



**Interactive multi-stakeholder hearing as part of the preparatory process
for the high-level meeting on improving global road safety**

Tuesday, 12 May 2026

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ECOSOC Chamber, United Nations Headquarters

Concept Note

Background

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 80/247 of 10 March 2026, the President of the General Assembly will organize an interactive multi-stakeholder hearing on Tuesday, 12 May 2026 in the ECOSOC Chamber at the United Nations Headquarters, New York as part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting on improving global road safety.

In General Assembly resolution 74/299 of 31 August 2020, Member States proclaimed the period 2021-2030 as the Second Decade of Action for Road Safety, with the goal of reducing road traffic deaths and injuries by at least 50 per cent by 2030. In June 2022, the General Assembly unanimously adopted a political declaration during the high-level meeting on improving global road safety, which committed to undertaking 18 priority actions, and reaffirmed to promote the achievement of road safety-related targets of the 2030 Agenda and the implementation of the Second Decade of Action for Road Safety.

Despite growing political commitment and increasing evidence on effective measures, road safety remains an urgent development priority, a major public health problem and a social equity issue. Each year, road crashes claim more than 1.19 million lives, a reduction of 5 per cent since 2010, but the progress still falls short of the pace required to meet the 2030 target. Ninety-two per cent of these deaths occur in low- and middle- income countries. Road traffic crashes remain the leading cause of death among children and young people aged 5–29 years.

Following the Secretary-General's first progress report¹ in September 2023 and the fifth Global Status Report on Road Safety² with the most comprehensive and updated evidence base, the Secretary-General's second progress report³ highlighted both encouraging progress and continuing

¹ <https://docs.un.org/en/A/78/345>

² <https://iris.who.int/server/api/core/bitstreams/46275f9f-ef66-4892-8ddd-a496ef8c1b74/content>

³ <https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n26/027/51/pdf/n2602751.pdf>

challenges. While some countries have achieved significant reductions in road traffic fatalities, implementation remains uneven and many countries continue to face barriers related to governance, financing, data analytics, capacity-building and multi-sectoral coordination.

In this regard, with deep concern that the number of road traffic crashes remains unacceptably high, Member States decided to convene a one-and-a-half-day high-level meeting on improving global road safety on 20 and 21 July 2026, with the objective of scaling up and accelerating implementation of commitments to halving the road traffic deaths and injuries by 2030. Member States further decided that the high-level meeting shall adopt a concise and action-oriented progress declaration.

As part of the preparatory process for the high-level meeting, the multi-stakeholder hearing will provide a critical opportunity for Member States and various stakeholders to reflect on progress, share best practices, identify key barriers to translating commitments into sustained implementation, and explore avenues to strengthen international cooperation on road safety.

Objectives

The multi-stakeholder hearing will serve as an inclusive platform for stakeholders to share their perspectives, experiences, best practices and actionable proposals to accelerate progress towards achieving the global goal of reducing road traffic deaths and injuries by at least 50 per cent by 2030, with a view to informing the high-level meeting on improving global road safety on 20 and 21 July 2026 and its progress declaration. It will also provide an opportunity to advance a systemic approach to road safety, encompassing safer infrastructure, vehicles, road users, speeds and post-crash response, supported by stronger data systems and institutional coordination.

Specifically, the hearing will aim to:

- Review progress on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal target 3.6 and the Second Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021–2030.
- Identify key barriers and challenges which continue to limit Member States' financing and implementation of effective road safety measures, and examine the role of global and regional cooperation, including multilateral partnerships, knowledge-sharing mechanisms, and coordinated policy frameworks, in supporting countries to achieve the 2030 target.
- Explore how to promote a whole-of-society approach, where governments play a leading role, and relevant stakeholders also shoulder the shared responsibilities in advancing across all pillars of the Safe System approach (safe roads, safe vehicles, safe road users, safe speeds and effective post-crash response).
- Discuss how road safety can be better integrated into broader development agendas, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, including through its linkages with sustainable transport, urban planning, climate action, public health and social inclusion.

- Reflect on the long-term vision for safe and sustainable mobility systems, including the role of ethical principles, to move towards a world free from road traffic fatalities and serious injuries.

Format and participation

The multi-stakeholder hearing will consist of an opening segment and two panel discussions.

In line with General Assembly resolution 80/247 with regard to the themes of multi-stakeholder panels to be held during the high-level meeting on 20 and 21 July 2026, the themes for the panel discussions of the hearing will also be as follows:

Panel 1: Strengthening multisectoral coordination for road safety, drawing on best practices and lessons from countries successfully reducing road traffic deaths and injuries

Panel 2: Whole-of-government and whole-of-society action for sustainable financing and enhanced capacity

The hearing will bring together senior-level representatives of Member States and members of the United Nations specialized agencies, observers of the General Assembly, parliamentarians, representatives of local governments, relevant United Nations entities, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, invited civil society organizations, philanthropic foundations, academia, medical associations, the private sector and broader communities. It will also ensure the participation and voices of women, children, youth, Indigenous Peoples, people of African descent and persons with disabilities.

There will be no pre-established list of speakers. Participants wishing to take the floor are invited to press the microphone button. The time limit will be three minutes for individual statements and five minutes for statements on behalf of groups. The time limit will be strictly enforced by means of automatic microphone cut-off.

The meeting will be broadcast on UN WebTV.

Programme Outline

Time	Segment
10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	Opening Segment
10:20 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.	Panel Discussion 1
11:40 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Panel Discussion 2

Outcome

As mandated by General Assembly resolution 80/247, the President of the General Assembly will prepare a summary of the hearing prior to the high-level meeting on improving global road safety.