



Article from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# Anna Johansson opened Vision Zero Conference 2017

Published 22 June 2017

On 14–15 June, the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, the Swedish Transport Administration and the Swedish Transport Agency hosted the Vision Zero Conference 2017 in Stockholm. World-leading road safety experts, ministers and decision-makers from across the globe met for two days to discuss road safety at a strategic level.

More than 1.25 million people around the world die each year in traffic accidents, making it the ninth most common cause of death worldwide and the leading cause of death among people aged 15–29 years. Up to 50 million people are injured each year in traffic accidents. The UN 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include road safety for the first time, and the overarching theme of the conference was how the SDGs can be achieved in light of Vision Zero.

Sweden's road safety efforts are successful. Zero Vision has attracted international attention, and the concept has now been adopted by many other countries and cities around the world. A recent European Commission comparison of road safety in the EU ranked Sweden's roads the safest.

– Road safety efforts must be intensified worldwide. Sweden has come a long way in its road safety efforts and can contribute knowledge and experience from its Vision Zero work, said Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson.

Ms Johansson also took the initiative to hold a roundtable discussion on how vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and cyclists, can be better

included in road safety efforts and how a more gender-equal transport system may help improve road safety. Participants in the roundtable discussions included Matthew Baldwin (European Commission), Etienne Krug (WHO), Laura Ballesteros (Secretariat of Mobility of Mexico City), Claudia Adriazola (WRI Ross Centre for Sustainable Cities), Rob McNerney (International Road Assessment Programme, iRAP), David Ward (Global NCAP) and Winnie Mitullah (University of Nairobi, Kenya).

The two-day conference opened at 10.00 on 14 June at the Clarion Hotel Sign in Stockholm. The roundtable discussion was held on 14 June from 13.00 to 14.00.



Article from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# Handshake on digitalisation and geofencing

Published 22 May 2017

Directly after the awful terror attack in Stockholm on 7 April 2017, Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson took the initiative to hold a meeting at the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation to discuss with representatives of relevant government agencies, the automotive industry, the transport sector, trade union organisations, the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions, and large municipalities how we can work together to reduce the risk of vehicles being hijacked and used in terror attacks. One proposal raised at the meeting concerned the use of geofencing.

Sweden depends on a sustainable and efficient transport system throughout the country. Transport volumes in Sweden's cities are expected to increase in the future, at the same time as transport must be made more efficient and environmentally sound. Transport must be developed to create attractive and sustainable cities.

Vehicles are currently highly connected, offering opportunities to use new technologies to achieve the transport policy objectives. By making use of the opportunities provided by digitalisation and automation, we can:

- make transport more efficient;
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions;
- reduce traffic noise in inner-city areas;
- improve air quality;

- increase road safety, especially for vulnerable road users; and
- increase people's sense of safety and security.

We can create a good built environment that is attractive for people to spend time in.

It is essential that we promote the development of digital innovations that can help to achieve the objectives set for transport policy. Geofencing is a technical solution to enable only authorised vehicles to be driven within a geographically defined area. Geofencing could also be used to technically limit speeds to the highest permitted speed, which in a 'home zone' can be 7 km/h. It can also be used to determine which powertrain is used in a vehicle, for example when the vehicle is driven in an environmental zone. Geofencing is a form of digital infrastructure that needs to be developed, tested and demonstrated as part of efforts to create a connected transport system.

Restricting which vehicles are authorised to drive in certain urban environments or the speed at which they can travel in these environments would mean that more people could live sustainably and that the national environmental quality objectives could be more easily achieved. Such restrictions would also help increase the road safety of vulnerable road users. In addition, it could help to protect people's lives and health by preventing opportunities to hijack vehicles and use them in terror attacks.

We are therefore pleased to have agreed with Scania, the Volvo Group, Volvo Cars, the City of Stockholm, the City of Gothenburg and the Swedish Transport Administration to work together on ways of making use of the opportunities offered by digitalisation. The initial stage now involves beginning a project that will result in demonstrations of geofencing in 2018.

A joint steering group will be set up for this purpose. The Swedish Transport Administration will coordinate and lead the work of the steering group.



Article from Ministry for Foreign Affairs

# State Visit to Indonesia 22–24 May 2017

Published 16 May 2017 Updated 19 May 2017

The King and Queen will pay a State Visit to Indonesia on 22–24 May 2017 at the invitation of President Joko Widodo. The Government will be represented by Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson.

The State Visit is an opportunity to strengthen the political, economic and cultural relations between Sweden and Indonesia in the long term. Trade, sustainability, research and innovation are the main themes of the visit.

