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Commission Working Paper on Road Security

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CORTE actively follows developments in the area of Road Transport Security. The European Commission has adopted a Working Document on Transport Security which specifically highlights the deficit of land transport security and brings forward new ideas for development. The working paper was created to complement the Commission 2011 White Paper on Transport which identified the creation of a land transport security advisory committee as one of the priorities of the EU transport policy.

The Working Paper highlights the importance of land transport security due to the high number of incidents and fatalities by cause of terrorist attacks in the past decade. Still a coherent European approach to land transport security is missing. In comparison to aviation and maritime security, which have demonstrated vast developments since the events of 11 September 2001, land transport security is far more inchoate. Terrorist attacks naturally represent the most perceptible threat to transport due to the events of 11 September 2011 which killed 2996 people, and which was followed by the Madrid bombings, killing 191 people, and the London bus and tube bombings, killing 52 people. Terrorist attacks nevertheless demonstrate only one threat to land transport security which can be harmed by any unlawful act against passengers, freight and transport infrastructure.

The Working paper assesses the current deficit of land transport security and brings forward ideas for future development. The working paper makes a number of proposals but as a main furtherance it proposes the creation of an EU-forum which would mirror the currently existing land transport security policy to the policies adopted in the areas of aviation and maritime security. For this task, the Commission proposes to advocate an Advisory Group for Land Transport Security consisting of national policy experts, and which would be complemented by a parallel stakeholders group.

Due to the variety of transport modes covered by land transport policy, there is neither desire nor need to create exhaustive rules for land transport security. What the Commission aims is the creation of a common framework of general security policies; such as security programmes, security awareness training and recovery planning, which however enable adjustment to local and regional circumstances.

The Commission Working Document on Transport Security:

<http://ec.europa.eu/transport/security/doc/2012-05-31-swd-transport-security.pdf>

CORTE continues to actively follow the development of European transport security policy.

CORTE is the Confederation of Organisations in Road Transport Enforcement. CORTE gathers and coordinates expertise on road transport, road safety and road security at European and international level, ensuring that the voice of its members is heard. CORTE supports the development of harmonized implementation of road legislation and harmonized best practices enforcement methodologies. The Confederation brings together three categories of members: Full members (National Authorities), Associate Members (Associations) and Observers (Industry).