

WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS IN UGANDA HELD ON 21st NOVEMBER 2021 AT UNRA GROUNDS KYAMBOGO-KAMPALA



The Ministry of Works Team joins the Minister for a group photo with Victims of road crashes

Organised By:



Ministry Of Works & Transport
To provide Reliable, Safe works, Transport
Infrastructure & Services

Empowered Drivers, Safer Roads!



Uganda National Roads Authority



Report Authored By: Uganda Professional Drivers' Network (UPDN)

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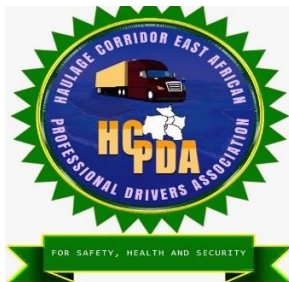
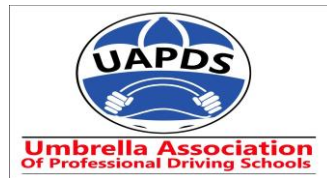
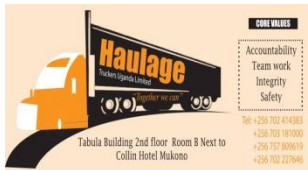


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LIST OF ACRONYMS

WDR	World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims
UPDN	Uganda Professional Drivers Network
UNRA	Uganda National Roads Authority
SWRW	Safe Way Right Way
KCCA	Kampala City Council Authority
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoWT	Ministry of Works and Transport
HOVITA	Hope for Victims of Traffic Accidents
URRENO	Uganda Road Accidents Reduction Network

UMODO	Unified Medium Omnibus Drivers and Owners Association
HTU	Haulage Truckers Uganda
HC-EA	Haulage Corridor East Africa
ITSL	Integrated Transport Systems Limited
GLA	Graben Logistics Academy
UBDAA	Uganda Bus Drivers Association Alliance
UBDA	United us Drivers Alliance
IRCU	Inter Religious Council of Uganda
PS	Permanent Secretary

Executive Summary

For Three years (Since 2019), The Uganda Professional Drivers' Network (UPDN) in partnership with The Inter Religious Council of Uganda (IRCU), including other private sector/civil society players in Road Safety as Integrated Transport Systems Limited (ITSL), Graben Logistics Academy (GLA), Prestige Driving School, Safe Way Right Way (SWRW) and Government of Uganda have successfully coordinated National Commemoration for WDR in Uganda aiming to bring together experts from different fields to share knowledge (what they are doing) and experiences regarding the increasingly worrying situation of road safety in Uganda. The intention is to work with organisations involved in promoting road safety in Uganda, prioritising Kampala including; but not limited to: the BIRGS programme partners, UNRA, KCCA, MoWT, UNRA, UPDN, URRENO, HOVITA, SWRW and for all parties to pool their resources into one day.

Objectives:

- Highlight key road safety issues which have led to increased accident rates
- Impact – economic impact, mental health
- Engage Government and private sector agencies on road safety matters
- Generate National Consensus and lay multisectoral strategies to reducing road crashes, deaths and related effects on year by year basis (From 1 WDR to the next)

One hundred Twenty-one people (*see appendix 2*) attended and the facilitation team comprised of members from UPDN, ITSL, UNRA, MoWT, SWRW, KCCA, IRCU and BIRGS (*see appendix 1*).



**The Inter Religious Council of Uganda team led by retired Bishop Luzinda take a photo with
The MoWT Team**

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this event is to remember those who have died in road crashes. In 2020, this figure was 3,663 lives lost.

On average Uganda loses 11 people every day in road traffic crashes (2019 Uganda Traffic Police Report). In 2020 even with the low traffic volumes due to restrictions of movements of vehicles as COVID19 precaution directives, Uganda still lost 3,663 people in road traffic crashes. Looking at the figures of 3 past years; 2018(3,689), 2019(3,880) and 2020(3,663), averages 3,744 lives. This is equivalent to 107 buses with 35 passengers with the current COVID19 restrictions of half capacity.

In May 2011, The Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011– 2020 was launched globally. From Sri Lanka to Albania and from Ethiopia to Peru, presidents and prime ministers; ministers of transport, health and others; heads of international agencies; chief executive officers of companies; road traffic injury victims and their families; and other concerned citizens expressed their commitment to the goal of the Decade: saving five million lives. In most of over 100 countries which celebrated the launch, nongovernmental organizations played an important role through the advocacy events they hosted to bring the Decade to the attention of the public.