## State Visit programme points

### Monday 22 May

#### **Official reception ceremony**

The State Visit will begin on the morning of 22 May with an official reception ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Bogor, where the King and Queen will be welcomed by President Joko Widodo and First Lady Iriana Widodo. After the playing of the national anthems, the gun salute and the inspection of the guard of honour, the official delegation will be presented. The ceremony also includes signing the guest book, a short stroll through the garden and a tree planting event. The King and the President will also have private discussions, be present at the signing of an agreement and each make a statement to the press. Following private discussions of their own, the Queen and the First Lady will attend an exhibition of Indonesian handicrafts.

Bogor Palace is one of Indonesia's six presidential palaces. Since opening in 1745, it has been used both as a summer residence and the main residence of governors-general and presidents. The current President and First Lady live

in Bogor Palace.

The garden contains a statue by Carl Milles, 'Hand of God', which was a gift from the Swedish Government in 1957. The original is in Eskilstuna.

### **State banquet**

The reception ceremony will be followed by a state banquet at the Palace.

### **Seminar on forestry and sustainability**

In the afternoon, the King and Queen will take part in a seminar on forestry and sustainability at the International Center for Forestry Research (CIFOR). They will be received by Director-General Peter Holmgren and his wife Ann-Sofie. CIFOR is a non-profit, scientific institution that conducts research on forest and landscape management around the world. Sweden is one of the four founding countries. After a presentation of the Center's activities, the King and Queen will take part in a tree planting ceremony in the garden. This will be followed by a seminar on the theme of forestry, sustainability, packaging and wood, with participants from CIFOR, Swedish and Indonesian public authorities, and companies.

In the evening, Sweden's ambassador in Jakarta, Johanna Brismar Skoog, will host a reception.

## **Tuesday 23 May**

### **Wreath-laying ceremony**

Tuesday will begin with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Heroes Monument in Kalibata National Heroes Cemetery. This is a military cemetery where many of the approximately 8 000 graves belong to Indonesian soldiers who died during the war of independence in 1945–1949. Many Japanese soldiers, who stayed in the country after the Second World War to take part in the struggle for a free Indonesia, are also buried in the cemetery.

### **Hackathon**

Afterwards, the King will take part in the conclusion of a hackathon, with students from four prominent Indonesian universities, divided into eight teams. During a 24-hour period, the teams will develop concepts within the Jakarta Smart City framework, which is intended to improve the traffic situation in Jakarta. At the end of the 24 hours, the students are expected to present a working demo. A panel of judges will then select a winning team.

### **Jakarta Creative Hub**

At the same time, the Queen will visit the Jakarta Creative Hub, which was launched on 1 March 2017. It is a meeting place for young creators who wish to test new ideas and concepts in areas such as design, fashion and textiles. The premises also have space that start-up companies can rent for free or at very reasonable rates. Indonesia is one of the world's largest producers of products for the textiles and fashion industry. After a tour and presentation of the Creative Hub's various areas of activity, with the opportunity to speak with the young apprentices and creators, a seminar will be held focusing on young designers, entrepreneurship, internationalisation and innovation.

### **Visit to Kota Tua**

The King and Queen will visit Jakarta's old town, Kota Tua. They will be received at Fatahillah Square, where mini-exhibitions of batik and wayang (Indonesian puppet theatre) will be set up. After a short tour, the King and Queen will greet the President of the Volvo Club of Indonesia. Volvo is of great sentimental value to many Indonesians, and is considered a cult brand.

### **Indonesia Sweden Executive Forum**

During the afternoon, the King will take part in a high-level forum, the Indonesia-Sweden Executive Forum (ISEF), at which round-table discussions between business leaders from both countries will be held, with the participation of government ministers. Minister Anna Johansson will take part on behalf of Sweden. The aim of the Forum is to create a platform for continued cooperation, and to strengthen the relations between Indonesian and Swedish companies and institutions.

### **Visit to the vessel traffic centre at Jakarta's port**

After the high-level forum, the King and Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson will visit Jakarta's port, Tanjung Priok, and the vessel traffic centre Indonesia Port Corporation (IPC). Here they will be given an insight into Indonesia as a maritime and trading nation, and how Swedish technological solutions are used by the Indonesian port operator to ensure that the port's vessel traffic is managed in an efficient and safe manner.

### **Study visit and round-table discussions on efforts to end violence against children**

The Queen will visit a small local library, the Manggarai Community Library, to learn about how young people and activists with limited resources work to improve the situation for children, not least as regards education. They will be received by UNICEF's Representative in Indonesia, Gunilla Olsson. They will also have the opportunity to speak with young people who work with

issues regarding violence against children and volunteers who work at the library.

After the study visit, the Queen will take part in a high-level round-table discussion with decision-makers from Indonesia and Sweden, youth representatives and representatives of stakeholder organisations on what can be done in each country to stop violence against children. Both Indonesia and Sweden are leaders in global cooperation within the 2030 Agenda to put an end to violence against children. The discussion will be moderated by Gunilla Olsson, UNICEF.

