



Introduction to PIARC

May 2020

Introduction

What is PIARC?



What is PIARC?

- **PIARC** is the new name of the **World Road Association**
- We were founded in 1909 as a **non-profit, non-political** Association
- Our goal is to organise exchange of knowledge on all matters related to roads and road transport



PIARC's Four key missions

- Be a **leading international forum for analysis and discussion** of the full spectrum of transport issues related to roads and related transport;
 - Identify, develop, and disseminate **best practice** and **give better access to international information**;
 - Consider within its activities the needs of **developing countries and countries in transition** fully; and
 - Design, produce, and promote **efficient tools for decision making** on matters related to roads and related transport.
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- The Association mobilizes the expertise of its members
 - Through operations guided by a **4-year Strategic Plan**



Knowledge exchange: The core of PIARC

- **PIARC mobilises international road and transport experts through more than 20 groups (Committees and Task Forces):**
 - Ad-hoc dialogue among peers
 - Network building
 - Joint work towards commonly-agreed deliverables
- **These deliverables are widely accessible:**
 - Reports
 - Seminars or workshops
 - Online manuals
 - Software and tools
- **PIARC Congresses and events are world-class focus points for:**
 - Dissemination of these deliverables
 - Further discussions

*“PIARC has a good reputation as serious experts
which is what we all need”
PIARC Advisory Group Meeting 23 May 2018*



Our outputs



PIARC reports



Downloadable pdf files

Available for free at www.piarc.org

■ Cycle 2012-2015:

- 40 technical reports were produced by the Technical Committees

■ Cycle 2016-2019:

- 46 new reports

Online road dictionary

- Technical Dictionary of Road Terms
- Mainly: English, French, Spanish
- Plus 32 other languages
- 8th edition
- Online, free of charge



The screenshot shows the PIARC website's search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'Search' and a dropdown menu set to 'English'. Below the search bar, there are navigation links: 'DISCOVERING PIARC', 'WORK TOPICS', 'OUR ACTIVITIES', and 'NEWS & AGENDA'. The main content area is titled 'Search a term in the Road Dictionary' and features a search input field containing 'winter maintenance'. Below the search bar, there are options for 'Source language' (English) and 'Target language(s)'. To the left, there are 'Add criteria' options: 'The term and its synonyms' (selected), 'Only the term', and 'All content'. On the right, the search results are displayed in a table with two columns: 'Themes' and 'Terms'. The 'Themes' column lists 'Operations' and 'Winter Serviceability'. The 'Terms' column lists 'tool for winter maintenance', 'winter maintenance' (with a synonym 'winter service'), and 'winter maintenance contractor'.

Themes	Terms
Operations - Winter Serviceability	tool for winter maintenance
	winter maintenance syn : winter service
	winter maintenance contractor

Routes / Roads Magazine

- Our quarterly magazine
- Articles cover emerging road and road transport issues
- English, French and Spanish
- Print and online distribution
- 5,700 copies, readership in more than 140 countries
- Online version:
routesroadsmag.piarc.org



