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Working Party on Road Traffic Safety
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agenda item 4 (a))

**REVISION OF THE CONSOLIDATED RESOLUTION
ON ROAD TRAFFIC (R.E.1)**

**Note by the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims (FEVR)
on assistance to victims**

**Interim report on the development of the recommendations
of the thirty eighth session of WP.1**

The Working Party on Road Traffic Safety (WP.1) at its thirty-eighth session invited the small group on assistance to road victims (France, Israel, FEVR and IFRC) to develop the first three recommendations of document TRANS/WP.1/2002/7 of the 2001 Budapest workshop on assistance to victims, namely the harmonization of the definition of deaths and injuries in road accidents, support for the implementation of the resolution TRANS/WP.1/2001/7 on assistance to victims of road accidents and the first-aid kit.

1. Harmonization of the definition of deaths and injuries

Experience often shows that the number of deaths and injuries reported by UN/ECE is significantly lower than those furnished by hospitals or insurance companies. Improving the reliability of these figures is thus seen to be necessary.

The definitions proposed in document TRANS/WP.6/2001/2 are simple and clear and are not therefore called in question. The under-reporting relates to the methods of data collection and/or processing.

In the document "*Reliability and harmonization of statistics on the number of people killed and injured in road traffic accidents*" (see document TRANS/WP.1/2002/35/Add.1), FEVR looked at the question in detail and proposed a mathematical relation (algorithm) between the data furnished by the two main sources - the police services and the hospitals. The document has been submitted to the Chairman of the Working Party on Transport Statistics (WP.6) for discussion at the next session (Geneva, 25-29 November 2002) which will take place at the same time as the fortieth session of WP.1.

It is not impossible that the question will be taken up by EUROSTAT and ECMT, both of which are also directly concerned.

2. Support for the implementation of the resolution on assistance to victims of road accidents

The resolution appearing in document TRANS/WP.1/2001/7 mentions the essential areas to be developed in order to improve assistance to victims of road accidents. A compilation and synthesis of the practices employed in these areas could constitute a document that would facilitate the implementation of the resolution by Governments. As things stand, FEVR has identified the main chapters of this document. They are presented below.

Purpose of the document: support to Governments in establishing the resolution on assistance to victims of road accidents.

Contents: each chapter will present existing practices involving assistance to victims of road accidents. Each practice will be formatted in such a way as to make it comprehensible in contexts other than its original context.

- (1) General introduction
 - (a) Statistics of deaths and injuries in road accidents
 - (b) Value of assistance to victims of road accidents in the context of road safety
 - (c) The role of the first witness furnishing first aid in the emergency assistance and care system
- (2) Rapid alert systems
- (3) First-aid instruction and driving licences
 - (a) Means of ensuring the competence of first-aid drivers

- (b) Areas to be covered in a first-aid teaching curriculum
- (c) Promoting first aid among drivers
- (d) First-aid equipment in vehicles
- (4) Medical emergency assistance systems
 - (a) Means of response: organization, mobilization and coordination
 - (b) Response procedures
- (5) References (provisional list)
 - (a) UN/ECE resolution TRANS/WP.1/2001/7 “Assistance to victims of road accidents” contained in the revision of Consolidated Resolution R.E.1
 - (b) Council Directive 91/439/EEC on driving licences
 - (c) Directive 2000/56/EC of 14 September 2000, amending the above Directive (Official Journal of the European Communities L 237/45 to 57).

Also in this regard, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has requested the national Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the World Health Organization to identify practices which could help Governments to implement the resolution. This consultation is currently being analysed.

3. First-aid kit

The aim of this chapter is to update the definition of the contents of the first-aid kit as defined several decades ago and included in the Consolidated Resolution on Road Traffic (R.E.1), revision 5 (symbol TRANS/SC.1/294/Rev.5, January 1998). In order to facilitate its implementation in different contexts, it is proposed to give greater importance to the purposes for which the kit is used. The equipment mentioned is cited as an example and as exhaustively as possible. However, adjustments may be envisaged to the contents and/or the quantities in view of current practices in which the kit will be used. This list represents an acceptable minimum only.

In this regard, IFRC has also asked for recommendations from the national Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the World Health Organization. The replies are being analysed.

The following table represents current thinking:

ACTION	CONTENTS	CHARACTERISTICS and EXAMPLES	QUANTITY
Reminder of actions to assist victims of road accidents	Information booklet - emergency numbers and alert message - securing the accident area - first-aid actions	"Pocket-size" format	1
Alarm	- Reminder of emergency numbers and details of alert message - Blank-page notebook for noting the alert message - Pencil or pen	- "Pocket size" card or windscreen sticker - "Pocket size"	1 1 1
Marking the accident zone	- Triangle or beacon or light stick - Reflecting jacket		- 1 triangle or 3 beacons or 1 stick - 1 (or 2) jacket(s)
Container	- To contain the items detailed below and ensure their protection against impacts, dust and dripping water - Of a distinctive colour and/or with a distinctive sign - Easy opening and closing		1
Protection of the victim against cold or heat	- Isothermic blanket	210 x 160 cm - very visible colour	1
Control of bleeding	- Pair of gloves - Absorbent dressing	Non sterile- non-latex - large 1 gauze bandage (10 cm x 4 m - cotton) + 2 compresses (10 x 12 cm - viscose/wool - capacity of absorption 2g/cm ²) one of which is fixed to the bandage + 2 safety pins	2

ACTION	CONTENTS	CHARACTERISTICS and EXAMPLES	QUANTITY
Treating simple wounds	- Towelette impregnated with non-iodized antiseptic	Chlorhexidine, 0.05%	4
	- Adhesive dressing	Assorted sizes	1 small box
Stabilizing traumatisms	Triangular bandage	136 x 96 x 96 cm - 100% cotton or viscose	2
Artificial respiration	- Means of restricting direct contact during mouth-to-mouth or mouth-to-nose treatment		1
Various items	- Pair of scissors	Sufficiently strong to cut material (e.g. a safety belt)	1
	- Safety pins	Large	4
