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www.piarc.org

EDITORIAL

Developing a new Strategic Plan for 2008-2011 - Involvement of National Committees

In order to respond effectively to the emerging issues in roads and transport, the World Road Association introduced its first Strategic Plan at the 1995 Montreal World Road Congress, and a revised Plan at each subsequent Congress. Each of these Plans was intended as a guide for the work of the Association, particularly the Technical Committees, for the following four year cycle. For each Strategic Plan, an extensive process of consultation with First Delegates of member countries, Technical Committee members and the members of the Association via its National Committees took place in order to identify priority issues, visions and directions.

For the 2008-2011 cycle, preparations started in 2005 with the dissemination of a survey to all First Delegates. After reviewing the feedback, a workshop with the Technical Committees chairs and secretaries was held in Berlin in June 2006 and the Plan was further discussed in the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Council. Most National Committees have been involved by the First Delegates in this process by participating in the respective countries responses. In addition, the Representative of National Committees collected those answers elaborated by National Committees, added the results of the Annual Conferences of National Committees in Beijing and Madrid, the regional meetings in Santiago de Chile, Vienna and the Benin and formulated a statement on behalf of the National Committees.

National Committees extend and complement the work of the First Delegates by comprising the scientific and private sector as well. Indeed many of the recommendations of National Committees representatives expressed a strong wish to keep the technical content within the themes of Technical Committees. If the Association would focus on policy issues only, the Association's reputation could be damaged while also losing influence and interest by those who have come to expect technical information about the state of the art and best practice worldwide, from the Association.

For the 2008-2011 cycle, the Association's Road and Road Transport Goals will be delivered through seventeen Technical Committees, grouped in four Strategic Themes that focus on, respectively, sustainability of the road transport system, improving provision of services, safety of the road system and quality of road infrastructure. The first meetings of the Technical Committees in the new cycle are scheduled for March and April 2008. National Committees are supporting their First Delegates in the nomination procedure. Read more about the meetings and the Terms of Reference of each Committee on World Road Association's website.

The main lines (identification of the Strategic Themes, structure of the Technical Committees, main issues to consider) were approved by the 2007 Council in Paris. The comments expressed by Council members and later the outcome of the sessions of the 23rd World Road Congress in Paris, contributed further to the development of the current draft. The final version will result from the decision made by Council at its meeting in October 2008.

Friedrich Zotter

Representative of National Committees
on the PIARC Executive Committee

Your opinions and comments to

Friedrich Zotter: friedrich.zotter@bmvit.gv.at



CANADA-QUEBEC

Meeting of PIARC Executive Committee in Québec
13-15 February 2008 in Québec-City

The Québec National Committee was mainly responsible for the organisation of the February 2008 Executive Committee meeting in Québec-City. The meeting was preceded by a meeting of the Technological Exchanges and Development Commission and of the Communication Commission. At the meeting the memorandum of understanding between the PIARC and the Government of Québec in preparation for the XIII International Road Congress, which will be held in Québec City, 8-11 February 2010, was signed. A day of technical tours and social activities rounded out the program.

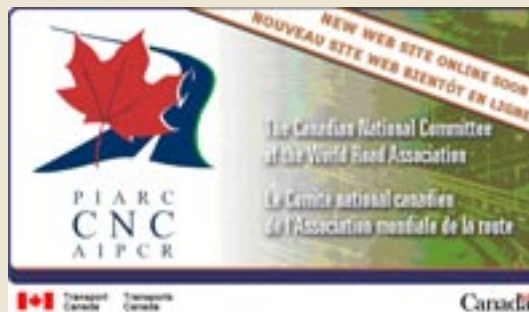


Information: www.aqtr.qc.ca

CANADA

The Canadian National Committee is creating a new website, which will be available soon.

<http://www.cnc-piarc-aipcr.ca/>



CANADA-QUEBEC



AIPCR-Québec
une direction de l'**AQTR**

The new Secretary General of PIARC-Quebec is **Mr. François Barsalo**, Councilor for International Affairs at the Office for External Relations within the Ministry of Transport. We welcome Mr. Barsalo in the group of National Committees and thank the former Secretary, Mr. Marc-André Thivierge, for his excellent performance in the first steps to prepare the 2010 Winter Road Congress at Québec City.