Online Manuals : Easy access to knowledge

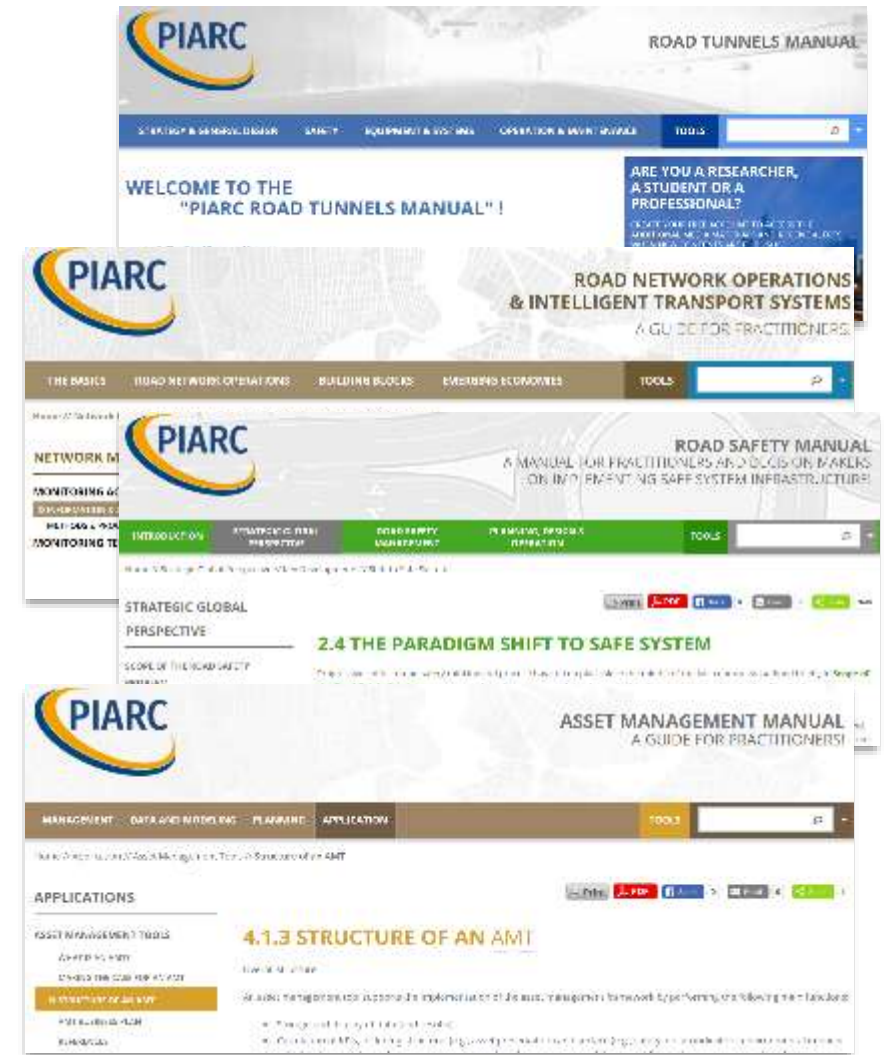
■ Four online manuals:

- Road safety (new version)
- Road network operations and ITS
- Road Tunnels Operations (new version)
- Asset management

■ Updated in 2019

■ Easy and attractive to use:

- Free of charge
- Key principles for each of the topics are included and discussed in the sections
- Case studies and links to detailed technical material and other references
- Can be downloaded and printed in chapters



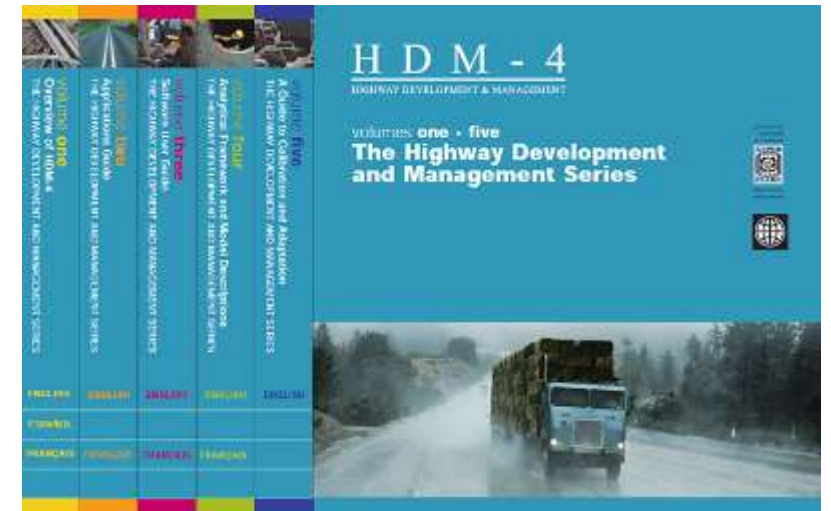
Software

■ HDM-4

- The primary tool for the analysis, planning, management and appraisal of road maintenance, improvements and investment decisions
- Developed with numerous stakeholders
- Distributed through HDMGlobal

■ DG-QRAM

- Tool for managing dangerous goods transport in tunnels
- Distributed by PIARC
- Version 2 is available (August 2019)



International Seminars

- Exchange of knowledge with and in low- and middle-income countries
- 22 seminars and 22 workshops organised during the 2016-2019 cycle
- Presentations are available online via the PIARC Website

