EDITORIAL

From February 8 to 11 2010, the transportation community will meet in the city of Québec for the XIII International Winter Road Congress!

Winter service stakeholders have less than two months until the 13th edition of this large-scale event. Over 1,500 participants will attend. There is an impressive program.

28 TECHNICAL SESSIONS
Technical issues will be discussed during the 28 sessions coordinated by the World Road Association Technical Committee B5. The topics are based on selected papers and organized into 6 themes covering issues of sustainable development, climate change, road safety, levels of service, information management during winter, and snow removal techniques.

TWO SPECIAL SESSIONS
The Congress has decided to invite municipal and national policymakers to speak providing the opportunity to present their plans for the future in response to the concerns of the general public regarding the safety and efficiency of transportation systems in terms of the environment.

The Winter City Mayors’ Session—a first for the Winter Road Congress—will provide an opportunity to learn about the approaches and measures taken by municipalities in various countries regarding the "economic governance of winter service from an urban mobility perspective".

At the Transportation Ministers’ Session, the ministers will explain within their own particular context, "how to promote winter mobility adapted to the climate”.

QUÉBEC EXPERTISE
Congress participants will be able to evaluate Québec’s expertise regarding winter service through invitation to one of seven technical visits.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION AREA
The exhibition area includes 11 national pavilions: Québec, Canada, Nordic countries, France, Italy, Japan, Korea, Switzerland, Spain, the United States and Andorra. It is the ideal opportunity to become familiar with expertise from around the world in fields related to winter service.
OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT DEMONSTRATIONS
Thanks to an outdoor demonstration of snow removal vehicles in action, Congress participants will be able to assess the capabilities of this equipment under actual winter conditions.

RECEPTION FOR PIARC NATIONAL COMMITTEES
In order to emphasize their essential role in the smooth operation of the Association, members of the PIARC national committees present in Québec will be invited to socialize at a reception in the international exhibition area that will be jointly coordinated by the chairs of the Canadian and Québec National Committees. More details to come!

NEW: AN INTERNATIONAL SNOWPLOW CHAMPIONSHIP
This will be the first time that a PIARC Winter Congress will host an International Snowplow Championship! One team from each member government may participate.

You may find information on the Congress, registration and your stay in Québec on the official Web site of the Congress: http://www.piarcquebec2010.org

Friedrich Zotter
Representative of National Committees on the PIARC Executive Committee

NC news, events, seminars & conferences
CENTENARY ACTIONS OF PIARC NATIONAL COMMITTEES

PIARC National Committees continued to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Association through various publications, events and other actions.

In Mexico special celebrations have been organized. 2009 is also the year of the 35th anniversary of AMVITAC. In Burkina Faso the occasion has been commemorated with a special presentation and in Benin a centenary presentation was held during the Road Maintenance week in October 2009. Italy has organized many different events this year of which the occasion PIARC centenary was included. In November 2009 a seminar was held in Mali. In Japan, a special celebration was held on October 7 2009.

AUSTRIA
A joint meeting of the National Committee members with the First Delegate, the Austrian representatives in PIARC Technical Committees and board members of the National Transport Research Association (FSV), followed by a dinner concluded the PIARC centenary celebrations of the Austrian National Committee.

www.fsv.at/piarc/index.html

CANADA
The Canadian National Committee (CNC) of PIARC organized a Technical Session as a part of the 2009 Annual Conference of the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC). Presentations are available at www.cnc-piarc-aipcr.ca.

During this TAC Conference, the CNC in cooperation with Colas Canada set up a meeting area called “Road Stop” in order to promote the CNC, PIARC and the centenary of the association. Representatives of the Canada-Québec Committee joined the CNC and promoted the 13th International Winter Road Congress, which will be held in Quebec City in February 2010. www.piarcquebec2010.org

FRANCE
To celebrate the centenary of PIARC, the French Committee of PIARC, the General Secretariat of PIARC and the History Committee of MEEDDM have united in an effort to organize one study day entitled “The owners of road networks at the cross road: new governance, new perspectives”. This will take place in Paris, November 19, 2009. After a brief retrospective it identified emerging issues and challenges related to road and road transport and investigated how to implement key developers in France or abroad.

