

PIARC
WORLD ROAD ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT

October 2001 – October 2002

CONTENTS

1	PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD	2
2	PIARC IN 2002.....	3
2.1	Organisation	3
2.2	Governing Bodies.....	3
2.3	Members.....	4
2.4	National Committees.....	5
2.5	Commissions	6
2.6	General Secretariat.....	7
2.6.1	Staff.....	7
2.6.2	Activities	7
3	STRATEGIC PLAN 2000-2003.....	9
3.1	PIARC's Vision, Mission and Values	8
3.2	Strategic Themes.....	8
4	PIARC ACTIVITIES.....	9
4.1	Congresses	9
4.2	Technical Committees	10
4.3	On-going Projects	11
4.4	Publications	13
4.5	Cooperation with other organisations.....	14

1 President's Foreword

This 2002 Annual Report to the PIARC Council and Executive Committee reflects the many achievements of the past year, the excellent way our operational bodies work, and the dedication of all our active members.

In August 2002, PIARC had 100 member governments—of which two thirds are developing countries and countries in transition—and 30 National Committees. There are some 2000 other members—of which half are individual members—from about 130 countries.

The XIth Winter Road Congress held in Sapporo, Japan, from 28-31 January 2002, was outstandingly successful owing to the perfect conduct of business at the meetings, the high standards of the projects presented and the number of participants. I therefore warmly congratulate President Michio Suzuki and all the members of the Japanese Organising Committee on the success of this important event.

The Executive Committee members, chairs and members of commissions, theme coordinators and all the members of the 20 Technical Committees, are continuing their activities in accordance with the Strategic Plan and their respective work programmes, the practical results of which will be presented to the next World Road Congress in 2003 in Durban. The Finance Commission focused its activities on the 2001 accounts, the evolution of the 2002 budget, management strategies of the assets of National Committees (including the auditors' role), the rules of the Special Fund and follow-up of on-going projects. The Strategic Plan Commission addressed important issues such as the operation of the Technical Committees, the use of languages within PIARC, preparation of some of the sessions of the 2003 Durban Congress, the calendar for revision of the Strategic Plan and the Commission's projects for restructuring the Association. The Commission on Communication determined the membership of the International Jury for the PIARC Prizes 2003 Competition, made an evaluation of PIARC products and implemented its action plan. The PIARC National Committee Meeting decided to update a guide and submitted the new or amended statutes of several National Committees to the appropriate bodies.

Organising many seminars in developing countries and countries in transition, creating technology transfer centres and keeping close links with other international organisations working in the road sector are also activities that deserve to be included in the record of this past year.

I wish to express my sincerest gratitude to all my colleagues of the PIARC Executive Committee and the General Secretariat for their cooperation and strong support. I would particularly like to thank the outgoing Secretary General, Mr Jean-François Coste, for his outstanding commitment to our Association's cause. I also wish every success to the new Secretary General, Mr Jean-François Corté, who took up his post on 1 May 2002.

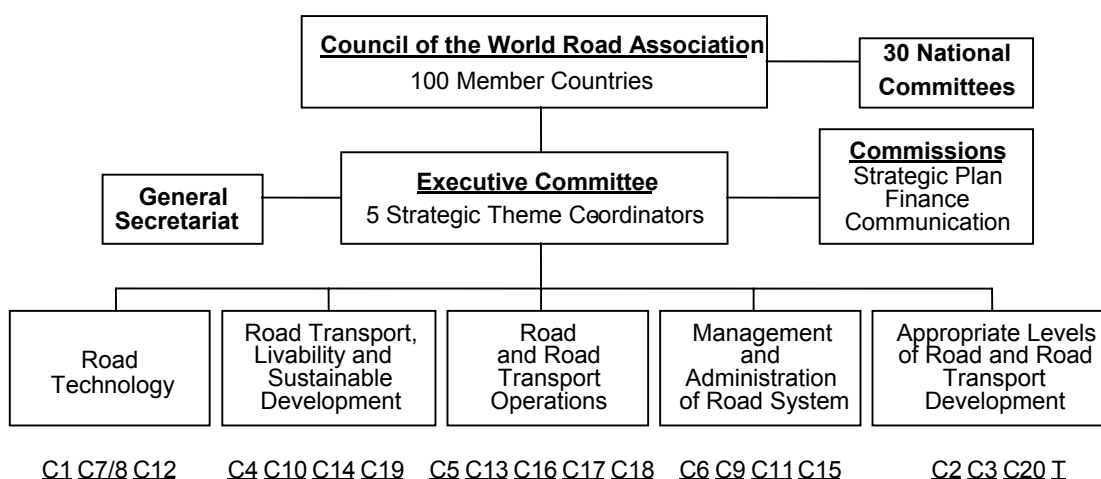
Lastly, I congratulate all our Association's members for the efforts they have made to launch road projects that are consistent with the principles of sustainable development.

