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## **NEWS RELEASE**

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008.  
Subject: Adaptation of UN Road Safety Resolution

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Today 31st March 2008 can be considered as an historical day for Road Safety. On the initiative of the permanent Representative of the Sultanate of Oman at the UN endorsed by its ambassador His Excellence Fuad Mubarak Al Hinai a new Road Safety Resolution has been adopted unanimously by the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Representatives of the governments of Thailand, Vietnam, Russia, USA, Mexico, Costa Rica, India, Ukraine, and Slovenia emphasized the urgent need to prioritize road safety to the highest level and all spoke for the first time about a serious crisis. In accordance to the figures of the WHO and the World Bank it is now the leading cause of death for people between 10 and 24 years old.

Many representatives of NGO's and governments were present during the meeting of the General Assembly between 10 am and 13 pm. Hereafter a briefing session was organized by the UN Platform MAKE ROADS SAFE with 7 speeches of representatives of the Commission for Global Road Safety.

The GA stressed the importance of addressing global road safety issues and the need for further strengthening international cooperation, taking into account the needs of developing countries by building capacity in the field of road safety, and providing financial and technical support for their efforts.

The Resolution included the request to organize a high-level (ministerial) conference about road safety in 2009. The government of the Russian Federation offered to host this important meeting next year in Moscow. NGO's are requested to deliver their contribution, ideas or suggestions to the Commission for Global Road Safety

The former NATO "boss" Lord Robertson of the Port of Eileen, Scotland emphasised the importance of this resolution, which has been accomplished within 4 years starting with the WHO Report on global road safety and the urgent need to prioritize globally the attention for this serious topic. There's no turning back and we must join all efforts to combat this road carnage before it costs even more millions of lives in the coming decade.

On behalf of the Institute for Traffic Care and the IRSA – Association PTM, present at the GA meeting, offered full support to achieve the goals and objectives as formulated by the UN Global Road Safety Platform and decided by the GA in the Resolution.