For further information contact: cf-aipcr@lcpc.fr

TO BE CONTINUED
BELGIUM
Transport Research Arena – Europe 2010
7 – 10 June 2010 in Brussels

The main theme of TRA 2010 is “Sustaining Road Transport Mobility through innovation in Europe”. Indeed, a breakthrough in technologies and research is important to answer demands for a sustainable road transport system, particularly considering that the road transport sector is a major contributor to the economy and society at large.

The TRA provides a platform for transport research in Europe. It is most attractive for the research industry and to those who have to implement the results of research into transport: namely road administrations at national, regional and local levels, contractors, as well as vehicle manufacturers and fuel producers.

The conference programme will be organized into six pillars built around the European research and innovation strategies with emphasis on climate change, CO2, fuel efficiency and supply:

I. European Road Research Needs and Agendas.

TO BE CONTINUED
The conference will be held at the newly opened ‘SQUARE, Brussels Meeting Centre’, right in the heart of the city in the vibrant Mont des Arts district, between the Royal Palace and the world famous Grand Place. With three large auditoria and a 4.000m² exposition hall, the facilities are world class for such a forum.

More information is available on www.traconference.eu/

BENIN

**Road Maintenance Week**

25-31 October 2009, Cotonou (Benin)

From 25 to 31 October 2009 a "Road Maintenance Week" was held in Cotonou, Benin. The conference was part of the centenary actions of the Benin National Committee in order to celebrate the 100th anniversary of PIARC.

The programme of the conference and information on the presentations is available at: www.entretienroutier.com/

INDIA

**PIARC International Seminar on Sustainable Maintenance of Rural Road**

21 – 23 January 2010 in Hyderabad

Rural Roads are a key component of rural development since they provide access to economic and social goods and services, thereby generating increased agricultural income and productive employment. Rural Roads are used as an entry point for poverty alleviation as there is a growing body of empirical evidence that links transport investment to the improved well-being of the poor. Transport was also identified as being highly relevant to the achievement of a number of the targets set under the Millennium Development Goals (MDG).

The main objective of the Seminar is to provide a common platform for practitioners to share experiences and deliberate issues and challenges associated with the planning, provision and maintenance of rural roads in a sustainable way. Innovations with respect to involving local communities throughout the process also form part of the overall objective of the Seminar. The Seminar is being organized by Technical Committee a.4 (Sustainability of the Road Transport System – Rural Roads Systems and Accessibility to Rural Areas) together with the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The seminar is open to the whole world community dealing with rural / low volume roads and maintenance. It is also expected to address more specifically, the needs of the countries in the region and those having similar climatic, geographic and socio-economic conditions.

For further information read the final announcement at: http://www.piarc.org/library/aipcr/8/2798,Announcement-India-Jan-2010-FINAL.pdf

MALI

**Human Resource Management, Governance and Public Procurement**

8 – 10 December 2009 in Bamako

This international seminar is organized jointly by the Mali Government, the African Road Maintenance Funds Association (ARMFA), the Association of African Road Managers and Partners (AGEPAR) and the PIARC Technical Committee B.1, ‘Good Governance of Road Administrations’.

The Symposium will focus on the latest research, policies and innovative practices related to geometric highway design and their safety and operational effects. Symposium participants will leave the meeting with insights that stimulate continued improvements to geometric highway designs. This Symposium is the latest in a series of successful Symposia that have been held in Boston in 1995; in Mainz, Germany, in 2000; and in Chicago in 2005. The Symposium will feature technical papers, country reports, workshops, and an exhibition area.