Olivier Michaud
President of PIARC

2 PIARC in 2002

2.1 Organisation

The World Road Association (PIARC), established in 1909 as a non-profit organisation, is the oldest international association concerned with road engineering, road policy and the management of road networks. It is in a unique position as an international forum for the exchange of information, which is able to address the full range of road transport and road infrastructure issues. The main structure of PIARC is as illustrated below.



Structure of PIARC

2.2 Governing Bodies

The Council of the World Road Association has the overall responsibility for the Association. At its meeting held on 10-11 October 2001 in Rome, Italy, there were 72 delegates, representing 36 member countries.

The Executive Committee is responsible for supervising the management of the Association in accordance with policies approved by the Council. During the last one-year period, its meetings took place on 9-10 October 2001 in Rome, Italy, and on 24-25 April 2002 in Vancouver, Canada.

The Enlarged Bureau, comprising the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Chairs of the three Commissions and the Theme Coordinators, met on 4 July 2002 in Berne, Switzerland.

In Rome, the Council elected:

- Patrick GANDIL (France), Vice-President to replace Mr. Karim GHELLAB (Morocco) who has resigned and is replaced on the Executive Committee by M'hamed BEN N'CER (Morocco),

Since this meeting, PIARC has recorded the following resignations from the Executive Committee:

- Manuel RODRIGUEZ MORALES (Mexico), Richard RANDRIANARISOA (Madagascar), Anton ŠAJNA (Slovenia), Michio SUZUKI (Japan).

Owing to these changes, the membership of the PIARC Executive Committee as of 1 October 2002, before the Council Meeting in Melbourne, is as follows:

- Mr Olivier MICHAUD, President of PIARC,
- Dr Hiroshi MITANI, former President of PIARC,
- The Vice-Presidents of PIARC: Pablo ANGUITA SALAS (Chile), Patrick GANDIL (France), Colin JORDAN (Australia).
- Nazir ALLI (South Africa), Antonio J. ALONSO-BURGOS (Spain), Pablo ANGUITA SALAS (Chile), Maria Pia CERCIELLO (Italy), Henning CHRISTIANSEN (Denmark), Gerold ESTERMANN (Austria), Patrick GANDIL (France), M'hamed BEN N' CER (Morocco), Colin JORDAN (Australia), Ginny CLARKE (United Kingdom), Anne-Marie LECLERC (Canada-Quebec), Marc LEMLIN (Belgium), Dato' Ir. Hj. ZAINI bin OMAR (Malaysia),
- Mrs Brenda J. BAIRD, representative of the National Committees.

2.3 Members

PIARC has four categories of members, namely: National Governments, Regional Authorities, Collective Members and Individual Members.

In the past year, PIARC recorded the admission of *3 new member countries: NAMIBIA, CAMBODIA and GHANA*. As of 1 October 2002, PIARC **has 100 national member governments** from all over the world. Two thirds of the member countries are developing countries and countries in transition. There are approximately 2,000 other members (of whom about half are individual members) from almost 130 different countries.