The Plan of Action will align with the [Stockholm Declaration](#), which emphasizes the importance of a holistic approach to road safety, and calls on continued improvements in the design of roads and vehicles; enhancement of laws and law enforcement on behavioural risks such as speeding and drinking and driving; and provision of timely, life-saving emergency care for the injured. This new Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030 provides an opportunity for harnessing the successes and lessons of previous years and building upon them to save more lives.

1.2 WDR COMMEMORATION-UGANDA

Last year we commemorate the 25th anniversary of the international observance of this Day Dedicated to remembering the many millions of road traffic victims throughout the world – begun by the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims (FEVR) in 1995 and adopted by the UN General Assembly Resolution 60/5 on 26th October 2005 as an “appropriate acknowledgement for victims of road traffic crashes and their families”. Public remembrance of the road traffic victims is not for the benefit of the victims to remember what happened to them, but it is a day for public reflection which is an act of recognition. It states to the victims and their families that their humanity is valued and that their loss is our loss and that we share in their suffering.

WDR 2021 puts the spotlight on the reduction of traffic speeds – Low speeds, which have the Potential to prevent many deaths and serious injuries, in particular those of pedestrians and all other vulnerable road users – children, elderly and the disabled. The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims (WDR) is commemorated on the third Sunday of November each year.

It is a high-profile global event to remember the many millions who have been killed and seriously injured on the world’s roads and to acknowledge the suffering of all affected victims, families and communities – millions added each year to countless millions already suffering: a truly tremendous cumulative toll.

PURPOSE OF THE COMMEMORATION

This Day has also become an important tool for governments and all those whose work involves crash prevention or response to the aftermath of crashes, since it offers the opportunity to demonstrate the enormous scale and impact of road deaths and injuries, call for an end to the often trivial and inappropriate response to road death and injury and advocate for urgent concerted action to stop the carnage.



Stakeholders gather for the commemoration event at Kyambogo UNRA Grounds Kampala

1.1 Purpose statement & Approach

On World Day we too pay tribute to the dedicated emergency crews, police and medical professionals, who deal daily with the traumatic aftermath of road crashes. As every year, the objectives of WDR 2021 was to provide a platform for road traffic victims and their families to:

- Remember all people killed and seriously injured on the roads;
- Acknowledge the crucial work of the emergency services
- Draw attention to the generally trivial legal response to culpable road deaths and injuries

- Advocate for better support for road traffic victims and victim families;
- Promote evidence-based actions to prevent and eventually stop further road traffic deaths and injuries

Uganda Professional Drivers Network (UPDN) for the 3rd year is coordinating the day for commemoration of road traffic victims in Uganda that took place on November 21st 2021, to join the rest of the world in the remembrance of road traffic victims in our country. The purpose of this commemoration is to bring to national attention the devastating impact of road deaths and injuries on families and a call to action on the Government of Uganda to come up with a national post-crash responses strategy to effectively support people affected by road traffic crashes.

1.2 Target participants

- Commercial Drivers' Associations
- Licensed Driving Schools
- Driver Employers
- Accident Victims and Survivors
- Police
- Government
- General road users
- Legal Experts
- Public Health Experts/Practitioners
- Transport and road infrastructure experts
- National Logistics Platform (representatives of truck drivers)




Jemima from KCCA chats The Director Infrastructure Protection UNRA at the event and behind, participants chatting at leisure after the event

1.3 Outcome and Impact

- The 2019 commemoration was to enable us call upon our Government to provide a universal mechanism for timely emergency care, medical treatment, security, psychological support, and rehabilitation for the injured. They should also investigate crashes and provide justice to the injured and the bereaved. This saw the country increasing on the fleet of Ambulances for Emergency Medical Services under Uganda Red cross, Ministry of Health and other partners, including positioning some along major highways in 2020.
- The 2020 commemoration on the other hand, saw us advocating for improved standards for driver training including relevant legal framework for improved road transport that strengthened the amendment of The Traffic and Road Safety Act 2020; including recent efforts of The Ministry of Works and Transport in regulating operations of driving schools, the boda boda industry, taxi operators among other compendium of laws introduced in the amended Act.
- The 2021 commemoration was meant to support stakeholders to generate National consensus on how to achieve the global decade of Action Slogan: **REMEMBER SUPPORT ACT and 2021 Theme of Act for Low speeds/Act for Low-speed Streets through effective laws, regulations and enforcement to achieve 50% reduction in road crashes by 2030. The Minister for Works and Transport used the function to support the proposal of 30km/hr for built up areas and instructed his team to fast track it's inclusion of the proposal in the law**

