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# GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

Empowering leaders and decision makers  
through a global knowledge exchange network

## GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP

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ASSOCIATION MONDIALE DE LA ROUTE - WORLD ROAD ASSOCIATION  
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Member countries make an invaluable and mutually beneficial contribution to the strength of the World Road Association. Participation in the Association's international roads events, conferences, committees and discussion groups offers exceptional opportunities for high-level member networking and knowledge sharing.



The exchange of roads expertise and experience between nations serves to highlight the key issues and challenges they face, showcase new innovations and enables them to reflect on lessons learned. This unique knowledge forum also promotes global partnerships, while discussion outcomes inform decision making processes and build on the Association's robust information and resources base. As importantly, the Association strives to close the knowledge gap and foster outreach programs between developed nations, developing nations and those in transition.

### AN EXTENSIVE AND DIVERSE GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP BASE

Association members share the common goal of an integrated, sustainable and safe transport system. From **national and regional authorities** to collective members (such as universities, companies, scientific and technical associations, consultancies, user groups)

and individuals - all are concerned with the spectrum of issues relating to roads and road transport.

### A REPUTATION FOR LONGEVITY AND LEADERSHIP

To join the Association is to join a network that has existed since 1909 at the dawn of the Motor Age. More than 100 years later, the Association continues to foster and facilitate global discussion and knowledge sharing on roads and road transport. The Association now boasts 118 government members worldwide and retains consultative status to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

### A POWERFUL PLATFORM FOR KNOWLEDGE SHARING

The Association has assembled several key forums, committees and groups:

**Technical Committees:** unite experts from numerous areas including road safety and design, network operations and maintenance, finance and governance. Experts are nominated by member countries to work on issues identified under the Association's 'Strategic Plan', a key 'directions' document endorsed by member countries. Technical Committees allow participants

to access global information and expertise, along with professional development and networking opportunities.

**National Committees:** exist as a national level forum in over thirty member countries and maintain similar objectives to the international Association. National Committees provide and facilitate two-way communication and participation in Association events, along with access to global road transport information.

**World Road Congress:** is held every four years (since 1908) and is attended by over 4,000 road professionals. As the premier event for the road sector, the Congress (and associated exhibition) provides information and discussion forums on current best practice to develop a modern day 'snapshot' of the road sector and the challenges it faces.

**International Winter Road Congress:** is a world-class conference uniting winter road experts from across the globe. It promotes knowledge sharing on winter road issues between countries who experience a severe climate. Held every four years (since 1969), it is organised by the Association and complements the World Road Congress.

**Partnerships** established between the Association and key international road transport sector organisations work to create synergies and promote outreach initiatives. Groups include the regional associations of road administrations and agencies (CEDR, REAAA, and DIRCAIBEA), the World Bank and international technical organisations such as the International Tunnelling and Underground Space, FISITA and the like.

**International Seminars:** are instigated and hosted by the Association in support of sharing knowledge with developing countries - an international seminar program is offered to developing countries and nations in transition. Members can participate in these events by attending, exhibiting or presenting to delegates on current and emerging issues. Members can access all corresponding seminar presentations and reports.

**Council Meeting Conference Discussions:** are held annually to discuss important and emerging issues impacting the road sector. Attended by Directors of road administration bodies and agencies from all member countries, past topics include current developments within the organisation, the missions of road administrators and the response of the road and transport sector to the global financial crisis.

### INTERNATIONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

The Association offers talented young professionals an outstanding opportunity to work for the General Secretariat located in Paris, France. Having been nominated by their member country, individuals are seconded from around the world to assume an active role in the management and support of the Association. They can also be nominated as associate members of Technical Committees where they will be afforded an international perspective, insight and education on road issues.

Each of these invaluable opportunities enables road industry professionals to elevate their professional standing and progress their career, knowledge and experience at an international level.

### COLLECTIVE RESOURCES ON ROADS INFORMATION

The Association's extensive pool of global resources exists as an invaluable tool for professional development, education and training:

**World Road Association website:** Visit [www.piarc.org](http://www.piarc.org) for a range of online resources including technical reports and dictionaries, lexicons in several languages, events and seminars information and access to the Association's magazine. A monthly newsletter promoting upcoming events, seminars, publications and activities of the National Committees is also available online.

**Routes/Roads magazine:** This quarterly publication (published in English and French) showcases outstanding road sector achievements and includes comprehensive papers that blend topical issues with illustrative case studies.

**HDM-4:** Since 1996, the Association has assumed responsibility of the development and management of the software platform for the analysis of road investments and road maintenance policies, providing software upgrades and global user support.

**Terminology database:** The database is an online multilingual dictionary of road terms that is free to any website user. The database includes over 32,000 terms in English, 20,000 in French and a variable number of terms in another 18 languages.



