The Global Burden of Road Traffic Deaths

- Today, 1.3 million people are killed and 50 million injured every year.
- 90% of road traffic deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries.
- #1 cause of death for children and young adults 5-29 years of age.

Background note on Global Road Safety

UN General Assembly Resolutions on Improving Global Road Safety

On 31 August 2020, the UNGA Resolution on Improving Global Road Safety (A/RES/74/299) was adopted by Member States (MSs), calling for a second Decade of Action for Road Safety, setting a new target to halve deaths and injuries by 2030, and deciding to convene a high-level meeting by 2022.

Below are additional key calls of action by the Resolution A/RES/74/299:
- Encourages support for the UN Road Safety Fund (UNRSF);
- Invites to support the activities of the Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for Road Safety as well as the extension of the Special Envoy’s function through 2030;
- Reaffirms the importance of the UN legal instruments on road safety, administered by UNECE;
- Invites Member States to further invest in road safety at all levels, including by allocating dedicated budgets for institutional and infrastructural improvements for road safety;
- Requests the World Health Organization and the UN regional commissions, as well as other relevant UN agencies, to continue activities aimed at supporting the implementation of the road safety-related targets in the 2030 Agenda, while ensuring system-wide coherence.

More recently, on 30 June-1 July 2022, following the Resolution on the Scope, modalities, format and organization of the High-Level Meeting on Improving Global Road Safety - HLM (A/RES/75/308), the first-ever HLM took place in New York under the theme ‘2030 Horizon for Road Safety: Securing a Decade of Action and Delivery’. Convened by the President of the General Assembly, it focused on national and global commitments for road safety. A Political Declaration was adopted and called for a second High-Level Meeting in 2026.