



**United Nations Road Safety Trust Fund**  
**Advisory Board**  
**Fourth session**  
**Geneva, 8 July 2020**

List of decisions of the Advisory Board at its fourth session.

## **1. Adoption of the Agenda**

The Advisory Board adopted the agenda of its fourth session (UNRSTF/AB/7).

The following Advisory Board members participated: Chair of the Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) (Chair of the Fund's Advisory Board), Argentina, European Union, Russian Federation, Sweden, FIA- Foundation, Pirelli, Total Corporate Foundation, Korea Automobile Testing and Research Institute (KATRI), Federation International de l'Automobile (FIA), Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety, UNECE, WHO, World Bank, United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Road Safety, Chair of the UNRSF Steering Committee, the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO), Netherlands Institute for Road Safety Research (SWOV) and the UNRSF secretariat.

The number of Advisory Board members participating, as per Rule 35 of Rules of Procedure, constituted a quorum.

## **2. Report on progress under the UNRSF**

The UNRSF secretariat reported on progress under the UN Road Safety Fund (UNRSF) since the third session of the Advisory Board on 3 September 2019. This update included, inter alia, information on the status of resource mobilization, progress in the implementation of the five pilot projects, the operationalization of the ten projects approved under the 2019 Call for Proposals and direct access to the Fund's resources by non-UN organizations. It also included the recommendations of the informal virtual workshop organized by the secretariat on 25 June 2020 at the request of the 5th session of the Steering Committee held on 21 May 2020.

The Advisory Board noted with appreciation the documents prepared under this agenda item and expressed appreciation over the progress of the Fund since its last session in September 2019. Members discussed the critical need for resource mobilization at this stage of the Fund's existence, notwithstanding current challenges with the Covid-19 pandemic. The secretariat was recommended to integrate resource mobilization with its communications efforts, underlining the Fund's unique values as a UN fund.

The members endorsed working towards a target of additional minimum cash deposits of US\$ 10 million from direct contributions by the end of 2021.

Following a detailed discussion, the Advisory Board did not agree upon a minimum level of cash contributions for future donors to the Fund. However, the Board endorsed setting minimum contribution thresholds in order to address the operational costs of managing donor contributions while exploring ways to recognize the willingness of donors who want to make small contributions. The Board furthermore discussed a differentiated approach whereby the minimum threshold for private sector donors (considering the higher administrative costs of the due diligence process among other things) should be higher than for the public sector contributors. This will be discussed further at a next session of the Board.

The Advisory Board welcomed the "Movism" innovative financing initiative by FIA and emphasized the importance of launching it in 2021, which would allow for a sustainable and long-term solution to UNRSF resource-mobilization. The Advisory Board called upon its members to support the Fund through direct pledges or advocacy, seeking a better balance between contributions from the private and public sector.

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Finally, the Advisory Board noted the current end date of 31 December 2021 and agreed on the extension of the UNRSF until 31 December 2030, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the new road safety targets in the Stockholm Declaration expected to be adopted by the General Assembly later this year.

The Advisory Board noted that the recruitment process of the new Head of the UNRSF secretariat was at its final stages for endorsement by the Central Review Body and approval by the Executive Secretary of UNECE since 15 May 2020. Members urged to accelerate the finalization of this crucial recruitment as soon as possible.

### **3. Strategy and priorities for the 2020 Call for Proposals**

At its fifth session on 21 May 2020, the Steering Committee had discussed the good practices and lessons learned from the 2019 Call for Proposals process (UNRSTF/SC/2020(2)/1), and had issued a decision (UNRSTF/SC/10) requesting the secretariat to organize an informal virtual workshop in June, in advance of the July session of the Advisory Board to further discuss the approach for the UNRSF 2020 Call for Proposals. Recommendations from the workshop were also presented under this agenda item for consideration by the Advisory Board during its deliberations on the strategy and priority(ies) for the 2020 Call for Proposals.

The Advisory Board decided to launch the 2020 Call for Proposals with the overall disbursement amount of US\$ 4 million. The Call will be launched as a thematic limited circulation Call communicated by the secretariat to the 11 participating UN organizations (PUNOs) focal points. The PUNOs will then manage the Call process directly with their respective counterparts.

The Advisory Board stressed that the Call must prioritize projects that have a real and significant impact on road safety in low- and middle-income countries. The Board agreed that the specific thematic areas for the 2020 Call for Proposals would be determined by the Steering Committee based on likelihood of impact through alignment with national priorities, opportunities for synergies and avoiding duplications with other road safety funds and programmes.

The Advisory Board recommended the Steering Committee to partially connect the 2020 Call for Proposals with the changing priorities of governments as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic with respect to building better and safer mobility. Possible areas of consideration could be active mobility, vulnerable road users and speed management. A few members noted the importance of data on road accidents and, in this respect, the road safety observatories.

The Advisory Board emphasized the importance of partnerships and leveraging other resources, including co-financing in selecting new projects under the 2020 Call.

The Advisory Board suggested connecting the 2020 Call for Proposals better with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals to emphasize the importance of interconnections with other key development challenges.

The Advisory Board endorsed the Steering Committee's proposal to introduce a two-stage system for selecting projects and to revise the appraisal process. The Advisory Board also highlighted the need for extended window for project submission, up to three months.

### **4. Earmarking**

The Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) presented the document (UNRSTF/AB/2020(1)/2-UNRSTF/SC/2020(3)/2) under this agenda item, which provides possible options on earmarking to

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allow the Advisory Board to provide counsel to the Steering Committee, which will be requested to decide on its implementation within the Fund.

The Advisory Board debated different perspectives on earmarking of donor contributions and agreed to maintain flexibility with respect to earmarking, should it elicit greater contributions to the Fund.

Some members preferred earmarking at the regional level, defined by the regional scope of the UN Regional Commissions - subject to confirmation by MPTFO, there should be five regions for earmarking corresponding to the member states allocation for each regional commission.

In conclusion, members agreed to a principle of allowing earmarking under the following conditions: contributions of at least US\$ 2 million, only a percentage of the total contribution should be earmarked, and earmarking should be done at the regional level, not at the country or outcome levels. The exact split of percentage and targeting of regions will be negotiated with donors on a case-by-case basis by the MPTFO and the secretariat, with the approval of the Steering Committee.

## **5. Election of officers**

The secretariat presented Information document No. 2, containing a summary of nominations received by the UNRSF secretariat for the next two-year term of the Advisory Board (2020-2022).

The Advisory Board welcomed the nominations of membership for Advisory Board seats for the next two-year term.

On the election of the Chair of the Advisory Board (Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure) to serve for the period of the next biennium, the Advisory Board requested the secretariat to proceed to a new round of consultations with the United Nations member states donors and the United Nations member states that represent the United Nations regions to identify eventual candidacies for the seat of the Chair of the Advisory Board by the end of July 2020. The Advisory Board members will be invited to elect the Chair among the candidates during an email procedure with a deadline of 14 August. The secretariat shall inform the Advisory Board about the election of the Chair by 20 August 2020, at the latest.

## **6. Other business**

The secretariat informed the Advisory Board that it has updated its website with the list of adopted decisions and agendas of previous sessions.

No other items were discussed.

## **7. Date and place of next meeting**

The next session of the Advisory Board will take place after the conclusion of the 2020 Call for Proposals funding cycle latest by mid-2021.

## **8. Adoption of the decisions**

The Advisory Board adopted the list of decisions of its fourth session via a 72-hour silence procedure (UNRSTF/SC/10).