### **Decoration presentation ceremony**

The evening programme will begin with a decoration presentation ceremony, where the King will present decorations to several people to recognise their efforts to promote bilateral relations between Sweden and Indonesia.

### **Reception**

Tuesday will conclude with a reception hosted by the King and Queen at Hotel Indonesia Kempinski. In connection with the reception, an exhibition will be displayed spotlighting Sweden from different perspectives, with focus on sustainability, innovation and creativity. Swedish music will also be played.

## **Wednesday 24 May – Bandung**

The third day of the State Visit will take place in Bandung. Bandung is the capital of Indonesia's most populous province, West Java, and the country's second largest metropolitan area, with 8.5 million inhabitants. Following Indonesia's independence, Bandung has grown very rapidly and today the city is a centre for high-tech, research and innovation, higher education, fashion and creative industries.

On the journey from Jakarta to Bandung, the King and Queen and the rest of the delegation will be given a presentation about Indonesia's economic and political prospects. There will also be an opportunity to see Java's famous and very beautiful rice terraces. Developed in Indonesia, terracing of rice fields has been replicated in other parts of the world, mainly through active projects by the UN. Agriculture is Indonesia's primary industry, with production mainly consisting of rubber, bananas, spices, coffee, coconuts and rice.

### **Bandung city**



The King and Queen will be welcomed to Bandung by Mayor Ridwan Kamil. He will host a lunch on the detached veranda at which traditional Indonesian music, angklung, will be performed. Following the lunch, the King and Queen will take a short walk to Alun Alun square, where the Mayor will introduce Bandung's football team, Persib, and its fan club, the Bandung Vikings. The walk will then continue to the Museum of the Asian-African Conference, where 26 world leaders met in 1955 and founded what became the Non-Aligned Movement. The head of the museum will welcome the King and Queen and give a short presentation.

### **Bandung Institute of Technology**

In the afternoon, the King and Queen will visit the Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB), which is one of Indonesia's foremost higher education institutions. The university was originally a Dutch university founded in the 1920s, and presented to the Indonesian government when the country gained independence. The university is currently an independent institute. ITB offers technological and natural science programmes, and has more than 20 000 students. Several of the original buildings from the 1920s are still in use, and have a characteristic style that mixes traditional Indonesian architecture with western elements.

At ITB, the King and Queen and Minister Anna Johansson will meet representatives of Alumni Swedia, an alumni association for Indonesian students who have studied in Sweden. In connection with the meeting, the Swedish Institute and the Indonesia Endowment for Education (LPDP) will sign a cooperation agreement. A portal to connect alumni with Swedish companies in Indonesia will also be launched by Swedish companies and the Swedish Institute.

Afterwards, there will be a seminar on 'triple helix' and innovation, a joint arrangement between ITB and Lund University. The Swedish triple helix model, in which cooperation between public actors, the business sector and universities has led to a positive innovation climate, has attracted a great deal of attention in Indonesia. During the seminar, Viktor Öwall, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Lund University, will present conclusions from the day's discussions, Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson will deliver a speech and Ulf Ewaldsson, Senior Vice President and Head of Business Area Digital Services at Ericsson, will give a presentation on triple helix cooperation from a business perspective. A concluding presentation will be given by Ilham Habibie, an Indonesian entrepreneur and researcher.

### **Concluding press conference**

A press conference with the King and Queen will conclude the visit to Bandung.

The State Visit will conclude when the King and Queen leave Bandung for the trip back to Sweden.



Article from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# Government paves the way for self-driving vehicles

Published 04 May 2017

The Government has adopted an ordinance on trials of self-driving vehicles. The ordinance introduces the requirement of a permit to conduct trials of self-driving vehicles. The Swedish Transport Agency will examine matters concerning permits and will have a mandate to grant a permit with conditions.

Existing vehicle regulations (the Vehicle Act and Vehicle Ordinance) enable the Swedish Transport Agency to issue decisions on exemptions concerning how vehicles should be equipped for trials. The possibility of exemptions in the current regulations has been used for some trials of self-driving vehicles but does not allow the Swedish Transport Agency to require a permit to conduct trials of self-driving vehicles.

– The Government believes it is important to make Sweden a country where innovative technology for sustainable transport can be trialled. We are now creating better conditions for trials of self-driving vehicles, says Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson.

The ordinance also requires the presence of a physical driver in or outside the vehicle and provides for fines for those who conduct trials without a permit. The ordinance will enter into force on 1 July 2017.