For more information, please consult the Symposium website at www.4ishgd.valencia.upv.es

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES**

23 September 2009 in Incheon

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Friedrich Zotter, Representative of PIARC National Committees on the Executive Committee. PIARC President Mrs. LECLERC welcomed the delegates in an introductory speech and stressed the importance of National Committees and the benefits of having one in each country. She encouraged National Committees to develop innovative forms of presentation for the upcoming PIARC congresses, especially the 2011 World Road Congress in Mexico City. She further outlined the importance of National Committees for marketing the association’s benefits to existing members and those interested in becoming members.

Mr. ZOTTER highlighted recent contacts with representatives from Niger, Papua New Guinea and Malaysia, among others, which were considering founding new National Committees. Then he reported on his attendance as National Committee representative in the Executive Committee meetings in Mexico City and Glasgow and his participation in the commission meetings in Incheon. National Committees are requested to support the Communication and International Relations Commission in main items of the proposed communications strategy:

- Make results of the work of the World Road Association available and easy to access to all interested parties.
- Develop open, attractive and interactive internal and external communications to better serve the work processes of the Association.

The themes of the Minister’s Session and the Strategic Linking Sessions at the 2011 Mexico World Road Congress were decided in the Strategic Planning Commission meeting. Respective papers including the Call for National Reports will be drafted. Also, ideas to provide a quicker start of the Technical Committees work between the working cycles were debated.

Then Mr. ZOTTER gave an overview on the National Committee’s activities as presented in the Activity Reports 2009 and the National Committees Newsletter, with accentuation on the activities and events related to the PIARC centenary. Read more in the individual Activity Reports: www.piarc.org/en/national-committees/

Next, Mr. ZOTTER raised the question of participation of National Committees in the upcoming PIARC congresses in Quebec, 2010 and Mexico, 2011. In Quebec, all National Committees that do not have their own individual country pavilion will share a common booth with the PIARC General Secretariat. Concerning the World Road Congress in Mexico, various ideas of representation were raised and discussed, such as a common booth like the 2007 World Road Congress in Paris and a special session as in Durban 2003. For most representatives it was evident that the National Committees should definitely be mentioned in the congress materials, especially in the congress program. The NCs representative will prepare a proposal, evaluate it with the NCs Working Group established in Incheon and consult all National Committees before the next Executive Committee meeting in February 2010 (Quebec).

Mr. SZIRANYI, the secretary of the Hungarian National Committee and member of the Terminology Committee presented the use of the PIARC Terminology Website and explained the various tools. Have a look at: [http://termino.piarc.org/search.php](http://termino.piarc.org/search.php)

Within the forum, the possibility for National Committees to have two pages in each issue of Routes/Roads for their content was one point of discussion. However, the possible content has to be considered carefully. Mr. Corté stressed the importance of Routes/Roads as a communication medium. Finally, 4 countries volunteered for the first 4 issues: Australia, France, Burkina Faso and Belgium.
Mr. Kidnie presented recent results from the CIIRC. A new information brochure about PIARC is being developed. In the brochure the benefits of being a PIARC member should be clearly displayed. Also, the output of Technical Committees will be presented in a more comprehensive way. Its aim is to extend the network and to establish the World Road association as leading forum of the road industry. Mr. Appel welcomed these efforts, because at the moment it is somewhat difficult to appropriately present the benefits of being a PIARC member.

The meeting ended with a presentation on Burkina Faso’s activities.

**CANADA**

As soon as the directives of the PIARC 2011 prize competition for the Mexico City Congress are announced, the CNC will launch the national competition, including the terms and conditions for participation. At the CNC’s request, the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering has agreed to manage the national competition and establish a selection committee.

**CANADA QUEBEC**

Every year, the AIPCR-Québec Committee holds a competition awarding prizes to the authors of the three best submissions. The 10th competition will be launched in fall, 2009. Prizes will be awarded at the next AQTR annual congress in April, 2010.