PIARC Member Countries (31 July 2002)

ALGERIA	CUBA	KOREA (Rep.)	RUSSIA
ANDORRA	CZECH Rep.	KUWAIT	SAUDI ARABIA
ARGENTINA	DENMARK	LATVIA	SENEGAL
AUSTRALIA	ECUADOR	LITHUANIA	SLOVAK Rep.
AUSTRIA	EGYPT	LUXEMBOURG	SLOVENIA
BANGLADESH	ESTONIA	MADAGASCAR	SOUTH AFRICA
BELGIUM	FINLAND	MALAYSIA	SPAIN
BENIN	FRANCE	MALI	SRI LANKA
BOLIVIA	GABON	MAURITIUS	SWEDEN
BRAZIL	GERMANY	MEXICO	SWITZERLAND
BULGARIA	GHANA	MONGOLIA	SYRIA
BURKINA FASO	GREECE	MOROCCO	TANZANIA
CAMBODIA	GUATEMALA	NAMIBIA	THAILAND
CAMEROON	GUINEA	NETHERLANDS	TONGA
CANADA	HONDURAS	NEW ZEALAND	TUNISIA
CANADA-QUEBEC	HUNGARY	NICARAGUA	TURKEY
CAPE VERDE	INDIA	NORWAY	UGANDA
CHAD	INDONESIA	PAKISTAN	UKRAINE
CHILE	IRAN	PANAMA	UNITED KINGDOM
CHINA (<i>Peop. Rep.</i>)	IRELAND	PARAGUAY	UNITED STATES
COLOMBIA	ISRAEL	PERU	URUGUAY
CONGO (<i>Dem. Rep.</i>)	ITALY	PHILIPPINES	UZBEKISTAN
CONGO (<i>Rep.</i>)	IVORY COAST	POLAND	VENEZUELA
COSTA RICA	JAPAN	PORTUGAL	YEMEN
CROATIA	KENYA	ROMANIA	ZIMBABWE

2.4 National Committees

Member countries can create National Committees to represent PIARC at the national level and to contribute to a greater involvement in PIARC activities and a wider dissemination of its findings and recommendations. National Committee representatives meet once a year, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Brenda J. Baird (Canada), on the occasion of the Council Meeting.

Hungary and Romania in 2001, then *Burkina Faso* in 2002 with sponsorship by Canada-Quebec, have set up their National Committees. As of 1 October 2002, PIARC has 30 National Committees, including organisations acting as PIARC National Committees, i.e. Austroads and the Nordic Road Association (NVF).

PIARC National Committees (1 October 2002)

Algeria	Canada-Quebec	Japan	Portugal
Argentina	France	Madagascar	Romania
Austria	Germany	Morocco	Slovak Rep.
Austroads (Australia and New Zealand)	Greece	Netherlands	Slovenia
Belgium	Hungary	NVF(Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden)	Spain
Burkina Faso	India		Switzerland
Canada	Italy		United Kingdom

2.5 Commissions

Three Commissions assist the Executive Committee in its activities, namely: the Strategic Plan Commission chaired by Mr. Colin JORDAN (Australia), the Finance Commission chaired by Mr. Marc LEMLIN (Belgium) and the Commission on Communication chaired by Mr. Henning CHRISTIANSEN (Denmark).

Strategic Plan Commission

The Strategic Plan Commission held meetings on 9 October 2001 in Rome and 24 April 2002 in Vancouver, where the Theme Coordinators reported on the progress of work of the Technical Committees.

The Strategic Plan activities mainly covered the following points:

- preparation of the Strategic Direction Sessions of the Durban Congress;
- the Association's international relations: work began on making an inventory and determining priorities;
- the structure of the Association and the roles of the decision-making bodies;
- preparation for the revision of the 2004-2007 Strategic Plan: a calendar has been drawn up;
- the Association's official languages, with particular thought to the place to be given to Spanish.

