



Présidence du Conseil d'Etat
Chancellerie - IVS

Präsidium des Staatsrates
Kanzlei - IVS

CANTON DU VALAIS
KANTON WALLIS

PRESS RELEASE

14th of March, 2012

**Deadly coach accident in Siders
The government of the canton Valais mourns the victims
of the coach accident together with the bereaved**

(IVS).- The government of the canton Valais is shocked at the tragic coach accident that happened Tuesday evening in Siders/Sierre and offers their sincere condolences to the families and relatives of the victims. The people of Belgium and Netherlands have been hit hard by this accident, especially families from the towns of Lommel and Heverlee.

That a holiday trip can turn into such a tragedy is met by the people of the canton Valais with deep sympathy and mourning. The government of the canton Valais wants to wish the families involved a lot of strength to cope with their loss in these difficult times and deeply regrets this incomprehensible tragedy. In their session this morning the parliamentarians of the canton Valais rose for a minute of silence to express their deepest sympathy for the victims and their families.

As a sign of deepest sympathy and respect Jacques Melly, the president of the canton Valais, visited the site of the accident in the early morning hours and expressed his sincere condolences to the Belgian ambassador in the name of the government and people of the canton Valais. This afternoon he will also receive the ambassador of the Netherlands, a delegation of the Belgium government under the lead of the prime minister as well as the head of the Swiss Government Eveline Widmer-Schlumpf and the families of the victims.

