**Qatar Continues Road Safety Progress and Celebration the WDR**

The Qatar National Vision aims to transform Qatar into an advanced country by 2030; a country capable of sustaining its own development and providing for a high standard of living for its entire people.

The National Traffic Safety Committee (NTSC) has been established (President is the **HE Prime Minister and Minister of Interior);**

to provide leadership for road safety, and oversee implementation of the National Road Safety Strategy 2013-2022 (NRSS) which has identified major obstacles, role of 30 associated agencies, 250 action plans and supported by ambitious 10 year targets to reduce the annual number of road fatalities to 130 by 2022, and reduce the number of serious injuries to 300 by 2022.

In keeping with this vision, the National Traffic Safety Office (NTSO) has been established to monitor implementation, to create state of the art transport system that would meet the needs of the country well beyond the highly anticipated 2022 Football World Cup. In 2016, the NTSC has joined the UN Road Safety Collaboration as a full member to promote road safety at national and regional levels.

The current number of the registered vehicles is over 1 million, while the major length of roads is 6824 km. Transport sector is the leading industry growth with the total budget of $75 billion. The total number of road accident fatalities was 227 in 2015.

Regarding road safety progress in Qatar, the 2015 fatality figure has been identified as a base year for the 2016-2022 action plan and this means reduction of 14 fatalities per annum to achieve the 2022 target of 130 fatalities. In October 2016, Qatar has achieved reduction of 43 fatalities compared with 2015.

In connection with support of the UN events, the NRSS is celebrating the WDR annually, and has adopted the safe system concept, the UN Decade of Action 2011-2020, and the latest UN Sustainable Development Goals where Qatar currently ranks as 49 worldwide and 1st in the Middle East according to the SDGs report of June 2016.

The NTSC continues its road safety activities during October-December 2016 to speed achievements of the 2022 goals through:

* Participation at the 2016 international Road Safety Forum in Qatar.
* Participation at the Road Safety training program of the local cadres jointly with the Qatar Transport and Road Safety Center and IRF.
* Participation at the 11th International Exhibition of Homeland Security (Milipol) – Seminar Program.
* Participation at the Public Transport Seminar, jointly with the Mowasalat, Traffic Department, IRU, and Ministry of Transport and Communications.
* Participation at the international Highways and Bridges Conference in Qatar.
* **Organization of Workshop, Activities and Exhibition during the WDR2016 under ‘Vital Post Crash Actions: Medical Care - Investigations - Justice’ jointly with the Ministry of Public Health, Traffic Police Department and Ministry of Interior on 20 November 2016, at the Traffic Police Department Complex as of 8.30 am.**
* **Organization of the 2nd Workshop of the Interagency Coordinators of the NRSS on 21 November 2016, at Hilton Hotel, Doha as of 8.30 am.**
* Finalization of the current Action Plan and commencement of the 2017-2022 action plan 6 month earlier, to cover 16 priority sectors including road safety management, safe roads, safe vehicles, safe road users, post-crash response, safe speed, land use planning, accident information system, emergency system, transport services, insurance, and Monitoring and Evaluation.
* **Organization of the Road Safety Forum of the International Leaders during 14-15 December 2016 to promote implementation of the Action Plan of the NRSS and assess the 2017-2022 Action Plan.**

**Contact**: Prof Dr Kim Jraiw

 Manager of the National Traffic Safety office, NTSC, Qatar

Email: kimjraiw@yahoo.com.au