Finance Commission

The Finance Commission met in Brussels in March and September 2002. Its main concerns at these meetings were the following:

- an examination of PIARC accounts for 2001 and for the current year 2002,
- the situation of PIARC assets held by National Committees and the proposal of a strategy for managing these funds,
- follow-up of on-going projects such as HDM-4, the programme of PIARC International Seminars, the creation of technology transfer centres, etc.,
- an examination of the budget forecast for 2003.

Commission on Communication

The Commission on Communication has held two meetings, in October 2001 in Rome and in March 2002 in Paris. The main activities carried out by the Commission in close cooperation with the General Secretariat covered the following:

- the Routes/Roads magazine for which the General Secretariat was asked to provide a development plan by October 2002,
- follow-up of the redesigning of the website and an examination of the project to restructure the World Interchange Network,
- an evaluation of PIARC products and selection of a consultant able to make a study,
- preparation of the evaluation of the "PIARC Reference Shelf" (experimental phase),
- the PIARC Prizes Competition: The International Jury has been formed and will hold its first meeting in October 2002 in Melbourne.

2.6 General Secretariat

2.6.1 Staff

In Rome, the Council appointed Mr Jean-François Corté as Secretary General to replace Mr Jean-François Coste, who has reached retirement age.

As of 1 October 2002, the PIARC General Secretariat is composed of six salaried support staff (of whom one part-time) and four executive staff seconded by France (2), Japan (1) and NVF (1).

Staff changes that occurred over the past year are as follows:

- on 1 February 2002, Mr Jean-François Corté, seconded by France, joined PIARC to take up the post of Secretary General as of 1 May 2002;
- on 22 March 2002, Mr Soichiro Kako (Tokyo Metropolitan Expressway Public Corporation) left the General Secretariat. On 18 March, he was replaced by Mr Hitoshi Sakuma (Japan Highway Public Corporation), Technical Adviser, also seconded by Japan;
- on 19 July 2002, Mrs Ulrika Sundgren (Sweden) left the General Secretariat. She was replaced by Ms Tytti Viinikainen (Finland), seconded pursuant to the agreement signed between PIARC and the Nordic Road Association (NVF).

Austroroads will second a full-time engineer to the General Secretariat as from autumn 2002. This secondment will be on a six-monthly rotational basis.

Spain has confirmed that it will shortly second a full-time engineer to the General Secretariat.

2.6.2 Activities

In addition to the logistical support provided by the General Secretariat to the PIARC bodies and the Technical Committees, and the regular management of the Association, the General Secretariat has carried out the following specific activities during the past year:

- *in conjunction with the Executive Committee and the South-African Organising Committee:*
 - finalising the technical programme of the Durban Congress and translating the Circular No. 2;
- *in conjunction with the Commission on Communication:*
 - upgrading the PIARC website (<http://www.piarc.org>) with the help of a subcontractor. the developments are practically complete and the new website will be operational by the end of 2002;
 - defining the new WIN functionalities with the World Interchange Network, and launching external production of IT developments;

- *publications:*
 - in addition to the documents listed in §4.4, printing and publishing a new PIARC presentation brochure in French, English and Spanish, new versions of the publications catalogue and the membership form, and a CD-terminology promotion brochure;
 - submission of a development plan for the Routes/Roads magazine to the Commission on Communication in Melbourne;
- *in conjunction with the Strategic Plan Commission:*
 - a survey on all the Technical Committees and preparation for the one-day seminar in Berne on 5 July 2002,
 - setting out a calendar for the revision of the Strategic Plan and the official PIARC texts;
- *in conjunction with the Finance Commission:*
 - development projects for HDM-4,
 - examining PIARC assets held by the National Committees.

During the past year, members of the General Secretariat participated in various congresses and exhibitions to promote the Association, including TRB (Washington), Winter Road Congress (Sapporo), FISITA (Helsinki), BCRA 2002 (Lisbon), ISAP 2002 (Copenhagen), and the international Conference on Geosynthetics (Nice), etc.

The Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General participated respectively in the meeting of the Western European Road Directors and the meeting of their deputies.