### REWARDS FOR MEMBER COMMITMENT AND EXCELLENCE

The Association recognises and rewards the talent and commitment of members in several ways:

**Member of Honor:** Recognises outstanding commitment to the Association and the road sector community.

**National Committee Award:** Recognises outstanding achievement of a national committee in interchange and promotion of country transport sector at the national level.

**World Road Congress Prizes:** Awarded every four years at the World Road Congress, these member country sponsored prizes acknowledge outstanding papers submitted to the Congress on selected topics, or award criteria. Winning authors also have the privilege of presenting their paper on the international stage.

### BENEFITS, ENTITLEMENTS AND PREFERENTIAL RATES FOR MEMBERS

Collective and individual members can access special promotional offers and enjoy discounted publications. They will also benefit from fee reductions applying to registration at key events hosted by the Association (such as the World Road Congress), regional conferences and seminars.

For **National Governments**, joining the Association enables them to:

1. appoint two or more delegates to the Council including the First Delegate (the representative of the country to the Association),
2. nominate members to Technical Committees and other bodies,
3. receive as many copies of each edition of the Association's Magazine as they have delegates to the Council (a minimum of five),
4. receive as many copies of all other documents printed by the Association as they have delegates to the Council,
5. access the members' area of the Association's website,
6. receive the Association's electronic newsletter,
7. appoint official representatives to the World Road Congress (the number of representatives being determined according to the amount of the government subscription or other voluntary contribution as determined by the Council), and
8. appoint up to two official representatives to the International Winter Road Congress (who are exempt from paying a registration fee).

For **Regional Authorities**, joining the Association enables them to:

1. nominate one member to up to three Technical Committees,
2. receive five copies of each edition of the Association's Magazine,
3. receive one copy of all other documents printed by the Association,
4. access the members' area of the Association's website,
5. receive the Association's electronic newsletter,
6. appoint one official representative to the World Road Congress (who is exempt from paying a registration fee), and
7. appoint one official representative to the International Winter Road Congress (who is exempt from paying a registration fee).



**JOE BURNS**, Chairman of the National Committee of the World Road Association for UK (WRA-UK)



When set a challenge by Ministers to provide a strategy for the procurement of maintenance services that would offer enhanced value for money I used the extensive world-wide contact network of the Association to assemble a comprehensive review of world best practice in the procurement and delivery of highway maintenance services in just 6 weeks. I was able to develop a highway maintenance services procurement strategy for the UK backed by evidenced experience from government departments and other highway authorities. This allowed us to move forward faster and with greater confidence. This saved the UK government significant development costs and also allowed earlier realisation of efficiency savings.

**TONY KANE**, Director of Engineering and Technical Services, AASHTO, USA



The World Road Association is all about knowledge sharing and networking. I have been involved with the Association for about twenty years---most recently while at AASHTO. The Association has been valuable to me and in turn to AASHTO and the individual State Departments of Transportation (all of whom are now members).

By attending the Executive Committee meetings in support of the first delegate, my relationship with the Korean Expressway Corporation officials has resulted in the first ever assignment of a terrific Korean engineer to my staff for one year.

I have become closer to my Australian counterparts, which has proved very beneficial for our international scanning efforts. Being able to have direct contact with leading experts in all areas of road transport across the globe delivers tangible benefits for my own country.

**JULIO C. ORTIZ ANDINO**, General Coordinator of the Argentinean Road Administration



The philosophy and program of the World Road Association is to show the importance of technology transfer and disseminate the results of the work from Technical Committees, which are composed of the most prominent road sector experts from around the world.

During my involvement over the last 8 years Argentina has had the opportunity to promote our practices and also be informed about the latest engineering applications from around the world.

**JOSÉ MARÍA PERTIERRA DE LA UZ**, General Road Director of Spain



The World Road Association represents a fantastic opportunity for those working for the development of the road network, and thus in the economy and welfare of the citizen of our country, to exchange our experiences in the field serving as stimulus to improve the technical, management, security and environmental protection aspects; and in short, in the efficiency of this important transport infrastructure which remains the most widely used mode of transport.

**YVES ROBICHON**, Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development, Transport and Housing, France



I have been a member of the Association for almost 30 years and represented my country in 3 different Technical Committees: interurban roads, road assets management and road safety.

An active participation in the Technical Committees has proven to be very beneficial through direct access to information and to the experience gained by other countries. Among various examples, this was the case when, as responsible for the maintenance of the national roads network, I was asked to develop a way for establishing dialog with road users and collect their opinion of the quality of service. I was inspired by the good practices of some countries and I could save a lot of time in the delivery of this work.