



Save the Nation Association (SNA)
Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)

5th November 2019

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PRESS RELEASE

Requesting the Government to take a firm stand on the traffic injury that is threatening the public

Tuesday, 5th November 2019: Addis Ababa. Reports of the increasing number of people killed or seriously injured on Ethiopia's roads is "atrocious" and Save the Nation (SNA) demands urgent focus of action by the Minister. There is an urgent need for a significant shift in policy that will result in far fewer losses of lives on our roads.

The Ethiopian Federal Police 2018/19 Road traffic fatalities and injury report showed 4,597 people died, 7,754 severely injured 7,775 moderately injured and 34,141,345. USD property damage. Overall more than 405 people are killed every month, many more are left seriously injured, and each incident is a tragedy for the individuals and the families involved. Only this number is registered by the police. Save the Nation believes that there are many unregistered people who are victims of car accidents. As a result of these victims many homes were closed, children left without parents and the elderly were left without a caretaker. Mothers are forced to raise children without a father, Fathers forced to raise children without a mother. Students and employees forced to stay home to take care of their injured families. As a result, citizens are traumatized and lead to deep poverty.

11/5/2019

Over 55 per cent of all road deaths are pedestrians, motorcyclist and cyclists, including children and women. We urge government to show us how they will address these fatalities.

Of particular concern are the rises in fatalities among passengers on public transport such as minibuses and a spike in fatalities on motorways – some worrying trends are emerging here that require immediate investigation.

Mesganaw Bimrew, Executive Director for SNA said:

“It is really time the government renews its commitment to this issue which is affecting all communities in society, young and old, and make sure we don’t continue to kill and injure people in ways that could so easily be prevented.

“It is disappointing to see there has been little to no improvement in the number of fatalities on our roads. In light of this, we continue to urge the Government to implement road safety targets to help prevent tragedies in the coming years.”

SNA want to see that Government leads the way in improving road safety but this is a major national issue which also demands close coordination and team-work across government agencies, local government, ministry of Health, police, fire Bridget and a host of other public and private bodies, as well as NGOs, the public as road users. Government cannot act effectively if it works in isolation.

The behavior of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians is a key factor in the cause of these casualties/End.

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NOTE

Who We Are

Save the Nation STN is the nation’s leading Road Safety Charity No: 3403 registered under the Ethiopian Government NGO and a member of the Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety.

- We provide road safety education in primary school, and secondary schools
- We design and implement road safety improvements using iRAP star ratings methodologies
- We develop cost effective road safety programs to increase knowledge, awareness and skills amongst the Ethiopian road users.

- We promote a positive attitude towards enforcement laws and infuse sense of courtesy and concern among road users.
- We reach out to the media, corporates and the community to solicit their support to prevent colossal waste of human life on Ethiopian roads
- Advocate to government to create political will and help improve the road safety situation in the country

Vision

The vision of the Trust is to match and exceed international Road Safety excellence consistent with the Safe System approach to free Ethiopia's roads from death and serious injury. Save the Nation Association seeks to reduce traffic accidents and deaths by creating public awareness, school training, and media outreach.

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