clubs and national motor sport associations. Active in 132 countries in five continents, it represents 60 million motorists. Its role is to defend the interests of its members and those of motorists all over the world. It is also the body that regulates international motor sport.

Be it in the field of road safety, mobility, the environment or protecting the rights of consumers, the FIA, which was founded in 1904, defends the interests of motorists within international organisations such as the United Nations and the European Union. By launching communication campaigns or implementing plans of action, it promotes safe and modern mobility. In motor sport, the FIA administers the regulations of all the motor sport disciplines (Formula 1, Rallies, Touring Cars, Karting, etc.).

Since 23 October 2009, the President of the FIA has been Jean Todt. The FIA has its headquarters at 8 place de la Concorde in Paris, although the Federation does also have offices in Geneva, London and Brussels.



The United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety

On Wednesday, 11 May 2011, the United Nations and governments around the world will launch the United Nations Decade of Action for Road Safety. Proclaimed by UN General Assembly in its Resolution A/RES/64/255 of 2 March 2010, and in accordance with the recommendation of the inaugural world ministerial conference on road safety hosted in Moscow by the President of the Russian Federation, Dmitri Medvedev, in November 2009, the objective of this Decade of Action is to "stabilise and then reduce the number of deaths on the world's roads by 2020". The great economies of the G20, the leading developing countries, as well as public institutions such as the World Bank and the World Health Organisation, have all subscribed to this Decade of Action.

In a declaration published in November 2010, the UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon called upon governments to announce their national plans for the Decade as from 11 May 2011. On 11 May, the United Nations will, itself, unveil a Plan of Action, which will serve as a guide for achieving the objectives of the Decade. The member states are invited to undertake actions to promote and foster road safety, notably with regard to road safety management and the strengthening the capacities of traffic infrastructures, vehicle safety, the behaviour of road users, in particular by making it obligatory to wear a seat belt or, in the case of a two-wheeled vehicle, a helmet, and also through post-accident treatment.



FIA Action for Road Safety

In parallel with the United Nations Decade of Action, the FIA has launched its own initiative entitled FIA Action for Road Safety. This aims to commit all of our clubs to ambitious projects, with results that are both tangible and quantifiable, in order to achieve the objective set by the UN of saving five million lives in ten years.

Its renowned expertise in road safety matters, its vast network of 228 automobile clubs and national motor sport associations and its access to a vast public through large sports events, all combine to enable the FIA to play a unique role in the promotion of road safety.



www.ActionForRoadSafety.org

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