RESOLUTION

REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE
EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

Fifty-sixth Session

Agenda item 5

Road traffic injuries: a growing public health concern

The Regional Committee,

Having discussed the technical document Road traffic injuries: a growing public health concern1;

Recalling World Health Assembly resolutions WHA57.10 Road safety and health and WHA60:22 Health systems: emergency care systems;

Recalling also United Nations General Assembly resolutions 57/309 of 22 May 2003, 58/9 of 5 November 2003, 58/289 of 14 April 2004, 60/5 of 26 October 2005 and 62/244 of 25 April 2008 on improving global road safety and inviting WHO to act as a coordinator on road safety issues within the United Nations system, working in close cooperation with the United Nations regional economic commissions;

Appreciating the resolve of WHO to support Member States in developing multisectoral policies, injury surveillance systems and effective pre-hospital and hospital-based trauma care;

Acknowledging the contribution to road safety of the joint WHO/World Bank Report on road traffic injury prevention;

Concerned that injuries and deaths due to road traffic crashes have witnessed a sharp increase in most of the Member States in the Eastern Mediterranean Region and that road traffic injuries are becoming a major public health problem;

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1 Document no. EM/RC56/Tech.Disc.1
1. **URGES** Member States to:

   1.1 Promote the establishment of a national multisectoral mechanism to address road safety as a public health issue and specifically develop a national plan, emphasizing primary prevention, with clear specification of the role of national concerned sectors;

   1.2 Implement specific actions to minimize injuries and their consequences and evaluate the impact of these actions through the development of effective pre-hospital and hospital-based trauma care systems (including emergency care transport) conforming to international standards, as well as rehabilitation systems;

   1.3 Establish/strengthen a multisectoral injury surveillance system to ensure evidence-based interventions;

   1.4 Allocate financial and human resources for articulating and eliciting a multisectoral and multidisciplinary response to facilitate collaboration and partnership between different ministries and sectors;

   1.5 Develop national capacity in primary prevention of road traffic injuries and partnerships in road safety through national, regional and international networking;

2. **REQUESTS** the Regional Director to:

   2.1 Support Member States in building national capacities for designing multisectoral road traffic injury prevention and control programmes and developing and upgrading national health workers in the field of emergency medicine;

   2.2 Support Member States in mobilizing resources from potential donors for strengthening pre-hospital and hospital-based trauma care systems;

   2.3 Report to the Regional Committee every two years on the regional situation regarding road traffic injuries.