Article from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# A Swedish aviation strategy – for aviation's role in the transport system of tomorrow

Published 15 February 2017 Updated 15 February 2017

The Government has adopted 'A Swedish aviation strategy – for aviation's role in the transport system of tomorrow'. The aviation strategy is a policy document, a platform that clarifies the Government's overall view of aviation's role in the transport system and also presents the Government's priorities in seven different areas on the continued work to develop the conditions for Swedish aviation.

– This is the first time a Swedish government has drawn up a national aviation strategy with such a broad approach. Aviation is part of the transport system, which means that it must be developed in collaboration with other modes of transport to create an efficient and sustainable transport system, says Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson.

– Aviation plays an important role in helping to meet the needs regarding long-distance travel, but at the same time we must take further action to reduce aviation's adverse environmental and climate and impact. All measures that we take must be carried out in a coherent fashion so as to achieve the best possible results.

The Government's continued aviation efforts will be based on the seven focus areas presented in the strategy and the starting points and priorities highlighted in each focus area. The seven focus areas are: accessibility in Sweden and internationally; strengthening Arlanda Airport as a hub and

major airport; reducing the environmental climate impact of aviation; a high level of aviation safety with goal-based regulations; fair conditions and healthy competition; a nation with strong research and an innovative aviation industry; and increased exports of Swedish goods and services.

– Arlanda Airport will be the leading major airport in the Nordic region. This is why it is very important that we quickly begin efforts to develop Arlanda Airport in a way that is sustainable in the long term. The Government will therefore appoint an 'Arlanda Airport council' to draw up a strategic roadmap for Arlanda Airport's long-term development. The smaller regional airports are also important in the transport system, and a review of their role and prospects must also be carried out, says Ms Johansson.

Another important area of the aviation strategy is the issue of decent conditions and healthy competition in the aviation industry. The Government will continue to work to ensure that clear regulations and healthy competition guide legislation in the transport sector, and that this results in improved working conditions throughout the EU.

The Government's aviation strategy has been drawn up in dialogue with public authorities, the aviation industry and other stakeholders affected by the strategy. Dialogue and cooperation will remain important elements in the work ahead to achieve the strategy's objectives.



Article from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# The right investments in transport infrastructure build a strong and sustainable Sweden for the future

Published 12 December 2016 Updated 12 December 2016

The Government has adopted the infrastructure bill 'Infrastructure for the future – innovative solutions for strengthened competitiveness and sustainable development'. The bill contains the direction and financial frameworks for investments in transport infrastructure for the planning period 2018–2029. The proposals in the bill will enable us to achieve the goals of a transition to a fossil-free welfare state, a Sweden that stands together, an increase in housing construction and improved conditions for business.

"The increased resources we are now proposing in the infrastructure bill enable an improvement of the standard of the existing railway system. Delays and disturbances that arise in rail traffic are now being countered with significantly strengthened railway maintenance and re-investments in major parts of the railway network," says Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson.

"New ideas are needed with regard to the technology and infrastructure that can contribute to a more sustainable transport system. Increased use of new technologies, for example digitisation and automation, can contribute to the more intelligent use of existing infrastructure and decrease the burden on the transport system. This therefore requires innovative solutions that open new possibilities," says Ms Johansson.

The transport policy objectives are the starting point of the bill and will ensure an economically efficient, sustainable transport system for citizens and businesses throughout the country. All policy areas must contribute to tackling the major challenges. The transport system is a basic condition for access to jobs and housing throughout the country. The competitiveness of trade and industry builds on reliable means of transport, within Sweden and through links with the rest of the world. Furthermore, the environmental impacts and emissions of the transport sector must decrease significantly if Sweden is to meet its environmental and climate objectives and live up to the international commitments under the Paris Agreement.

Good growth and stable public finances are fundamental to the proposals and there is scope for the proposed financial frameworks within current and future levels of taxation. The financial framework is proposed to amount to SEK 622.5 billion, which is just over SEK 100 billion more than the current plan.

The Government is focusing on maintenance in order to maintain the functionality of roads and railways. Increased resources enable an improvement of standards in the existing railway system. The Government's ambition is that a larger proportion of long-distance goods transports should be transported via railway and shipping than is the case today. The road network must cope with an even greater volume of traffic, primarily in the cities, and funds for road operation and maintenance are therefore proposed to increase. Continued investment in bearing capacity and frost protection are also important and make it possible to maintain full bearing capacity year round on roads that are considered important for the business sector.

New main lines for high-speed trains connect Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö, which relieves current systems and therefore contributes to higher reliability in the railway system as a whole. However, the new main lines project extends over several electoral periods and will affect the central government budget for a long time. It is therefore crucial that there is broad support in the Riksdag ahead of decisions on whether Sweden should invest in new main lines.



