



IRSA – Association  
Staff bureau  
Zekeringstraat 17, 1014 BM AMSTERDAM  
P.O. Box 14852, 1001 LJ  
AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands  
Tel:+31 205708930, fax:+31 205708989  
Email: [office@irsa-association.org](mailto:office@irsa-association.org)

## **News Release**

Amsterdam, 11 September 2006.

### ***The first International Road Safety Academy in Africa***

A new IRSA has been successfully established in Ethiopia.

The President of the Board of IRSA – Ecuador, Dr. Tsega Kebede, also member of the Board of the IRSA – Association and his colleague Dr. Muluken Melese have been successful in establishing IRSA – Ethiopia.

The Ethiopian national authorities have approved the establishment and in October the IRSA – Ethiopia office will be opened in Addis Ababa.

The Director of the Staff Bureau considers this as a new and historical step in the endeavour to improve road safety in Africa and Ethiopia in particular. 3 years of preparation, discussion and organizing the first training courses without a local entity have come to an end.

During the first year (2007) IRSA – Ethiopia will carry out its programs under the auspices of IRSA – Association.

The management of IRSA - Ethiopia and the Staff Bureau will start immediately with the preparation of a series of road safety training programs. The first training is scheduled for December 2006.

As from 2008 it is foreseen that IRSA – Ethiopia will have its own sources for financing the road safety activities on a permanent basis.

The establishment of the IRSA – Ethiopia and the organization of the trainings in 2006 and 2007 have been made possible by support of the World Road Safety Fund.