1.4 Related literature

1. <https://www.kcca.go.ug/news/503/world-day-of-remembrance#.Yao9HtBBzIU>
2. <https://www.ntv.co.ug/ug/news/national/gov-t-strategises-to-end-road-accidents--3626680>
3. https://twitter.com/MoWT_Uganda/status/1462108586465796108?t=kDY-DGIMrWKnA8cFzut-Ow&s=08
4.  DOR REPORT DM 2021.pdf
5. <https://www.africa-press.net/uganda/all-news/govt-calls-for-strict-action-to-reduce-car-crash-deaths>
6. <https://ugmirror.com/index.php/2019/11/18/professional-drivers-urge-government-on-more-emergency-response-training/>
7. <https://bazzup.com/blog/the-situation-of-boda-transport/>

2 Event Proceedings

2.1 Arrival and Registration

Participants started arriving as early as 7:30am including the Minister for Works and Transport who arrived by 8:20am. All participants went through a security check and were registered by the UPDN Team.

2.2 Anthems and Opening Prayer

The function begun by 9:30am as planned with the singing of the National Anthem and later opening prayers led by The IRCU team

2.3 Welcome remarks by UNRA

Present members were welcomed to the commemoration of WDR for road traffic victims in Uganda 2021 by Eng. JB Sejjemba and confirmed the commitment of UNRA in supporting improved National road safety through construction and maintenance of National roads then contributing to awareness campaigns and related programs.

The Director, continued to explain to the gathering several efforts of UNRA into ensuring that National Roads are not only safe but they meet the standards for safety of all road users.

He said when they were contacted by UPDN for support in terms of commemoration grounds; they offered additional support among which were 700 copies of the high way code in different languages and pledged commitment to continued support; 'We have assured the UPDN team that our doors remain open for further engagement on how we can cooperate further towards reducing road crashes in Uganda', said Sejjemba.

He welcomed celebrants and asked them to feel at home including wishing for a successful event.

2.31 Welcome remarks by Organisers

Madam Jemima, who represented KCCA as one of the organisers of the event started the speech from organisers. She introduced herself as to come from The Road Safety Department of KCCA. She mentioned the several efforts of her department with especially support from Bloomberg in areas of supporting Kampala Road Safety Program and supporting informing decisions on Kampala city infrastructure development in a manner that meets future needs of the city and caters for the need of all road users.

She extended commitment of KCCA to ensuring every road user in Kampala is safe and expressed their jolly for having been among the organisers of the WDR for Uganda and pledged their continued support into improving National Road Safety situation with Kampala, being responsible for the highest number of crashes though usually less fatal.

UPDN Executive Director took over and introduced the UPDN stakeholders; The Chairperson Board of Director, UPDN founding Drivers' and Licensed Training schools' Associations among whom

included; UMODO, HTU, UBDA, UBDA, HC-EA, RHTDA, UNLDTA, ATGWU, Prestige Driving School, Graben Logistics Academy, UDSA including partners as IRCU, Apex Loads, SWRW, KCCA, Q-Sourcing Servtec, ITSL, UNRA

Explained that 'UPDN is an umbrella organisation for drivers' associations/organisations and related stakeholders. UPDN was established in 2015 at a time of when many drivers' associations were characterized by limited organization which adversely affected coordination in pursuit to common objectives of better welfare, common voice and professionalism. UPDN was hence established to build skills for professional development, coordination for unified voice of drivers on road safety agenda and to strengthen driver organizations for better welfare of their members.'

Mentioned their Achievements as:

- Successfully organized for 3 years now WDR for victims in Uganda and The Annual Drivers' Conference.
- Worked with SWRW and UDSA with funding from PSFU and supported the 2 training schools with training trucks, certified informal learning for 270 HGV drivers, trained and certified 3 HGV driver trainers and procured a commercial driver database for UPD, currently having 9,000 truck drivers' data. Mentioned that they were looking at refreshing 50% of the 9,000 in the following one year
- Worked with HGV driver training schools to form Umbrella Association of Professional Driving Schools' (Prestige Driving School, UDSA and Graben Logistics Academy coordinated at UPDN and was in talks with SWRW and others to join). The Association, he said was meant to harmonise standards of trainers, training content and support capacity building then sharing of best practices including training materials, data of trained drivers, equipment and human resources. Their plan for 2022 would be to harmonise driver data, standards for trainers, regulate pricing and centralize examination for trainers and drivers. We aim to support vaccination of 15,000 truck drivers accounting for 50% of estimated transit trucks
- During COVID19 they worked with Truck Drivers' Associations, supported by Transaid, ATGWU and SWRW to complement The Ministry of Health efforts in peer sensitization of over 10,000 truck drivers, gave out PPEs to over 6,000 truck drivers and recently working with existing truck drivers' associations leaders supported C19 vaccination for 3,412 drivers across Uganda
- Worked With Ministry of Works and Transport in process of amendment of The Traffic and Road Safety Act 2020; supported Government in having in place the demerit system, driver and driving schools' provisions including introduction of deterrent laws for offenders (reckless and careless driving).

- Working with the existing driver training schools, driver trainers, offered continuous professional development training for over 500 drivers, with 317 already linked to formal employment. This included 6 women
- Said UPDN had a digital database of 9,000 Truck drivers and was in talks with the training schools, related development partners and MoWT to agree on how this would be used as a pilot for organizing driver data (self-regulation) and management that could be duplicated to make a National Commercial Driver Database
- He mentioned that they had recently acquired a Toll free line 0800331122 for Commercial drivers that would be launched in the upcoming National Annual Drivers' Conference to support coordinate pertinent road safety issues and have them reach the responsible agencies like red cross in case of road crashes, police or The Ministry and other related Government agencies as UNRA, MoH, etc
- Said they had worked with Drivers' Associations willing to run professional associations to ensure their capacities in Cooperate Governance were built to enable them have effective and responsive organisations. UPDN is currently working with 17 drivers' Associations across Uganda.
- Said they had also recently joined the HOVITA, URRENO collation doing a great job around campaigns for safer school zones, helmet use, speed limit and drunk driving.
- Mentioned that their Cooperation with The Inter Religious Council of Uganda had seen them come that far. Said the bigger plan in their cooperation was to ensure that on such a day all Churches in Uganda would have the same order of service. We have been set to meet the top leadership of IRCU, where we intend to challenge them to actively participate beyond this.
- Concluded by saying they were working well with selected employers as Q-Sourcing Servtec, Prime Fuels, TOTAL, etc and as well happy with a few others like VIVO energy, Mukasa Transporters, NMS etc who use other expert trainers to ensure their drivers were regularly (annually) refreshed and records show they have recorded almost 0% accidents.

Challenges:

- He said some of the challenges remained with the employers; many operators being business minded had not seriously responded to need for professionally trained and formally employed drivers as they saw it as additional costs to their operations other than a National road safety issue.
- Limited resources to carry out capacity building for drivers organisations, driving schools, employers to embrace road safety and integrate them into their organization activities including working with Government in complement compliance to Government regulations
- There was no clear mechanism for the much needed regular review of driver sector research , development of best practices, implementing them including robust joint performance review mechanism with Government and other development partners
- Driving remained an informal trade in Uganda even after introducing the Professional Driver permit
- Private Sector Institutions working for the same cause in the transport industry still continued to pursue individualized strategies as opposed to harmonizing with related stakeholders to pursue common industry needs and jointly manage challenges including achieving bigger impacts at National level

Recommendations/Call to Action:

1. Government needed to urgently consider having in place and implementing the National Road Safety Strategy and an Action Plan aimed at reducing Road crashes and related deaths by 50% by 2030
 - 1a. The road safety plan should include supporting community led approaches (industry led-regulation), especially consortium led initiatives around driving schools, drivers' Associations, employers and efforts of road safety NGOs including innovators (safe boda, apex loads, etc.) complimenting road safety initiatives in Uganda through structured and regular engagement mechanisms.
 - 1b. Include in the Action plan; a Government Managed National Commercial Drivers' Council with meaningful involvement of users (drivers, driving schools, employers) to support Government mandate of regulating practitioners' standards
 - 1c. Fast Track National efforts in ensuring we have at least 50% safe roads in Uganda by 2030; road infrastructure which make every road user feel safe while using the road and ensure sufficient laws are in place to enforce safe school zones, helmet/seatbelt use, drunk driving regulations, speed limits for busy centers
2. Introduce self-paying initiatives as drivers' offenders scheme, certification of commercial driver, etc to complement road safety but also to raise local resources for road safety programs in Uganda
3. Prioritise use of technology led innovations in collection and use of meaningful data as drivers/trainers data, road crash and transport pricing data as all these would

complement critical transport decisions for sustainable road transport safety programs and laws

4. Target education of 80% of road transport users on safe road use by 2030



Organisers join the Ministry of Works team for a group photo after the event

Then finally was SWRW. The C.E.O of Safe Way Right Way started by welcoming participants. Thanked everyone for giving their time to attending the event. Said they were happy to be part of the organisers of the event with KCCA and UPDN.