Government Offices of Sweden

Article from Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Ministry of the Environment

# A forum for shaping the future of the Baltic Sea region

Published 16 November 2016 Updated 16 November 2016

Creating a common future based on trust and dialogue is necessary for the prosperity and security of the Baltic Sea region. This was Prime Minister Stefan Löfven's message when he delivered the opening speech at the 7th Strategy Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region.

The overarching purpose of this year's Forum was to encourage a discussion about how the Baltic Sea region should equip itself ahead of future challenges and opportunities from a 2030 perspective and within the framework of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. The Strategy Forum was held at The Brewery Conference Centre in Stockholm on 8–9 November and brought together a record number of participants – over 1 300 people from all over the Baltic Sea region. The participants represented the political level, the business sector, academia and civil society.

## From social entrepreneurship to EU-Russian cooperation

During two intensive days, some 40 political seminars, workshops and other activities were held focusing on digital and social entrepreneurship, EU-Russian cooperation, bioeconomy, circular economy and sustainable seas.

This was the seventh Strategy Forum in a row, and the first to be held in Sweden. The Forum was hosted by the Swedish Government together with the Nordic Council of Ministers, in close cooperation with the European



Commission. In addition to the Prime Minister, participants from the Government included Minister for Culture and Democracy Alice Bah Kuhnke, Minister for Rural Affairs Sven-Erik Bucht, Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson and Minister for the Environment Karolina Skoog.

## Common security

In his opening speech, Mr Löfven stressed the importance of cooperation that is both a driving force and forward-looking.

"We are here because we want to have our own hands on the rudder, and not simply be steered by events elsewhere. We are here to shape the future of the Baltic Sea. So welcome to Sweden, welcome to Stockholm, and welcome to the incredibly important work we have ahead of us.

"I am a firm believer in the idea of common security. Common security is a term coined by one of my predecessors, Olof Palme, and is based on the idea that we must cooperate across national borders and create a common future built on trust and dialogue. Which is exactly what we are doing here today," said Mr Löfven.

Speech by Prime Minister Stefan Löfven at the Strategy Forum of the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region



Article from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# Renewed Commitment to Vision Zero - for increased transport safety in all modes of transport

Published 12 October 2016 Updated 12 October 2016

The 1st of September 2016 the Government announced its decision to relaunch Vision Zero, an intensified initiative for transport safety in Sweden. The Government is presenting a policy document clarifying its focus for Swedish transport safety policy. The Government is beginning by presenting three assignments to improve the prospects of positive transport safety developments.

– Swedish transport safety work is successful. Sweden occupies a leading position in the fight against transport deaths. It is a position we cannot afford to lose. With the relaunch of Vision Zero we will secure elements that work well and develop elements that work less well, says Ms Johansson.

– Now we will create the conditions for Sweden to continue to export Swedish expertise and solutions in road safety, and contribute to an enhanced innovation climate.

## Focus on vulnerable road users and new technology

Continued efforts for increased road safety are to be secured and developed in the areas that have been successful so far, in particular road design, some regulation and supervision, and vehicle safety. At the same time, it is crucial that future work more clearly takes account of the safety of vulnerable road users, and the potential of new technologies. The policy document points to

the need for the infrastructure design and maintenance to be tailored to the needs of vulnerable road users and the need for new solutions in the transport system, such as alcohol-operated barriers in ports. Transport Analysis will also be tasked with investigating reduced speed limits in built-up areas. This could bring greater safety and security for pedestrians and cyclists, but requires further investigation.

## Collaboration is important

The success of continued road safety efforts requires engagement from all stakeholders and a willingness to collaborate. Clearer leadership and coordination of the work is important. For this reason, the Swedish Transport Administration will be tasked with leading the road safety collaboration to achieve Vision Zero. The assignment includes convening and leading dialogue between relevant government agencies and other stakeholders, and proposing some activity development requiring stakeholder collaboration.

## Clear target

Vision Zero still plays an important role as a target for transport safety efforts. Alongside the vision, more concrete objectives are important to guide the work in the right direction. Transport Analysis will therefore be tasked with reviewing transport policy and proposing new specifications in the area of transport safety. This includes proposing new intermediate road traffic targets beyond 2020.

## Produced in dialogue

The design of the relaunch of Swedish road safety efforts has involved many stakeholders. It was produced in dialogue with representatives of relevant organisations and government agencies, as well as other stakeholders whose activities have an impact on road safety. The aspiration is that the focal points for future transport safety will serve to support all stakeholders involved in road safety.

The Government intends to propose further initiatives in this area.



Article from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Ministry of Finance, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

## Chilean State Visit ends

Published 18 May 2016 Updated 13 June 2016

On the afternoon of 12 May, Chile's President Michelle Bachelet left Sweden following a three-day State Visit. The President was in Sweden at the invitation of HM the King. This was the first State Visit by a Chilean president to Sweden. Several of the Government ministers took part in the programme. The purpose of the visit was to broaden and deepen bilateral relations between Chile and Sweden.

