

Resolution 338 (S-VII) Establishment of an Arab integrated road safety observatory

The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,

Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution [74/299](#) of 31 August 2020 on improving global road safety, which took into account the importance of strengthening institutional capacity and continuing international cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, cooperation between countries that share roads across borders and cooperation among regional and international organizations, to further support efforts to improve road safety worldwide,

Recalling also the [political declaration of the high-level meeting on improving global road safety](#), adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 1 July 2022, which called for strengthening international cooperation on road safety through sharing of good practices, successful implementation mechanisms and technical standards; promoting capacity-building, knowledge-sharing and technical support; and encouraging research and improving and harmonizing disaggregated data collection on road safety, including those gathered from regional road safety observatories,

Noting initiatives to establish regional road safety observatories worldwide, including the [European Road Safety Observatory](#), the [African Road Safety Observatory](#), the Ibero-American Road Safety Observatory, and the [Asia Pacific Road Safety Observatory](#), which stemmed from recognizing the importance of creating a space for collaboration between neighbouring countries that belong to a similar environment, and that regional road safety observatories make significant contributions to the production of unified regional data and indicators, which are key to formulating regional measures for road safety in line with global goals and targets,

Recognizing the need to establish a similar institutional mechanism in the Arab region, comparable to those in other regions, to help build the capacity of Arab States and their institutions to develop effective and evidence-based national policies and strategies to improve road safety, and to develop and adapt tools and methods for managing and analysing road crash data in the Arab region based on consistent evidence and standards, in line with international best practices,

Acknowledging the need for Arab countries to provide adequate data, benefit from the applications of the digital revolution and available complementary tools that help increase the efficiency of data collection and analysis systems, simplify and increase the speed and accuracy of procedures, and implement projects to improve infrastructure,

Recalling the recommendations issued by its Committee on Transport and Logistics at its twenty-second session, held in Cairo on 6 and 7 December 2021, to complete the stages of establishing an Arab integrated road safety observatory, and to welcome the offer made by Morocco to host the observatory, in accordance with the criteria set by the Commission and the procedures and regulations of the United Nations,

Having reviewed the proposal to establish an Arab integrated road safety observatory, set out in document [E/ESCWA/S-7/13](#),

1. *Welcomes* the establishment of an Arab integrated road safety observatory, using resources from outside the United Nations regular budget, to support member States by undertaking functions including the below:

(a) Providing a regional platform to assist member States in developing effective and evidence-based national policies and strategies to improve road safety, and exchanging best practices, lessons learned and successful experiences;

(b) Discussing the challenges faced by member States in the field of road safety, the tackling of which requires a regional vision;

(c) Developing and adapting tools and methods for managing and analysing road crash data in the Arab region, in line with international best practices;

(d) Creating and managing a regional database of road safety policies and data;

(e) Contributing to training of trainers to build national and local capacities in formulating and implementing evidence-based policies to improve road safety.

2. *Also welcomes* the offer by Morocco to host the observatory, in accordance with the procedures and regulations followed by the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to submit a report on progress in implementing the present resolution to the Commission at its thirty-first session.

Fourth plenary session

21 December 2022