Road Safety Update – UNHCR

(The Fourth United Nations Partnership Meeting for Road Safety, 4th November – hosted by the United Nations Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Road Safety)

• In 2020 UNHCR launched a road safety project targeting 7 operations (Uganda, Yemen, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Rwanda, DRC, and Chad). The project which began in July aims at:
  1) delivering ToT for drivers - intent is for 26 colleagues to become certified and accredited driver trainers within their own country operations. 2) road safety capacity building for 28, supervisors and managers, who have road safety responsibilities. However, due to COVID 19, the set of training mentioned above (Advance Safe Driver Training, Qualified Driver Trainer and Road Safety Management) have been modified to e-learning modules, which also enables to participate in group webinars, virtual coaching and have a self-paced learning environment. As for the ToT training, the face to face training and testing will be conducted as soon as travel is feasible.

• A Safety Climate Survey pilot project is underway in two UNHCR country operations; Ethiopia and Uganda and will be launched November 9th. The purpose of this exercise is to measure how employees (drivers or others) perceive safety, based on survey parameters such as: safety communications, safety behavior scale and near miss reporting. This will assist in the identification of specific gaps that need to be addressed to improve the safety culture in the organization. The survey will be conducted before and after road safety training/interventions and will provide data needed to gauge whether interventions taken have improved the country operation safety climate score.

• UNHCR launched two road safety e-learning modules in July: Safe Road Use for all colleagues & Safe Road Use for Senior Managers, which are available in two languages (EN, FR). To date, approximately 700 UNHCR colleagues have completed these trainings. These courses will be mandatory for all UNHCR personnel.

• Road Safety Awareness Raising targeting partner drivers and UNHCR colleagues have been conducted in Tanzania following a fatal crash involving a partner vehicle. This road safety awareness workshop will be delivered in November to Lebanon operation as well. We are looking forward to expanding these workshops onto other country operations, with high rates of road crashes.

• In addition, the first AI on road safety is in final stage and can probably be issued in early 2021. This will enable to further have an additional regulatory framework for road safety within UNHCR.

• UNHCR Road Safety SC along with Snr. Road Safety Coordinator and in collaboration with our communications colleagues will carry out activities to commemorate the World Day of Remembrance for Traffic Victims on November 13th. This includes a dedicated web page with road safety key messages, recorded interview with Head of Service of Staff Health and Wellbeing, Dr. Ling Kituyi, visuals from drivers and colleagues in the field, calling to drive safely, and more.