Said SWRW was founded on principle of road safety and that formed the pillar of their work in Uganda. He continued to mention several initiatives among which were professional training for commercial drivers and trainers for other licensed schools. He recognized the support of different stakeholders, especially Government in supporting their work.

Mentioned that they were in process with their partners Transaid introducing rapid test pilot for truck drivers in Uganda to see how they would contribute to influencing policy change to enable truck drivers use the alternative of rapid test for COVID19 that would be cheaper and take least time; said the Ministry would expect their team anytime to see how they are supported for the smooth implementation of the planned activity.

He concluded that, motorcycles (boda boda) being the biggest source of road crash deaths and injuries; SWRW had chosen with partners to pursue boda boda training for especially Kampala city areas and selected parts of the country for the upcoming two years to ensure they trained boda boda operators with safe riding skills to reverse the heavy burden of boda boda crashes on the Uganda's health system.

2.32 IRCU Service

The Inter-Religious Council of Uganda led by Rt. Rev. Bishop Eria Paul Luzinda (Retired Bishop of Mukono Diocese) who was the main celebrant during the function, representing The Arch Bishop of Church of Uganda took on the podium and referenced Luke 10:25-37

²⁹ But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?”

³⁰ In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. ³¹ A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. ³² So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’³⁶ “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?”³⁷The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.”

Using the above Biblical reference, the Bishop questioned why Ugandans who meet road crash incidents are not compassionate. He continued to question the reason why Government cannot regulate boda boda riders. He decried of the worrying situation of several lives lost and prayed that God blesses organizers for such activities that allow the country to reflect on existing National situation of road safety and agree on commitments of improving this situation.

He concluded by asking Government through the Minister for Works and Transport to prioritize regulations of operators as boda boda including making safer roads for all road users.

The Deputy Mufti 2; Sheikh. Muhamad Ali Waiswa Uganda Muslim Supreme Council took on and used ‘And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided. And remember the favor of Allah upon you - when you were enemies and He brought your hearts together and you became, by His favor, brothers. And you were on the edge of a pit of the Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus, does Allah make clear to you His verses that you may be guided.

Quran 3:103’

‘The believers are nothing else than brothers (in Islamic religion). So, make reconciliation between your brothers, and fear Allah, that you may receive mercy. **Quran 49:10’**

The Deputy Mufti called upon Ugandans to show care and be compassionate to road crash victims. He decried the unfortunate incident of Ugandans usually more interested in taking photos of victims or even stealing their property when involved in road crashes. Concluded by calling upon Government of Uganda to prioritise awareness and enforcement of road safety for improved national road safety situation.

Finally Msgr. Charles Kasibante – Vicar general Kampala Archdiocese also took on the stage and emphasized the call of the previous religious leaders who asked Ugandans to express compassion over road crash victims and act responsibly while using the National road Network.

2.33 Presentation 1: Road Crash Victims

Self-Amputee Help Network. Lady Sharlot who represented the organization narrated her story of how they got involved in an accident in 2019 with a group of friends while returning from a night out. Their car veered off the road and in the process of getting it back on road, the vehicle was over raved and ended up crashing her leg and in that process she lost her leg. She mentioned that it has not been easy especially for the vulnerable who need to access accessories to support them which are usually expensive, in her words-asked Government to intervene to see that poor people are able to access accessories once they get involved in road crashes.

Nicole Foundation. The representative of Nicole Foundation introduced herself as a sister to the late Nicole who was her sister that got involved in a road crash in Kasese and passed on a year ago. The family resolved to start The Nicole Foundation and registered it as a NGO to educate road users on safety practices, things to observe to remain safe while using the road. She gave an example of Nicole changing position when she reached Kasese to sit behind to possibly catch a snap. When the accident happened, she is the only one who died. To her, her sitting position and the fact that the Ambulance took some time to arrive at the scene to deliver her for health services-she was unable to make it.