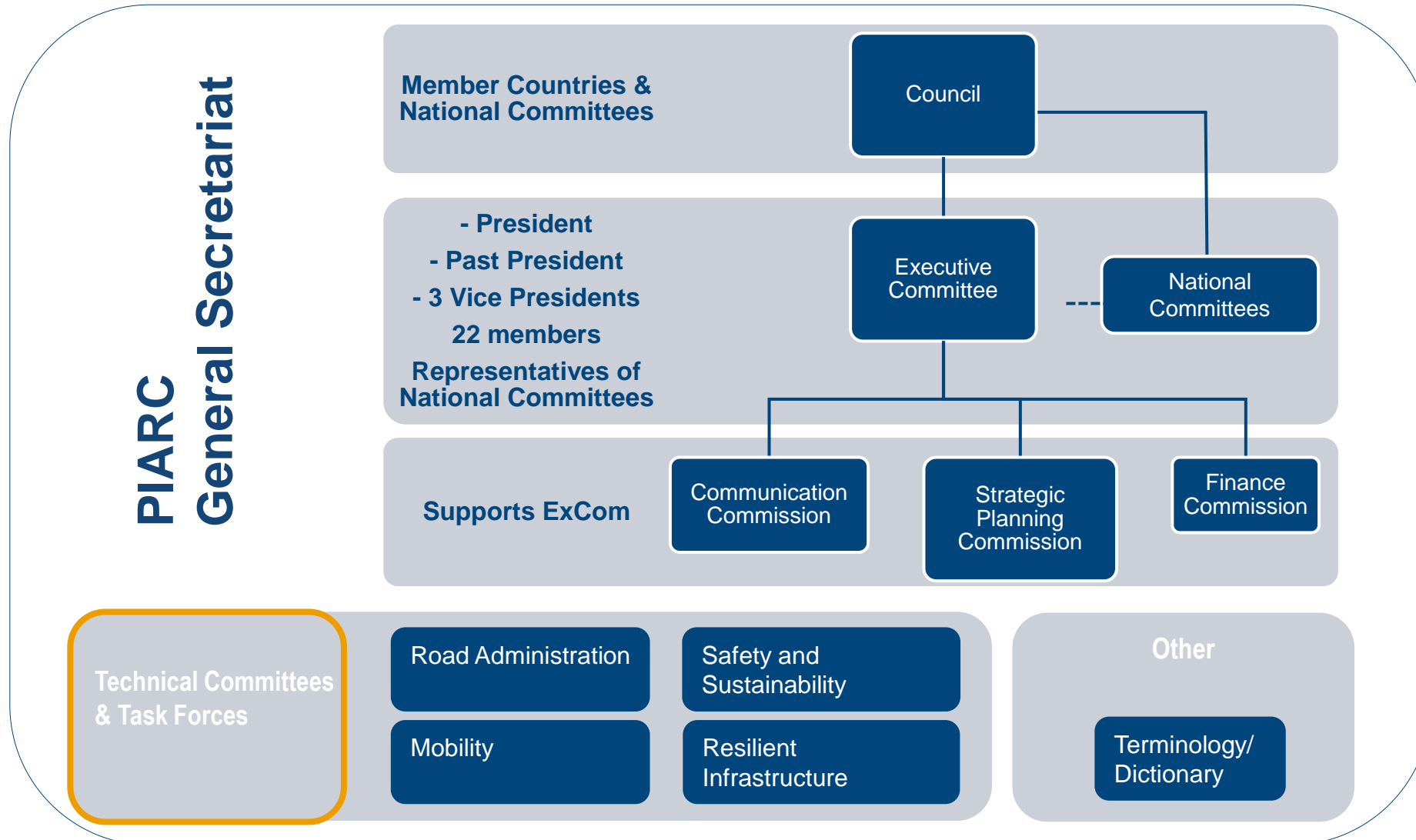


*November 2017 Teheran
International Seminar on Policies and Programs
for Road Safety Management*

Our structure



PIARC Organisational Structure



Executive Committee 2017-2020

President

Claude Van ROOTEN (Belgium)



Past President

Oscar de BUEN (Mexico)

Vice-Presidents

Cheick Oumar Diallo (Mali)
Shigeru Kikukawa (Japan)
Miguel Ángel Salvia (Argentina)

