

A FIRM COMMITMENT TO AN AMBITIOUS AND INTEGRATED APPROACH TO ROAD SAFETY

High-Level Joint Statement by the African Development Bank, the Andean Development Corporation - CAF, the Asian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, the New Development Bank and the World Bank

- I. We, the undersigned Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), recalling the importance assigned to road safety by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as its key role to attain a wide-range of development priorities of our client countries, hereby recognize the importance of the Stockholm Declaration as endorsed by UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/74/299 dated August 31 2020. We welcome the global call for increased road safety action, ambition, international cooperation and multilateralism in achieving the universal road safety targets.
- II. We will each appoint a high-level Road Safety Champion in each of our respective institutions to promote road safety and to ensure long-lasting and continuous ambition and delivery at all levels.
- III. As MDBs, we acknowledge the role and responsibility to ensure that we finance sustainability. Grounded on our countries' needs, priorities and expressed demand, we acknowledge the Declaration's call for increased investment in road safety, which recognizes the high social and economic costs of crash deaths and injuries, and the high social and economic rates of return of projects and programmes that prevent deaths and injuries on roads worldwide.
- IV. Collectively and individually, we remain committed to playing our part in supporting our client countries' priorities. We acknowledge the importance of close cooperation, within and between our respective institutions. To this end, we may review our priorities and procedures to ensure that the road-related programmes and projects we support promote a model of safety that encourages a more ambitious, integrated, accountable and results-oriented approach in our partner countries, with particular focus on safe infrastructure for all users.
- V. We emphasize that, to deliver on the 2030-decade of action goal of a 50% reduction of road fatalities and injuries worldwide, there is an urgent need for dedicated road safety strategies with firm targets and action plans that respond to country demand and take into account institutional, regional and local contexts. Only with appropriate policies and resources can we create the necessary transformational change in our organizations and interventions, and that of our partners, to bring road safety efforts on the ground to scale.
- VI. Together, we aim to support countries in achieving SDG target 11.2 by providing access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety with special attention to the needs of vulnerable road users and seeking synergies with other country priorities, such as climate action and resilience by expanding public transport.
- VII. We recognize the importance of monitoring and reporting progress towards the achievement of our common goals. It is through reliable, harmonized and accessible data on country efforts and the outputs and impacts of our road-related investments and capacity building that we can demonstrate progress and adjust our approach where needed to support client needs. By doing so, we aim to provide visibility to the value of road safety action.
- VIII. Finally, we recognize the changing environment in which we operate and the need to be innovative to address new challenges. We acknowledge the worldwide crisis caused by COVID-19, noting that MDBs play key roles in supporting efforts to manage and respond to the pandemic. COVID-19 is providing valuable lessons for the future and an opportunity for MDBs to help improve crisis response, infrastructure development, protection of the vulnerable and prevention of injury in all its forms.