Swedish companies have long had a strong presence in Chile. Bilateral trade has increased over the past 15 years. Cooperation exists in various areas, such as mining, forestry, environment and CSR. Further steps to enhance cooperation were taken during the State Visit. Chile and Sweden have a common view on many foreign policy issues, not least with regard to the rights of smaller countries, UN cooperation, gender equality, marine issues and free trade. Several global challenges were discussed. Representatives of both countries also discussed issues concerning cooperation for social and gender equality.

The State Visit began on Tuesday with the traditional welcoming ceremony at the Inner Courtyard of the Royal Palace. The King and Queen, many members of the Government and other representatives of the Swedish public sector were present to welcome the President. This was followed by a lunch at the Royal Palace which was also attended by Princess Victoria and Prince Daniel.

### Talks on increased trade and investment

In the afternoon, Prime Minister Stefan Löfven received the President for talks at Rosenbad. Topics discussed by the President and the Prime Minister included the conditions for increased trade and investment. Within this framework, memorandums of understanding were signed on sustainable mining, forestry, urban development and CSR. Political, economic and cultural cooperation was another area in which memorandums of understanding were signed on welfare and holiday agreements. Issues concerning multilateral cooperation in gender equality, human rights and peacebuilding were also addressed. Minister for Enterprise and Innovation Mikael Damberg, Minister for Rural Affairs Sven-Erik Bucht, Minister for Children, the Elderly and Gender Equality Åsa Regnér and Minister for Finance Magdalena Andersson also took part in the talks.

Following a visit to Olof Palme's grave at Adolf Fredrik's Cemetery, President Bachelet travelled to Fryshuset where she and the King and Queen were met by the managing director of Fryshuset, Johan Oljeqvist. This part of the visit was also attended by Anja Frey, head of Fryshuset in Stockholm, and Camila Salazar Atias, responsible for social projects, as well as Stockholm City Commissioner Emilia Bjuggren.

The day concluded with a state banquet at the Royal Palace.

Wednesday's programme included a Swedish-Chilean Business Forum, a gender equality seminar, lunch at Stockholm City Hall and a meeting with Speaker of the Riksdag Urban Ahlin. President Bachelet delivered a speech in the Riksdag and took part in a ceremony at which a bust of Swedish diplomat Harald Edelstam was unveiled. During the afternoon, the President met part of the Chilean diaspora in Sweden. Afterwards, she took part in a seminar on social dialogue and the Global Deal, together with Prime Minister Stefan Löfven.

## Research and innovative companies in Gothenburg

On Thursday morning, the King and Queen and President Bachelet left for Gothenburg, where they were welcomed by the County Governor of Västra Götaland County Lars Bäckström and President of the Gothenburg City Council Lena Malm. Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson was also present. The first programme point was a visit to Astra Zeneca, where the President and the King and Queen learned about the work done there on research, development and cooperation with smaller, innovative companies. This was followed by visits to Volvo Torslanda and Lindholmen Science Park. The day concluded with lunch at the County Governor's residence.

In the afternoon, the King and Queen bid farewell to President Bachelet and the Chilean delegation at Landvetter Airport.



Article from Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs

## State Visit from Chile under way

Published 12 May 2016 Updated 12 May 2016

On 10 May, Chile's President Michelle Bachelet began her State Visit to Sweden. The President is visiting Sweden at the invitation of HM the King. The Visit will last from 10 to 12 May and is the first incoming State Visit from Chile to Sweden.

The purpose of the visit is to broaden and deepen bilateral relations between Chile and Sweden. Swedish companies have long had a strong presence in Chile.

The first day of the State Visit began with an official welcoming ceremony at the Inner Courtyard of the Royal Palace, as is tradition. Following an inspection of the guard of honour of the Life Guards, the President, the King and the Queen greeted the Speakers of the Riksdag, the Prime Minister and the ministers present.

Prime Minister Stefan Löfven then received the President at Rosenbad for talks.

Several memorandums of understanding were signed during the visit to Rosenbad.

Following a visit to Olof Palme's grave at Adolf Fredrik's Cemetery, President Bachelet travelled to Fryshuset where she and the King and Queen were met by the managing director of Fryshuset, Johan Oljeqvist. This part of the visit was also attended by Anja Frey, head of Fryshuset in Stockholm, and Camila Salazar Atias, responsible for social projects, as well as Stockholm City Commissioner Emilia Bjuggren.

The day ended with a state banquet at the Royal Palace.







Article from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# New road safety initiative – Vision Zero remains in place

Published 18 March 2016 Updated 18 March 2016

The Government is now launching action to inject new energy into road safety efforts, for all modes of transport. On 15 March 2016, Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson hosted a meeting of industry and government agency representatives to build an understanding of the challenges in the area and to begin discussing initiatives and solutions to meet these challenges.