Members

Ahmed Al Hammadi (United Arab Emirates), **Sandrine Chinzi** (France), **Stephen Fidler** (United Kingdom), **Cedric Ivan Escalante Sauri** (Mexico), **Claudine Tremblay** (Canada-Québec), **Mārtiņš Dambergs** (Latvia / BRA), **Lena Erixon** (Sweden / NRA), **Ramón Pepín** (Dominican Republic), **Nick Koukoulas** (Australia), **Stefan Krause** (Germany), **Bojan Leben** (Slovenia), **Kang-Hoon Lee** (Republic of Korea), **Zulakmal bin Haji Sufian** (Malaysia), **José Miguel Ortega** (Chile), **Marie-Claude Petit** (Canada), **M^a del Carmen Picón** (Spain), **Massimo Schintu** (Italy), **Alex Van Niekerk** (South Africa), **Walter Waidelich** (USA), **Dejin Wu** (People's Republic of China), **Friedrich Zotter** (Austria)

National Committees' Representative

Saverio Palchetti (Italy)



National Committees

Objectives:

- Facilitate national exchanges on roads and road transport
- Promote the work of PIARC
- Liaise with national experts and issues

- Algeria, Argentina, Australia (Austroads), Austria,
- Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso,
- Cameroon, Canada, Canada-Quebec, Chile, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Czech Republic,
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- France,
- Germany, Greece, Hungary,
- India, Ireland, Italy, Japan,
- Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco,
- Niger, New Zealand (Austroads),
- Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania,
- Senegal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland,
- Tanzania, Tunisia
- United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay

48 countries



General Secretariat

■ Main missions:

- Ensures the daily management of the Association in accordance with the resolutions and decisions of the Council and the Executive Committee.
- Represents the Association in all legal and administrative matters that impact on the operations of the Association.

■ Based in Paris

- Salaried staff as well as
- Experts seconded from their country



PIARC and Languages

- **PIARC has three working languages:**
 - French, English and Spanish
 - Our outputs are published in those 3 languages
- **The working language of TCs and TFs is English**
- **TCs and TFs have to deliver their outputs in the 3 languages**
 - Organising translation is a task for the 3 Secretaries
 - Support from GS, such as « DeepL Pro»
- **More translations are welcome**
 - Usually coordinated by National Committees



PIARC Committees and Task Forces



Membership

- **Members of TCs/TFs are formally appointed**
- **Most are nominated by their First Delegate**
 - Member
 - Corresponding Member (not compelled to take part in meetings)
- **Associate Members can be added:**
 - Initiative of TC/TF Chair or GS
 - To be discussed with all TC/TF members
 - Validation through General Secretariat



Work program

- **TCs / TFs are required to organize activities over the course of the four years (for TCs) and two years (for TFs):**
 - Allocating tasks to specific members of the TC/TF
 - Identifying major milestones, Planning activities month by month
 - Etc.
- **This work should adhere to the quality standards of PIARC:**
 - Aiming at a broad geographic representativity
 - Implement a careful review process within the TC/TF
 - Liaise with the STC and GS
- **Changes may occur, New ideas may emerge, Difficulties may occur...**
 - That's normal
 - Need to be identified by the Chair and discussed with STC and GS

PIARC Congresses



Congresses in 2020 - 2023

■ The World Road Congress

- Important event that has established the Association's reputation and is held at the end of a four-year work cycle
- The next WRC will take place in Prague in 2023

■ World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress

- Held roughly half way through the four-year cycle
- Similar objectives and outcomes as the World Road Congress albeit with more focussed topics
- The next edition will take place in Calgary in 2022
- It will tackle resilience in addition to winter issues