Nandi Africa played a video of a road crash victim who is equally an amputee, his story was so touching. He encouraged drivers to be patient while using the road. He said if the driver who crashed them was patient for as low as 2 seconds, he wouldn't have ended up as an amputee. Important to note was the delay in arrival of the ambulance, the car was over his leg but then an ambulance and the rescue team arrives almost 5 hours later. He believed that had they arrived earlier than that, his leg should have been saved; mentioning how difficult it is to ably compete with other people with his situation and others like him.

Finally, was the Member of Parliament for Nakawa and former mayor who is a civil engineer and an amputee. He started by thanking God for having kept him alive and narrated his story as; 'I was a young engineer working in Luwero then, riding my motorcycle around town- a woman who was trying to dodge a pot hole knocked me and I flew in air and coming back down my leg was off'. Similar to the Nicole foundation and the gentleman on the Video, The Ambulance delayed

to arrive at the scene and due to over bleeding, my leg couldn't be saved. He said he bought his artificial leg at UGX 70M, which he wondered how vulnerable people can afford including issues like Government still levying taxes on these accessories which he said were uncalled for. Concluded by saying apart from thanking God for being alive and able to afford livelihood, he wondered how the majority vulnerable population with his situation are managing. Explained it was the reason he started a trauma center with 3 car Ambulances and a motorcycle Ambulance as well to usually quickly access accident scenes for immediate access to medical services by road crash victims.



Monsignor Kasibante Vicar General engaging Hon. Balimwezo, a road crash victim after the event

2.34 Presentation 2: Government

Permanent Secretary MoWT: Madam Namagembe who represented the PS, extended his apologies and said she was delegated to represent and read his speech. She read the speech which included; he was greatly honoured to participate at the National World Remembrance day of Road Traffic Victims 2021. Believed that everyone had at some point been or knows someone who has been a victim of a road crash. Thanked the Inter Religious Council for leading the commemoration prayers in remembrance of all the victims especially those who lost their lives to road crashes. Thanked Uganda Professional Driver's Network (UPDN), and partner stakeholders like UNRA, KCCA and Safeway Right way for organizing the event and for the continued contribution to road safety. Commended the synergy. Recognized and thanked the dedicated emergency crews, Uganda Police Force and Medical Professionals,

who deal with the traumatic aftermath of road crashes in order to save lives sometimes under challenging circumstances.

Referenced the Annual Traffic Police Reports, Uganda continued to lose over 3500 people every year to road crashes and leave many more seriously injured. The victims included family bread winners and loved ones whose lives are usually brought to an end unexpectedly leaving a lot of grief and confusion. Said it was important that we took time to remember these families and also reflect on the need to improve road safety a country.

Said the Ministry, in collaboration with Stakeholders was in the process of developing the National Road Safety Action Plan which was being aligned with the Global plan, with Specific actions for each key stakeholder in the country. The Road Safety action plan would guide the implementation of interventions with clear timelines in order to achieve the target of least 50% reduction of road traffic deaths and injuries by 2030.

Thanked all our stakeholders, who tirelessly contributed to road safety efforts and we pledge our commitment to perform their mandate as a Ministry to coordinate your efforts in order to achieve our objective of reducing road crashes in Uganda.

Thanked the technical staff in the Ministry for coordinating the event.

She invited the Hon. Minister of Works and Transport to address the gathering.

Cabinet Minister for Works and Transport: He mentioned that he was honoured to officiate at the National World Remembrance Day in commemoration of Road Traffic Victims 2021.

Said the number of deaths on Ugandan roads remained unacceptably high with an estimated 3,663 deaths reported in 2020 according to the Annual Traffic Police report 2020. Road traffic injuries he said, was the leading cause of death for children between 5 – 14 years and young

adults between 15 – 29 years of age. Said it was reported that Uganda lost 10 people on average every day to road crashes.

The overall annual cost of road crashes to the economy was estimated at 5% of GDP in terms of treatment and lost workforce. In Uganda, he said it translated to a loss of about UGX 5 Trillion according to Uganda Bureau of Statistics Abstract for the year 2019/20. This cost however he said could not quantify the grief caused to families after the loss of bread winners or children to road crashes.

It was therefore important that on WDR, The Country took time not to only pray for the victims but to also make a commitment to reduce the worrying numbers of road carnage.

‘On 28th October 2021, I received the Global Action Plan for Road Safety which was launched globally to guide our interventions towards achieving the target of the second decade of action for Road to halve the number of road crashes by 2030. My ministry is committed to work hard towards achieving this target’.

