

THE ROLE OF FEDERAL ROAD SAFETY CORPS IN CRISIS RESPONE AND ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT

PROTOCOL.

INTRODUCTION:

The Federal Road Safety Commission was established to primarily reduce road traffic crashes to the barest minimum and to create a safer motoring environment through Decree 45 of 1988 as amended by Decree 35 of 1992 cited as FRSC Act (CAP 141)LFN, 1990. FRSC plays a critical role in ensuring road safety, crisis response and accident management on the country's roads.

1. EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND RESCUE OPERATIONS

- ➤ Rapid response to accidents: The FRSC maintains Emergency Response Unit, including Patrol team and ambulances to respond swiftly to road traffic crashes. They provide first aid, stabilize victims and evacuate them to medical facilities.
- > Coordinate with Other Agencies: The FRSC collaborates with agencies like the Police, NEMA and the Hospitals to ensure effective rescue operations during accidents or crises.
- > Zebra Units: These are specialized FRSC response teams stationed at points to handle emergencies including accidents and traffic-related crises.

2. ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION AND DATA COLLECTION

- ➤ Crash Investigations: The FRSC investigate the causes of road traffic accidents to determine factors such as human error, mechanical failure or environmental conditions. This helps in developing strategies to prevent future occurrences.
- > Data Compilation: FRSC collects and analyzes data on road crashes to inform policy-making, public awareness campaign and toad safety interventions.

3. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT DURING CRISES

- > Traffic Control: In the event of accident, natural disasters or other crises (e.g protests or road blockages), the FRSC manages traffic flow to prevent gridlocks and ensure access for emergency services.
- ▶ Road Clearance: FRSC facilitates the removal of damaged vehicles or debris from accident scenes to restore normalcy and prevent secondary crashes.

4. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

- > Safety Campaigns: The FRSC conducts public enlightenment programs to educate drivers, passengers and pedestrians on road safety practices which helps reduce accidents and prepare the public for crisis situations.
- > **Driver Training**: The FRSC promotes safe driving habits through training programmes and campaigns to minimize behaviours that lead to accidents.

5. ENFORCEMENT OF ROAD SAFETY REGULATIONS

- ➤ Patrol and Monitoring: The FRSC conducts regular patrols to enforce compliance with traffic laws, such as speed limits, use of seat belts and prohibition of drunk driving which helps accidents.
- > Sanctions for Violations: The FRSC issues fines or sanctions to traffic offenders, deterring reckless behaviour that could lead to crises or accidents.

6. POST-ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT

- Victim Support: The FRSC ensures that accident victims receive immediate care and are referred to appropriate medical facilities. FRSC also assist in identifying victims and manage post-accident processes.
- Documentation and Reporting: The FRSC documents accident details including the number of casualties, vehicles involved and circumstances, for legal and administrative purposes.

7. COLLABORATION IN NATIONAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- > During national crises (e.g floods, terrorists attacks or mass casualty incidents), the FRSC supports broader emergency response efforts by providing logistics, traffic control and rescue operations.
- > FRSC works with other agencies to ensure safe evacuation routes and access for emergency respondents.

8. ESTABLISHMENT OF ROAD SAFETY INFRASTRUCTURE

- > The FRSC advocates for and support road signs, speed bumps and other safety infrastructure to reduce accident risks.
- > FRSC maintains emergency hot-lines e.g 122 in Nigeria for reporting accidents and requesting assistance.

9. LEGAL BACKINGS

The roles of FRSC in crisis response and accident management are grounded in the Federal Road Safety Corps (Establishment Act, 2007) which empowers her to prevent and minimize accidents, supervise road user behaviour and manage road safety administration in Nigeria.

CHALLENGES

Despite her efforts, the FRSC faces challenges such as inadequate funding, limited equipment e.g ambulances and tow trucks, and manpower shortages which can affect her efficiency in crisis response and accident management.

THANKS FOR LISTENING !!!