"The fact that people die in the transport system is a major challenge to society and a global public health problem. Sweden's Vision Zero has been very successful in lowering the number of deaths and injuries in traffic. Sweden has benefitted from this in several ways. Apart from the obvious that we save lives, road safety efforts – and in particular Vision Zero – have led to Swedish export successes in the global market," Ms Johansson said.

"We now want to develop a number of initiatives that help boost future work. An important part of this is the Swedish model, with cooperation between the government agencies, municipalities, industry and other relevant stakeholders," Ms Johansson continued.

The starting point for these efforts is to keep Vision Zero in place, since it has proven successful. The aim of the initiative is to clarify the Government's future focus for road safety and to provide the conditions to achieve existing road safety objectives. The initiative is also to ensure a sufficiently fast pace in the developments to achieve the Vision Zero. The efforts are to create the conditions for Sweden to continue to export Swedish knowledge and

solutions in road safety, and contribute to an enhanced innovation climate.

The meeting on 15 March focused particularly on discussing the security challenges that exist in the transport sector and which a new initiative should address. Discussions also began on which measures and initiatives should be included. The new initiative in the area of road safety is due to be launched in autumn 2016.



Article from Ministry for Foreign Affairs

# Successful State Visit from Tunisia

Published 06 November 2015 Updated 09 November 2015

Tunisia's President Béji Caïd Essebsi concluded his three-day State Visit to Sweden today. The President and his wife were here at the invitation of the King and Queen. Tunisia's Minister for Foreign Affairs also took part in the visit and was received by Margot Wallström at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. It was announced during the visit that Sweden would open an embassy in Tunisia, and a number of bilateral cooperation agreements were signed.

Following a welcoming ceremony for the President and his delegation at the Royal Palace on the first day of the State Visit, the two foreign ministers met to discuss Swedish–Tunisian relations. Democratic development in the country, anti-terrorism efforts, gender issues and trade were the topics discussed between the two ministers.

On day two of the visit, President Essebsi met Prime Minister Stefan Löfven. It was announced following the meeting that Sweden would open an embassy in Tunisia. A broad cooperation agreement was signed between Sweden and Tunisia. The President, the King and Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson also took part during the day in a trade forum organised by the Tunisian Embassy and Business Sweden.

On Friday, the President visited Ericsson in Kista. The visit then continued to Uppsala, where the President laid a wreath on Dag Hammarskjöld's grave in the presence of the King, Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Information Technology Mehmet Kaplan and Minister for Public Administration Ardalan Shekarabi. A cooperation agreement concerning decentralisation was also signed during the day between the Swedish

Association of Local Authorities and Regions and their Tunisian counterparts.

Press release: Sweden to open Embassy in Tunisia



Government Offices of Sweden

Press release from Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Ministry of Justice

# Government reshuffle, 27 July 2017

Published 27 July 2017

Prime Minister Stefan Löfven today announced a government reshuffle. Three ministers have chosen to leave their posts, two new ministers have been appointed, and two ministers have been entrusted with revised areas of responsibility.

Ministers Anna Johansson, Anders Ygeman and Gabriel Wikström are leaving their posts.

## Newly appointed ministers

Minister for Infrastructure Tomas Eneroth

Minister for Migration, and Deputy Minister for Justice: Heléne Fritzon

## Changes by ministry

Ministry of Justice Minister for Justice and Home Affairs: Morgan Johansson

Ministry of Health and Social Affairs Minister for Health and Social Affairs: Annika Strandhäll



Press release from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation, Ministry of Justice

# Government tightens border controls

Published 03 May 2017 Updated 15 May 2017

The Government has decided to tighten and strengthen border controls and to phase out ID checks across the Öresund strait.

We need good order at Sweden's borders to maintain security. The decisions on border controls and ID checks will expire in the next few days. There are many reasons why it is important that we have good control of our border crossing points.

The Government will strengthen and extend the Swedish Police's border controls. We will also tighten controls using vehicle X-ray inspections and camera surveillance. This will also make it possible to phase out the temporary ID checks, which will make everyday life easier for people who commute on a daily basis between Sweden and Denmark. The ID checks will be discontinued on the Öresund ferries but will remain in place on all other ferries, in line with the current maritime security legislation. The Government is of course fully prepared to quickly reinstate ID checks if necessary. We are in close dialogue with our agencies to monitor this.