He said as Uganda developed its own action plan to align with the global one, his Ministry continued to collaborate with all stakeholders in order to have combined efforts towards achieving the set target. Said their participation on National WDR was evidence of such collaboration as we partner with Civil Society Organizations to commemorate the World Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims. He thanked Uganda Professional Drivers’ Network and all other partner stakeholders for organizing this event.

He referenced the Traffic and Road Safety Act, 1998 (Amendment) Act, 2020 which was assented to by His Excellency the President on 15th May 2020 to strengthen transport Services and road safety providing a modern legislative framework to improve traffic and road safety on the country’s road network. Said they were in the process of reviewing and updating the relevant regulations to fully operationalize the new amended Act.

Continued to point out that The Roads Act, 2019 was assented to by His Excellence the President on 4th September 2019 and came into force thereafter. The Roads Act, 2019 addresses several road safety infrastructural interventions among others, aiming at reforming the law relating to the development, management and maintenance of public roads. He pledged Government commitment to continue to improve the road infrastructure services. The road designs would consider the needs of vulnerable users who included pedestrians, cyclists and motor cyclists who often bore the brunt of road traffic accidents.

Said his Ministry in collaboration with Uganda Police had started the process to improve driver training and testing by automating the processes therein. This would minimize human bias and allow learner drivers to undergo rigorous testing to confirm their competences to drive before issuance of the Driving Licenses.

Said he was aware that the Ministry of Health was working tirelessly to improve the emergency medical services by developing a modern ambulance system to help with post-crash response. Once all those would be fully operational, he believed it would significantly improve the management of road crash victims and prevent many deaths due to delayed access to treatment.

‘We join the rest of the World to commemorate the World Remembrance day for Road Traffic Victims in Uganda, with the spotlight on the reduction of traffic speeds – Low speeds, which have the potential to prevent many deaths and serious injuries, in particular those of pedestrians and other vulnerable road users including children, elderly and the disabled.’

He thanked the Inter Religious Council of Uganda for leading the service by praying for the road crash victims. He urged them to continue spreading the message of Road Safety to their believers during prayer gatherings especially with the festive season approaching, usually known for increased road crashes.

He called upon all Stakeholders including Civil Society, Academia, Private sector, Development partners, the Community and Youth leaders, to join hands and combine the effort towards reducing road crashes on our roads.

Saluted the police and medical professionals, who do their best always to save the lives of road crash victims and to prevent more serious injuries through safe and quick evacuation and treatment.

Pledged that with stakeholders' support, his Ministry was positioned to prioritize and implement an integrated Safe System approach that squarely positioned road safety as a key driver of sustainable development. Concluded that actually the target of reducing road crashes by 50% could be achieved by 2025, provided everyone did their role among which included road user education, enabling laws and appropriate enforcement.



Drivers' Association leadership take a group photo with The MoWT Minister and Team

2.35 Commemoration service-IRCU

The retired Bishop of Mukoono who was the chief celebrant led the candle burning session to commemorate the lives lost in 2020 and commit survivors in the hands of God. The Minister lit the candles for the members of the high table signifying hope for The Country, victims and survivors come 2021. God the holy Trinity make you strong and faithful, defend you from every side and guide you in truth and peace; And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you, the drivers and all other road users and remain with you now and always. **All: Amen.**

2.36 Action points:

- The minister guided that at least the Country would be sure to achieve 50% reduction of road crashes by 2025 given robust road user education, appropriate regulations and effective enforcement.



The Host-UNRA joins The MoWT Team for a Group photo after the event

3 APPENDIX

APPENDIX 1: ATTENDANCE LIST

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR DOR 2021-UNRA GROUNDS- KYAMBOGO.

Category	Institution	Name
Government	MoWT (Ministry of Works and Transport)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gen.Katumba Wamala-C.M 2. Barbra Namugambe-Under Secretary 3. Winstone Katushabe-Commissioner Transport Regulations and Safety 4. Judith Karara-Senior Road Safety Officer 5. Michael Kamoga-Road Safety Officer 6. Kasenene Kenneth 7. Eng.Edward Kizito
	UNRA (Uganda National Roads Authority)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Eng. JB Ssejemba- Director Infrastructure Protection 9. Sarah Nduhukire- Road Safety Officer 10. Administrator UNRA Grounds Kyambogo
	KCCA (Kampala City Council Authority)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Jemima Nalumasi 12. Leah Kahunde