3 Strategic Plan 2000-2003

3.1 PIARC's Vision, Mission and Values

Note that the PIARC Strategic Plan 2000-2003 was issued in February 2001. An abridged version, edited with the help of the Swiss National Committee, was issued in January 2002.

3.2 Strategic Themes

The PIARC Strategic Plan 2000-2003 identifies five "Strategic Themes". In Rome, the Executive Committee appointed new Theme Coordinators: Mrs Ginny CLARKE (United Kingdom) for ST3, and Dato' Ir. Hj. ZAINI bin Omar (Malaysia) for ST5, to replace respectively Messrs John KERMAN (United Kingdom) and Karim GHELLAB (Morocco) who have resigned. No other changes occurred during the past year.

PIARC's Strategic Themes for 2000-2003

Strategic Theme 1: Road Technology

Goal: To improve the provision and maintenance of road infrastructure in accordance with international best practice.

Coordinator: *Mr Antonio J. ALONSO-BURGOS (Spain)*

Strategic Theme 2: Road Transport, Livability and Sustainable Development

Goal: To encourage the development of road transport policies and programs that take full account of the need for integration with other transport modes and that result in beneficial community outcomes in economic, environmental and social terms.

Coordinator: *Mr. Patrick GANDIL (France)*

Strategic Theme 3: Road and Road Transport Operations

Goal: To improve the safe and efficient use of the road system, including the movement of people and goods on the road network, while effectively managing the risks associated with road transport operations and the natural environment.

Coordinator: *Mrs Ginny CLARKE (United Kingdom)*

Strategic Theme 4: Management and Administration of the Road System

Goal: To improve the performance of road administrations in the provision, operation and management of road infrastructure and its use in accordance with international best practice.

Coordinator: *Mr Gerold ESTERMANN (Austria)*

Strategic Theme 5: Appropriate Levels of Road and Road Transport Development

Goal: To foster the development of road transport policies and programs which take account of the particular needs of developing nations and countries in transition and of rural and remote areas.

Coordinator: *Mr. Dato' Ir. Hj. ZAINI bin OMAR (Malaysia)*

4 PIARC Activities

4.1 Congresses

International Winter Road Congress

The XIth International Winter Road Congress in Sapporo (28-31 January 2002) was outstandingly successful owing to the perfect conduct of business at the meetings, the quality of the contributions and the number of participants: 2,300 people from 64 countries attended the Congress, and 76,600 people visited the exhibition.

In Rome, the Council decided that the XIIth International Winter Road Congress in 2006 would take place in Turin-Sestriere, Italy.

World Road Congress

Preparations for the next World Road Congress to be held in Durban, South Africa, from 19 to 25 October 2003, have continued apace. A website is dedicated to the Congress: www.wrc2003.com

The Congress Handbook and Circular No. 1 were issued at the end of 2001. As of 1 October 2002, Circular No. 2 is being printed in four languages, French, English, Spanish and Portuguese. The registration forms are also available.

The Technical Programme was fully approved by the President after the meetings of the Enlarged Bureau, held in Berne on 4 and 5 July 2002, and the meeting between the Theme Coordinators and the Technical Committee Chairs.

The PIARC Prizes 2003 Competition was launched within the framework of the Durban Congress, with a view to encouraging innovation, recognising professional expertise, promoting developing countries' interests and generating discussion and debate on the future of transport systems. The entries selected by the First Delegates had to be sent to the General Secretariat at the beginning of September 2002 as the International Jury is to hold its first meeting in Melbourne.

4.2 Technical Committees

The 20 PIARC Technical Committees, created under one of the five themes in the Strategic Plan, continued their work on topics related to roads and road transport issues. The Technical Committees' Work Programme for the 2000-2003 period was printed and circulated in February 2001. It is also available on the PIARC website.

