On 5 July 2018, WHO and the World Bank, in collaboration with the Towards Zero Foundation, launched the African Regional Network for Road Safety Legislators. 15 members of parliament from 7 countries. Countries and members of parliament representing each country include:

- Cameroon: Hon Aboubakar Ibrahim
- Benin: Hon Lucien Houngnibo
- Ghana: Hon Kwame Anyimadu-Antwi and Hon Emmanuel Agyei Anhwere
- Senegal: Hon Boubacar Biaye
- Nigeria: Hon Senator Adamu Aliero, Hon Senator Gbenga B. Ashafa, Hon Eng Aminu Issa, Hon Senator Tijjani Kaura, Hon Ahmed Sanni Yerima and Hon Reprentative Abubakar Yunusa
- Tanzania: Hon Adadi Rajabu and Hon Salum Mwinyi Rehani
- Uganda: Hon Paul Amoro and Hon Ayoo Tonny

The meeting was chaired by WHO. Opening remarks were given by Dr Anthonia Ekpa, Director, Road Transport and Transit Administration, Nigeria Federal Ministry of Transportation, Mr Aurelio Menendez, Practice Manager, World Bank, Hon Adadi Rajabu, Member of the Leadership Council of the Global Network for Road Safety Legislators, and Hon Tijjani Kaura, Head of the Nigerian Senate Committee on Intergovernmental Relations.

Presentations were given on the global road safety policy context and the role of international organizations by Dr Nhan Tran (WHO) and Mr Soames Job (the World Bank). This was followed by a history of the Global Network for Road Safety Legislators and an overview of the Network’s Manifesto#4RoadSafety by Mr David Ward (Towards Zero Foundation). Attendees received and update of findings from legislative assessments conducted by WHO globally and best practice criteria from Ms Evelyn Murphy (WHO). The opportunities and role of members of parliament was discussed by Mr Soames Job (The World Bank). During the afternoon, Hon Rajabu Aadadi, Hon Abubakar Yunusa and Hon Tonny Ayoo discussed the formation of all-party parliamentary groups in their own countries and the importance that these have on moving the road safety agenda. All other members of parliament also provided an update of activities in their own parliaments and countries. The session was moderated by Ms Tawia Addo-Ashong (the World Bank).

A discussion on the terms of reference was led by Ms Evelyn Murphy (WHO). Members of parliament from the countries represented constituted the Leadership Council, its role, and agreed on goals and how other countries could join. The African network would be open to members of parliament from any country on the African continent by supporting the Manifesto#4RoadSafety online. Members of Parliament nominated Hon Adadi Rajabu (Tanzania) as the Chair of the African Network for the term of 2-years and nominated as Vice-Chairs, Hon Lucien Houngnibo (Benin) and Hon Tijjani Kaura (Nigeria). Participants accepted WHO’s
offer to serve as secretariat for the network – which include coordinating and facilitating activities of the network and in this regard, members of parliament agreed to nominate a focal person to be included in all future communications.

Members of parliament requested that a Declaration be agreed-upon as an outcome of the inaugural meeting. A draft Declaration as well as the modified terms of reference will be circulated before it is finalized. Members of Parliament also discussed possible future activities including, better media engagement, advocacy especially through social media channels, addressing the issue of infrastructure development which are not safe, and vehicle regulation. MPs also expressed commitment to use existing regional mechanisms and discussed representation of the African Regional Network at the next Global Network’s Leadership Council meeting and workshop to be held on 13-14 December in London.

**Next steps:**

- Finalize the Abuja Declaration
- Finalize the Terms of Reference
- Members of Parliament to communicate their nominated focal person to WHO