Civil Society/Private Sector and Others	UPDN (Uganda Professional Drivers' Network)	13.Omongo Ndugu-Executive Director 14. Charles Edeun- Chairperson BOD 15. Richard Kyomuhendo-Community Liaison 16. Deo Kahiigwa-Master HGV Driver trainer 17. Epiyat Denis- Adminstrator 18. Omasette George- Co-Founder 19. Mutatina Joel- Media Manager
Driving Schools	SWRW (Safe Way Right Way)/Transaid	20.Peter Tibigambwa-C.E.O SWRW 21. Abbie-Transaid 22. Kim-Transaid 23. Anna Ousler-Transaid
	GLA (Graben Logistics Academy)	24. Alison Mutakirwa-General Manager
	Prestige Driving School	25. Ninsima Raymond- Marketing Manager
Civil Society Organisations	HOVITA (Hope for Victims of Road Traffic Victims)	26. Sam Bambaza-Executive Director
	Amputee Self Help Network	27. Sharlot-Executive Director 28. Ronald Balimwezo- Member of Parliament Nakawa East
	Nicole Foundation	29. Janet Nayebale 30. Tracy Rubondo
	ITSL (Integrated Transport Systems Limited)	31. Paul Kwamusi-Managing Director 32. Roy Egessa
Drivers' Associations	Haulage Truckers Uganda	33. Swaleh Abdallah-Chairperson
	Uganda Bus Drivers' Association Alliance	34. Kiwanuka Hannington-Chairperson
	UMODI (Unified Medium-Omni-Bus Drivers' Operators)	35. Muwanga Kalebu Shafik-Chairperson
	(Haulage Corridor East Africa)	36.Mr.Muhwezi Stephen-Chairperson
	United Bus Drivers' Association	37. Kayondo Ibrahim-General Secretary
	Federation Of Taxi Operators'	38. Rashid Mugenyi-Chairperson
	UNLDTA/ATGWU	39. David Musoke-General Secretary
Religious Leaders	IRCU (Inter Religious Council of Uganda)	40. Rev.Wejuli Token-Program Specialists Partnership, Policicy and Advocacy-IRCU 41. Rt.Bishop Eria Luzinda of Mukono Diocese-Chief Celebrant

		42. Monsignor Charles Kasibante-Vicar General Kampala Archdiocese 43. Sheikh Muhamed Ali Waiswa, Deputy Mufti 2, Moslim Supreme Council Uganda
Supporters	Apex Loads	44. Charles Thuo-Executive Director
	Uganda Red Cross	45. Prize Tayebwa-Team Leader-Kampala-URCS
Others	Drivers	30
	Media (Internal 4 and 6 external)	13
	Event Support staff (Ushers, Toilets, event services management)	5
	Security	5

APPENDIX 2: PROGRAMME – World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, UNRA Kyambogo Offices, Kampala

Time	21 st November 2021	Responsibility
	Item	
9.00 – 9.30 am	Arrival and registration of guests	UPDN
9.30-9.35am	Anthems and Opening Prayer	UPDN/IRCU
9.35 – 9.45 am	Welcome remarks from UNRA	UNRA
9.45 – 9.55am	Presentation from organizers (UPDN, KCCA and SWRW)	KCCA
9.55am – 10.15 am	Memorial service	IRCU
10.15am-10.45am	Victims speeches and videos	Hon. Balimwezo Counsel Nicole Foundation
10.45am-10:55am	Candle lighting Ceremony	All
10.55am-11:10am	Efforts to Support and Act on Crashes	Driving schools, Drivers Association, HOVITA, Spinal Injury Association
11.10am – 11.15 am	Remarks by Ag. Director Traffic and Road Safety, Uganda Police	CP. Niwabiine Lawrence
11.15am-11.20am	Remarks by Commissioner, Emergency Medical Services, MoH	Dr. Waniaye Namohé

11.20 - 11.30 am	Remarks by the Permanent Secretary, MoWT	Mr.Bageya Waiswa
11.30am- 12.00 noon	Speech by the Guest of Honour	Hon. Gen. Katumba Wamala
12.00noon	Closure	

APPENDIX 4: GROUP PHOTO

Relevant Pictures and Literature



UPDN Chairperson B.O.D appearing on NTV Luganda news on that day



Retired Bishop Luzinada Addressing the event gathering at UNRA



The gathering at UNRA Grounds for WDR 2021



The MoWT Team and organisers take a group photo



Haulage Truckers Uganda Team-Association of Truck Drivers



Hon. Balimwezo a road crash victim giving his story at the event