In the past year, the Executive Committee made three new appointments to replace Chairs who have resigned:

- C4: Mr Jean-Michel GAMBARD (France), to replace Mr Garry LIDDLE (Australia),
- C20: Mr Kesogukewele MSITA (Tanzania), to replace Mr Jean-Paulin NKILI BENGONE (Gabon),
- T: Mr Patrice RETOUR (France), to replace Mr Angel LACLETA (Spain).

In addition, the Committee appointed Mr Kent GUSTAFSON (Sweden) as Chair of C 17, Winter Maintenance, to replace Mr Tadayuki TAZAKI (Japan).

The following table summarises the situation as of 1 October 2002.

All the Technical Committee Chairs met together with the Theme Coordinators on 5 July 2002 in Berne (Switzerland) to hear their opinions on the following:

- current operation of Committees within PIARC,
- priorities for the next cycle after the Durban Congress,
- the technical programme calendar of the Durban Congress.

Technical Committees for 2000-2003 and Chairs (1st October 2002)

<i>ST 1 Road Technology</i>		
C1	Surface Characteristics	Mr Bjarne SCHMIDT (Denmark)
C7/8	Road Pavements	Mr Nelson RIOUX (Canada-Quebec)
C12	Earthworks, Drainage and Subgrade	Mr Giorgio PERONI (Italy)
<i>ST 2 Road Transport, Livability and Sustainable Development</i>		
C4	Interurban Roads and Integrated Interurban Transport	Mr Jean-Michel GAMBARD (France)
C10	Urban Areas and Integrated Urban Transport	Prof. George HAZEL (UK)
C14	Sustainable Development and Road Transport	Mr. Anders HH JANSSON (Finland)
C19	Freight Transport	Mr Anders K. LUNDQVIST (Sweden)
<i>ST 3 Road and Road Transport Operations</i>		
C5	Road Tunnel Operation	Mr Didier LACROIX (France)
C13	Road Safety	Ir. Peter M.W. ELSENAAR (Netherlands)
C16	Network Operations	Mrs Sandra SULTANA (Canada-Quebec)
C17	Winter Maintenance	Mr Tadayuki TAZAKI (Japan) (Mr Kent GUSTAFSON (Sweden) as from 1 January 2003)
C18	Risk Management for Roads	Mr Minoru HIRANO (Japan)
<i>ST 4 Management and Administration of the Road System</i>		
C6	Road Management	Dr Michel GORSKI (Belgium)
C9	Economic and Financial Evaluation	Mrs Sherri Y. ALSTON (USA)
C11	Road Bridges and Other Structures	Mrs Brigitte MAHUT (France)
C15	Performance of Road Administrations	Mrs Miranda DOUGLAS-CRANE (Australia)
<i>ST 5 Appropriate Levels of Road and Road Transport Development</i>		
C2	Community Consultation	Mr Willy BURGUNDER (Switzerland)
C3	Technological Exchanges and Development	Ing. Oscar DE BUEN (Mexico)
C20	Appropriate Development	Mr Kesogukewele MSITA (Tanzania)
T	Terminology	Mr Patrice RETOUR (France)

4.3 On-going Projects

HDM-4 (Coordinator: Jean-François Coste)

Version 1.2 of the HDM4 software, which is used to investigate choices for investments in road transport infrastructure, was made available for purchase as a CD-ROM in October 2001.

At the request of the Council in Rome, the development plan of Version 2 was prepared and submitted for the Executive Committee's opinion at the meeting in Vancouver. The Executive Committee approved the launch of Version 2.0. It appointed Jean-François Coste to be in charge of the remainder of the project and requested that a project team should be formed, whose main task would be to consider the future of the product after Version 2 has been completed.

PIARC-Terminology (Coordinator: Patrice Retour)

The aims of this coordinated project are to gather all existing dictionaries and lexicons into one database on a CD-ROM, to facilitate the addition of new languages, and to circulate and update the dictionaries via the Internet. The CD-ROM has been available for purchase since October 2000. The Italian version of the Technical Dictionary of Road Terms can be downloaded from the Internet since March 2001 and the German version since May 2002.

The first update of the French-English dictionary and the lexicon via the Internet was made available to CD-ROM users in March 2002.

