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THE ROAD SAFETY FOUNDATION

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ROAD SAFETY FOUNDATION CALLS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF ROAD SAFETY AUTHORITY

The Road Safety Foundation calls for the establishment of a National Road Safety Authority tasked with curbing the high crash rate on South African roads.

Philip Hull, Founder Member of the Road Safety Foundation said that the high number of crashes, injuries and fatalities on South African roads continues to place an enormous social and economic burden on the country and its citizens. Resources have to be dedicated if we wish to reduce this impact.

“The time has come for government and private sector to join forces to change the situation on our roads.” Said Hull “Every year thousands of people lose their lives as a result of road crashes and thousands more are injured. South Africa has one of the worst road safety records in the world and without a collaborative, dedicated effort this situation will continue indefinitely.”

“We recognise the extent of the transport portfolio which incorporates not only road safety but also harbours, airports and rail issues. The government has stated on numerous occasions that they alone cannot address the road safety challenges in the country and we agree with them. The Road Safety Foundation proposes the formation of a public-private-partnership authority with expertise from government and private sector working together to reduce road crashes, injuries and fatalities.”

Historically, with changes in Ministers and office bearers, sustainability of road safety strategies has been a challenge. With this in mind, The Road Safety Foundation proposes that the National Road Safety Authority should be an independent entity equally co-funded by government and private sector to harness both resources. While the principal reporting line would be to the Minister of Transport access to other ministries that need to be involved in road safety should be acquired.”

The Road Safety Foundation looks forward to meeting with various government departments and private entities to discuss the proposal and plan the way forward.

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