The Government did what was necessary to get Sweden out of the situation that prevailed in autumn 2015, and we will take responsibility to ensure we do not end up there again



Press release from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# Government grants compensation for costs stemming from ID checks

Published 21 December 2016 Updated 21 December 2016

The Government has adopted an ordinance entitling carriers to apply for compensation for costs incurred as a result of the Government's regulations on ID checks. Compensation will be paid for reasonable costs incurred by bus, train or passenger ship operators for carrying out ID checks. Costs must be verifiable. Applications for compensation will be examined by the Swedish Transport Administration and will be paid in arrears after the expiry of a period of validity for ID checks.

The Government's proposal in the autumn amending budget to allocate a sum of up to SEK 139 million for costs in 2016 has been approved by the Riksdag.

"I am pleased that we can now present a complete scheme on how carriers can apply for compensation to cover their costs for carrying out ID checks. This has been requested by the relevant actors ever since the provisions were introduced in January 2016," says Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson.

The Swedish Transport Administration will determine when applications are to be submitted – however no later than 9 months following the date on which a period for ID checks expired.

Period 1 covers 4 January 2016–3 July 2016.

Period 2 covers 4 July 2016–3 November 2016.

The provisions include both Swedish and foreign carriers. The only

requirement is that the carrier has incurred costs for carrying out the ID checks under the regulations issued by the Government.





Press release from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# Government invests in Renewed commitment to Vision Zero

Published 12 October 2016 Updated 12 October 2016

The Government decided on the 1st of September 2016 to relaunch Vision Zero, the initiative to end deaths and serious injuries on the roads. The relaunch is to strengthen the focus of the Government's transport safety work. At the annual road safety conference held in Tylösand, Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson presented the three assignments decided upon for this area.

The relaunch of Vision Zero aims to secure elements that work well and develop elements that work less well. The major challenge today is increasing safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Safety for motorists has improved substantially but challenges remain in this area, too.

– Several of the UN Global Goals concern road safety, and the rest of the world is interested in Sweden's transport safety efforts. To achieve the Global Goals, we must work together at local, regional, national and global level. As well as making our roads even safer, our relaunch of Vision Zero is also intended to create even better conditions for exports of Swedish road safety products and services. This benefits jobs and development in Sweden, says Ms Johansson.

## The assignments:

The Swedish Transport Administration (the Swedish government agency for planning of transport infrastructure) will be leading the road safety collaboration to achieve Vision Zero.

Transport Analysis (the Swedish government agency for transport policy analysis) will receive two assignments. The first is to propose new intermediate road safety targets beyond 2020, and the other is to investigate reduced speed limits in built-up areas. The latter is an element of road safety efforts that primarily aim to improve road safety and security for pedestrians and cyclists. The consequences of reduced speed limits in built-up areas, and alternative solutions, are to be evaluated in relation to the transport policy objectives as a whole.



Press release from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# Minister for Infrastructure to host meeting on intensified road safety efforts

Published 15 March 2016 Updated 15 March 2016

Swedish road safety efforts are successful; the Vision Zero model serves as inspiration throughout the world. But there is still work to do, which is why the Government is launching a new road safety initiative for all modes of transport. 15 March the Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson will host a meeting of road safety stakeholders to discuss future initiatives and solutions.

The Vision Zero road safety model has successfully reduced the number of deaths and serious injuries on Swedish roads. But more needs to be done. 15 March the industry will gather to launch a new phase of intensified efforts. The work done so far will be outlined, and future measures to achieve the target will be discussed. One crucial aspect of road safety efforts is collaboration between government agencies, municipalities, the industry and other stakeholders.

"Sweden is a world leader on road safety, and I am proud of that. Our successes are largely due to the fact that, thanks to the Swedish model of collaboration between different stakeholders in society, we have all worked towards the same target in a focused manner. This meeting aims to help us become even better," says Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson.

Media representatives are welcome to attend this part of the meeting.

Place: Quality Hotel Globe, Stockholm

Time: 15 March, 10.00–10.30



Press release from Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

# The Government to propose Swedish tonnage tax system

Published 02 September 2015 Updated 02 September 2015

In the Budget Bill for 2016, which is based on an agreement between the government parties and the Left Party, the Government will propose the introduction of a Swedish maritime tonnage tax system. The purpose is to give Swedish shipping companies in international traffic competitive conditions equal to those of shipping companies in other European countries.

“I am pleased that we will have a maritime tonnage tax system in place and I look forward to seeing more Swedish-flagged ships. We know that this is very important in terms of jobs and it is a step along the way to achieving the lowest rate of unemployment in the European Union by 2020,” says Minister for Infrastructure Anna Johansson.

The initiative will be funded within the infrastructure appropriations, half within the shipping industry. This will be done by adjusting maritime support and by subjecting to interest the accumulated excess depreciation of shipping companies when they enter the system.

Maritime tonnage tax is state support which must be reported to and approved by the European Commission before being implemented. Therefore, the earliest date on which the new provisions can enter into force is 1 July 2016.