More information at: [www.aqtr.qc.ca](http://www.aqtr.qc.ca)

**IVORY COAST**

Meeting of PIARC Technical Committee A3

For two days, experts from Africa and Western Countries, as well as delegates from the World Bank, EU and ADB have worked on "Economic aspects of road networks and social development." For the chairman of the Technical Committee, Mr. Albero Compéte Anguela, this meeting has prompted reflection on the roads and their contribution to the economic development of states and well-being of their populations.

At the opening ceremony, the Chief of Staff of the Ivorian Minister of Economic Infrastructure, Konan Adrian explained that the meeting in Abidjan contributed to the international repositioning of the Ivory Coast. PIARC is a platform for exchange of expertise and analysis and discussion of all matters relating to the road sector. This was the first PIARC meeting to be held in the Ivory Coast.

"Now, in succession of the Abidjan meeting the Ivory Coast is to develop a local PIARC (national) committee as an instrument of thoughts and suggestions.”

**FRANCE**

The French National Committee of PIARC in partnership with APAQ Normandy (Association for the Promotion and improvement of the Quality of work and Road equipment in Normandy) organized a day on “Urban mobility, shared space, safety for vulnerable road users” in Rouen on October 20th, 2009. This day targeted at elected officials and technicians of design offices and private companies was organized in the form of an exchange of experiences, French and foreign initiatives in order to show under various angles how to manage the complexity of the subject.

The 2009 Meeting Day of the French National Committee (CF) of PIARC will be held in Paris on Wednesday December 9th, 2009, intending to enable all members of the CF-AIPCR to meet and exchange with the French experts (and their respective French mirror groups) represented in 8 Technical Committees of PIARC.

The day will consist of two main sequences:
- The morning: a plenary meeting, followed by workshops in each mirror Committee
- Afternoon: presentation of each mirror committee’s agenda in a plenary session as well as a reflection of the Technical Committee’s work.

[www.cf-aipcr.org](http://www.cf-aipcr.org)
The United Kingdom National Committee has re-designed its web-site, offering more information and interesting features. A newsletter was published in summer 2009. Read more at www.piarc.co.uk and see below.

### Spain

No 132 of the Magazine Rutas, the Spanish Road and Transport magazine has been published in June 2009. It contains reports on new motorway sections in Spain, technical articles such as on the use, development and evaluation of ITS-systems, interviews with outstanding Spanish road professionals and a preview on future seminars and congresses.

Information at: [www.atc-piarc.com/rutas](http://www.atc-piarc.com/rutas)

### United Kingdom

**Summer 2009 Newsletter**

The Summer 2009 Newsletter of the United Kingdom National Committee includes:

- A chairman’s report on increasing interest about PIARC membership from companies,
- A report from the First Delegate on a high level of synergy between PIARC work and what’s happening in the UK,
- A report on the Annual General Meeting,
- Technical Committee news,
- A news section with various reports on keeping roads open in severe winters,
- UK road safety strategy,
- International road development,
- The WRA-UK 2009 Congress in Birmingham entitled “It’s a Risk Business - In these changing times how do we deliver a consistent service the travelling public?”
- Announcements on PIARC congresses.

Read more at: [www.piarc.co.uk](http://www.piarc.co.uk) > click news
At its meeting in Incheon (Korea), 2009, the Council of PIARC selected the candidacy of Andorra for the organization of the 14th International Winter Road Congress in 2014. Switzerland was thanked for its excellent proposal.

**24th World Road Congress**

**26 – 30 September 2011, Mexico City**

The XXIVth World Road Congress of the World Road Association will be held in Mexico City from 26 to 30 September 2011 at the Banamex Conference Center.

The themes of the Minister’s Session and the Strategic Linking Sessions were defined in the PIARC meetings in Incheon, September 2009. The draft for 13 Special Sessions is in progress as well as the Call for Individual Papers and National Reports.

For further information please contact:

**rfelix@aipcrmexico2011.org**

or have a look at the web-site:

**www.aipcrmexico2011.org**

Your opinions and comments to

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