Creation of Technology Transfer Centres (Coordinator: Colin Ellis)

A Technology Transfer Centre (TTC) is a point of contact for receiving road-related information on technology, practices and experiences from all over the world and disseminating this information in the country or neighbouring countries. Each TTC creation is formalised by a memorandum of understanding between the country and PIARC.

As of 1 October:

- 5 memorandums have been signed with Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Madagascar, Mongolia and Chad,
- others are under preparation with China and Tanzania.

The seminar held in May 2002 in Siem Reap, Cambodia, brought together the TTC managers for discussion on their activities and their relations.

Organisation of Seminars in DC/CIT (Coordinator: Colin Ellis)

This project is implemented under the leadership of the Technical Committee on Technological Exchanges and Development (C3) and is entitled "PIARC Programme of International Seminars - Roads, Transport and Development".

5 seminars took place before October 2001: in Benin (C20), Czech Republic (C16), Tanzania (C3+ HDM-4), Estonia (C6) and Chile (C18).

Since then, the following seminars have taken place: in India (C14 + ST2), Thailand (C11/C13), Cambodia (C3/C20), Mongolia (C12), Cuba (C1, C9/C15), Chile (C5) and Hungary (C18).

This brings the total number to 13 at the date of the Council meeting.

World Interchange Network – WIN (Coordinator: Claire Monette)

The operation of WIN has been modified to give it a more decentralised structure. New specifications have been prepared by the group with the General Secretariat in order to redesign the WIN website and integrate it into the PIARC website. The aim is to make it operational for the Durban Congress.

Reference Shelf Publications

All the reference shelf publications have been sent to eight educational institutions under a pilot action. As they were delivered rather belatedly to some of the universities, the review of this action has been postponed until the end of 2002 so that a decision can be taken on whether to implement it more widely.

Evaluation of PIARC Products

For this project, initiated by C3 and followed up by the Commission on Communication, there was a call for proposals in May 2002. The director of the study by the University of Sheffield (United Kingdom) was selected. The papers which will include proposals to improve the adequacy of products for members' needs, and to enable self-assessment of future products, are to be submitted during the first half-year 2003.

4.4 Publications

Since October 2000, PIARC has published 3 technical reports and some documents of general interest:

- an abridged version of the Strategic Plan, thanks to the Swiss National Committee,
- Integrated intermodal strategies for road, rail and water transport (ref. IHME),
- Road safety audits (13.02.B),
- Socio-economic demands and modifications of bridges (11.07.B),
- Recycling of existing flexible pavements (08.07.B),
- Cross section geometry in unidirectional road tunnels (05.11.B),
- International Experiment to Harmonize Longitudinal and Transverse Profile Measurement and Reporting Procedure (01.07.B),
- Use of Innovating Materials for Bridge Construction and Repair (11.09.B),

and a new PIARC presentation brochure in French, English and Spanish, a new publications catalogue, a new membership form and a CD-terminology promotion brochure.

For further information on PIARC publications, see the full list on the Association's website www.piarc.org.

Since the meeting in Rome, the four issues of the "Routes/Roads" quarterly magazine have been produced on time, with a circulation of 6,000 copies for each issue.

4.5 Cooperation with other organisations

PIARC has long developed close links with many international organisations involved in the field of roads and road transport and with regional associations. Road Directors Groups, by now established in Africa, Western Europe and Latin America, and in Asia and Australasia, are also important partners of PIARC.

Over the past year, the General Secretariat and members of the Council or the Executive Committee have represented PIARC and promoted its activities at international events, congresses and exhibitions, such as those of the Transportation Research Board (TRB, Washington, January 2002), FISITA (Helsinki, June 2002), Intertraffic Asia 2002 (Bangkok, June 2002), Conference on the Bearing Capacity of Roads and Airfields (Lisbon, June 2002), ISAP (Copenhagen, August 2002), IRF and ARF Asia Pacific Roads Conference (Sydney, September 2002).