■ **The programme of both Congresses is coordinated by PIARC.**

■ **A call for papers is organised for both Congresses.**



World Road Congress 2019 - Abu Dhabi

6 – 10 October 2019

www.piarcabudhabi2019.org

<https://pre-proceedings-abudhabi2019.piarc.org/en/>





		PLENARY	CR A	CR B	CR C	CR D	CR E	CR F	POSTERS SESSIONS	CS 5	CS 7	CS 9
SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER	MORNING	OPENING SESSION										
	AFTERNOON	MINISTERS' SESSION										
MONDAY 7 OCTOBER	MORNING		FS03: Road Resilience	SPS1: Contribution of road transport SPS2: Drones	FS04: Sustainable pavement	FS02: Road safety partnerships	FS01: Socioeconomic impacts CAV	SDS0: Infrastructure		W01: Weigh-in-motion	W02: Road Network Operations / ITS	
	AFTERNOON	KEYNOTE 1	FS06: Sustainable urban freight	TCTFA2: National and subnational coordination	FS07: Transport is not Gender Neutral	FS05: Sustainable Financing	SDSB: Mobility	TCD1: Road asset management	PS1: C1, C2, TFC1	W05: Climate Change adaptation	W03: Road Safety Manual & UN targets	W04: Concrete pavements
TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER	MORNING		TCE3: Disaster management	SDSA: Finance	FS09: Disability-Inclusive Road Transport	FS08: Implementing innovative technologies	TCB1: ITS / RNO	TCD2: Pavements	PS2: E2, D5, B4	W07(1): HDM-4 integration in asset management	W06: RSA & RSI in LMBC	
	AFTERNOON	KEYNOTE 2	SPS3: Electric Road Systems SPS4: PER	TCA1: Performance road administration	FS10: Connected & Autonomous Mobility	SDSC: Road Safety	TCB2: Winter service	TCD3: Bridges	PS3: D2, B1, E3	W07(2): HDM-4 future developments	W08: Rural Access Index	
WEDNESDAY 9 OCTOBER	MORNING		SDSE: Climate Change	TCA2: Socio-Economics	FS11: BIM for highways	TCC1: Road safety policies	TCB3: Urban mobility	TCD4: earthworks & rural roads	PS4: D3, B2, A1, TFA2	W09: Road Asset Management	W10(1): Airfield pavements innovation	
	AFTERNOON	KEYNOTE 3	TCE1: Resiliency of Infrastructure	TCA3: Risk management	FS12: Transparency in Transport	TCC2: Safer road infrastructure	TCB4: Freight	TCD5: tunnels operations	PS5: D4, B3, A2	W11: BIM Standards	W10(2): Airfield pavements characteristics	
THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER	MORNING		TCE2: Environmental considerations	TCTFA1: Innovative financing	FS13: Long distance freight	TCTFC1: Security	TCTBTAE3: automated vehicles	SPSS: Unpredicted Infrastructure Failures	PS6: D1, A3, E1, T41	W13: African Task Forces	W12: Regional Road Safety Observatories	
	AFTERNOON	CLOSING SESSION										

SDS = STRATEGIC DIRECTION SESSION
WS = WORKSHOP

FS = FORESIGHT SESSION
TC = TECHNICAL SESSION

SPS = SPECIAL PROJECT SESSION
TF = TASK FORCE



PIARC Strategic Plan 2020 - 2023



Role of the Strategic Plan

- **The Strategic Plan guides the activities of PIARC over a 4-year cycle.**
- **In particular, it:**
 - Identifies what are the priority issues for PIARC members
 - Establishes Committees and Task Forces

Development of the Strategic Plan

The process involved several steps of consultation:

- **Internally:** First Delegates, National Committees and Technical bodies, Low and Middle income countries.
- **Externally:** Advisory group – Workshop, Interviews with external stakeholders.
- **New STCs, Chairs and Secretaries** were consulted too

Operating Context in Roads and Road Transport

External and internal conditions that have an influence on PIARC

- **External operating context:** major global changes impacting roads and transport sector (Large social, economic, and environmental shift; Transport needs of citizen and of the business community; Financing and managing risks for creating, renovating, and maintaining road assets; Economic progress and fast-paced urbanization trends; safety and security in road systems; Technological advances and data-driven solutions; Digitalization of road infrastructure; Challenges from changing climate conditions and extreme weather events; Need to reduce emissions; New approaches and technical solutions such as advanced construction methods and techniques, reuse of materials,..).
- **Internal operating context:** needs for value-added networking, solutions and knowledge products of PIARC membership (addressing needs of a diverse body of members; ensuring adequacy between ambitions and resources; offering relevant and time-adequate answers;...).



