Summary of Discussions

141st Road Safety Council meeting held at 1000 hours on Wednesday 9 March 2011

Traffic Accident Situation

Traffic accident statistics in 2010 were summarized as follows:

- Total number of traffic accidents was 14 943, an increase of 4.4% when compared with 2009.
- Total number of traffic casualties was 19 124, an increase of 5.4% when compared with 2009.
- A total of 114 fatal accidents were recorded, a decrease of 9.5% when compared with 2009.
- Top five driver contributory factors of accidents were:

Driving inattentively;

Driving too close to the vehicles in front;

Lost control of vehicle;

Careless lane changing; and

Careless cycling.

• The contributory factors for pedestrian casualties were 'inattentive' and 'crossing road heedless of traffic' while those for passengers were 'lost balance in vehicles and when boarding/alighting vehicle'.

Traffic Enforcement Situation

- The overall traffic enforcement figures on moving offences against drivers in 2010 showed an increase of 1%. Verbal warnings issued to drivers increased by 6% when compared with 2009.
- The top five enforcement actions against offences which were causes or likely cause traffic accidents:

Speeding

Traffic sign offence

Use handheld mobile phone/telecommunications equipment while vehicle is in motion

Traffic signal offence

Double white line offences

- Prosecutions against pedestrian showed an increase of 14%.
- Stringent enforcement action would continue to be maintained, targeting offences which were causes or likely causes traffic accidents.

Road Safety Research Committee Report

(a) Medical Examination Report (TD256)

• The suggestion of mandatory annual medical examination for drivers aged 70 or above would involve legislative amendments, therefore the need for more researches to be conducted, including overseas practices. Meanwhile, TD would revise the TD256 to include guidance notes for medical practitioners in examining the applicant's health condition for the purpose of certifying their physical fitness.

(b) Regulation of Low-powered Vehicles (LPVs)

- It was agreed that LPVs could be licensed but not suitable to be driven on expressways.
- (c) Use of Electric Vehicles (EVs) on Expressways
- It was agreed adoption of engine power as criterion to control the use of EVs on expressways.

Road Safety Campaign Committee Report

Road Safety Publicity

- (i) Poster and Leaflet of Anti-Drug Driving (medicinal drugs)
 - Arrangement has been made to distribute them through Transport Department, registered pharmacy shops, schools, government hospitals and clinics.

(ii) Anti-drink Driving Publicity in Christmas

- The kick off ceremony was held on 2010-12-17 at Lan Kwai Fong.
- The publicity vehicle and the Road Safety Guard visited bar areas throughout the territory to promote road safety.
- The online publicity via Yahoo Advertisement received good response.

(iii) Elderly Pedestrian Safety

• Bus shelter advertisement was arranged to enhance public awareness on elderly pedestrian safety.

(iv) Anti-drink Driving Publicity

• The wreck vehicle displayed at the junction of Tai Po Road and Castle Peak Road was completed in December 2010.

(v) Road Safety Proficiency Badge Scheme

• More cycling courses were successfully held in March 2011.

(vi) RSC Websites

• The latest organisational chart and members photos were uploaded on the RSC website.