



1st IRU/EU Presidency Road Transport Conference & Ministerial Meeting
“Efficient, Safe and Sustainable Road Transport for the Future”

Brussels, Belgium, 1 December 2010

The Square Meeting Centre

1st IRU/EU Presidency Road Transport Conference & Ministerial Meeting

“Efficient, Safe and Sustainable Road Transport for the Future”

Brussels, Belgium, 1 December 2010

Opening Session

Martin Marmy, Secretary General, International Road Transport Union (IRU)

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends,

I have the immense pleasure to welcome you all to Brussels, the heart of Europe, to share our experience at the 1st IRU / EU Presidency Road Transport Conference and Ministerial Meeting.

Allow me first to declare this conference officially open!

I would like, from the outset, to thank His Excellency Etienne Schouppe, State Secretary for Mobility of the Kingdom of Belgium, for accepting to co-organise this important event with the IRU.

We are grateful to Mr Schouppe and his excellent staff for their invaluable support and contribution when organising this conference jointly with the Ministerial meeting. Such cooperation with the private sector sets an example for the future.

According to the very rich and interesting programme, it will be the task of everyone to take the necessary steps to ensure more efficient, even safer and more sustainable road transport for the future to the benefit of all EU Member States, citizens and neighbouring countries.

For all these reasons, I encourage all of you to take an active part in the discussions that will be led by the Conference Moderator, IRU General Delegate to the EU, Michael Nielsen, whom I ask you to warmly welcome.

Michael, the floor is yours.

(Michael Nielsen enters the stage, welcomes all, announces programme and calls the opening speakers to the stage)

* * * * *