PIARC's Response: Strategic Direction

■ Key aspects:

- **Quality and value-added outputs** (Reflect a wide range of experiences in outputs; Continue implementing adequate review processes)
- **Flexibility** (Generation of more frequent outputs; Using Task Forces and Special Projects; Various possible outputs; Yearly update of the Plan)
- **Outreach** (Greater emphasis on communicating its work; Cooperation with other organizations)

■ Organizational Principles:

- Achieving effective management of the Association's internal processes
- Fostering representative and responsive work methods
- Enhancing the reach of the Association's technical products
- Ensuring adequacy between ambition and resources



Goals

- Increase **flexibility** to attend PIARC members' needs in a **quick changing world**.
- Produce **more useful and frequent outcomes** to give **more visibility** to PIARC, and to make it **more relevant**.
- Improve **quality of outcomes**, so that PIARC continues to be recognized for producing **valuable road related products**.
- Ensure a **diversified and value-added production** of outcomes to improve PIARC's portfolio and extend its scope to a **wider audience**.
- Overcome the “**silo concept**” among Technical Bodies to achieve a **more integral and interconnected knowledge**, and to add **cross-cutting issues**.



Key horizontal issues

- **Climate change**
 - **Resilience**
 - **Road safety**
-
- Our Plan reflects mega-trends, including those that go beyond roads
 - It also places roads in the context of the global transport system

Next Strategic Plan 2020 - 2023

1. Road Administration	2. Mobility	3. Safety and Sustainability	4. Resilient Infrastructure
TC 1.1 Performance of Transport Administrations	TC 2.1 Mobility in Urban Areas	TC 3.1 Road Safety	TC 4.1 Pavements
TC 1.2 Planning Road Infrastructure and Transport to Economic and Social Development	TC 2.2 Accessibility and Mobility in Rural Areas	TC 3.2 Winter Service	TC 4.2 Bridges
TC 1.3 Finance and Procurement	TC 2.3 Freight	TC 3.3 Asset Management	TC 4.3 Earthworks
TC 1.4 Climate change and resilience of Road Network	TC 2.4 Road Network Operation/ITS	TC 3.4 Environmental Sustainability in Road Infrastructure and Transport	TC 4.4 Tunnels
TC 1.5 Disaster management			
TF 1.1 Well-Prepared Projects	<i>TF 2.1 New mobility and its impact on road infrastructure and Transport</i>	TF 3.1 Road Infrastructure and Transport Security	TF 4.1 Road Design Standards
<i>TF 1.2 HDM-4</i>	TF 2.2 Electric Road Systems		
Terminology Committee			
Road Statistics Committee			



PIARC Partnerships

■ Objectives:

- Avoid duplication
- Share opinions
- Contribute to one another's activities (e.g. Strategic Plan)
- Promote our outputs

■ Examples:

- ITF
- World Bank
- Regional road organisations
- Etc.

■ Advisory Group



Conclusion



World Wide Knowledge exchange: The core of PIARC

- Aimed at practitioners more than research
- International dialogue is more necessary than ever
 - Efficient and Cost effective
 - Cf. FHWA report « Leading on the international stage » (2016)
- **PIARC mobilises international road and transport experts:**
 - We provide the network
 - Ad-hoc dialogue among peers
 - Showcasing national achievements
 - Learning from others
 - Building networks
 - Joint work towards commonly-agreed deliverables
- **Our outputs are open to all and widely accessible:**
 - Reports, Online tools, Workshops, Seminars, Congresses...



NEXT PIARC CONGRESSES

Save the dates!

- **16th World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress**
 - Calgary, Canada
 - 8 – 11 February 2022

- **27th World Road Congress**
 - Prague, Czech Republic
 - 2 – 6 October 2023



Thank you for your attention!



Claude Van Rooten

PIARC President

claude.van-rooten@piarc.org

World Road Association (PIARC)
Grande Arche – Paroi Sud – 5^e étage
92055 – La Défense Cedex – France



[@PIARC_Roads](https://twitter.com/PIARC_Roads)



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Acronyms

- **TC: Technical Committee**
 - Sometimes also used for the Terminology Committee and the Road Statistics Committee
- **TF: Task Force**
- **STC: Strategic Theme Coordinator**
 - Oversees a Theme, i.e. a collection of TCs and TFs
- **SPC: Strategic Planning Commission**
 - Monitors the implementation of the Strategic Plan
- **ExCom: Executive Committee**
- **1D: First Delegate**
 - Main representative of a member country (e.g. Road Director)
- **GS: General Secretariat**