Contact: francois.barsalo@mtq.gouv.qc.ca

SPAIN

Inauguration of the new website

The Technical Road Association, Spanish National Committee of PIARC, has introduced for all the users a new website in January 2008. With a functional design and easy access, this new web space tries to improve the interchange of information and facilitates the technical committees work.

<http://www.atc-piarc.com/>



PORTUGAL

The Portuguese National Committee has a new President, Mr. Alberto Conde Moreno, who also is acting as the new First Delegate of Portugal. Mr. Moreno is President of InIR, the new Portuguese National Road Authority. Read more about the structural changes in the Portuguese Road Administration below at the topic "Organisation and good practice".

Please note the coordinates of Mr. Moreno as well as the new coordinates of the Portuguese National Committee:

Rua dos Lusíadas, nº 9 – 5º Fte, 1300-364 Lisboa
Tel: 213 643 116, Fax: 213 643 119



President and First Delegate: alberto.moreno@inir.moptc.pt
Secretary General: maria.dourado@inir.moptc.pt



GERMANY**HEUREKA 08 Conference**

5 – 6th March 2008, Stuttgart



The German roads and transport research association (FGSV), acting as the German National Committee of PIARC and the Association of German Transport Companies (RDR) are organizing the HEUREKA 08 conference for the first time in Stuttgart. The conference is dedicated in particular to the staff of the traffic engineering, transport and road administrations, transport companies and associations, universities, research institutions and industrial companies. National and international experts will deal with the latest developments, trends and research results on " optimization in traffic and transportation ".

Parallel to the lectures the exhibiting planning and engineering companies, manufacturers, software companies and universities will present their products and services. Current research subjects will be covered in a poster session.

Information available at: www.fgsv.de/veranstaltungen_aktuelle

**INDIA****International Seminar on Road Asset Management**

19 – 21 March 2008, Chandigarh, Punjab

The World Road Association (PIARC) together with the Indian Department for Public Works, the Indian Road Congress and the Punjab Road & Bridges Development Board are organising an international Seminar on Road Asset Management in Chandigarh, the capital city of the state of Punjab. Management systems, performance indicators and performance based road contracts are main topics of the programme.



For further information please contact: piarcseminar@prbdb.gov.in

FRANCE**Infrastructure and Transport: how to understand climate change?**

27 March 2008 – Technical day organised with Météo France



Climate Change, greenhouse effect, rising oceans, how these phenomena affect our infrastructure and services they provide? How could this issues be implemented into our organisations?

Session 1: Climate change: what impact to our infrastructure?

Session 2: The forecast manual.

Information: www.cf-aipcr.org

AUSTRIA**Second Conference on Marginal Materials for Road Works**

21 – 22 April 2008, Graz Exhibition Center

The final programme of the conference is now available at <http://vkm-thd.tugraz.at>.
The conference is followed by the ITA-COSUF Workshop 2008 on 23 April 2008.

Conference venue: www.messecentergraz.at

Further information: minarik@tugraz.at

**SLOVENIA****Transport Research Arena Europe 2008**

21-24 April 2006 in Ljubljana, Slovenia

The motto of the second Transport Research Arena Europe 2008 is " Greener, Safer and Smarter Road Transport for Europe ". Paper submission closed in January 2008, the updated program is now available at www.tra2008.si/.



NORDIC ROAD ASSOCIATION

Via Nordica 2008: Register before 31 March



With only a few months to go to the Via Nordica 2008 congress, it is time to have a look at what the congress has to offer and to register. Those who make an early registration will also be paying a lower congress fee. In addition some of the arrangements are available to a limited number of persons.

Register now to make sure you get to take part in everything that interests you.



Via Nordica 2008 takes place in Helsinki, Finland 9 - 11 June. For more information, please visit the congress website www.vianordica2008.fi.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

1st International Sprayed Sealing Conference

27 - 29 July, Adelaide, South Australia



The aims of this Conference are to explore the technologies involved, and to share the science and the practical experience of a wide range of practitioners from many different countries and backgrounds. Recent developments in binder formulation, sealing technology and delivery systems will also be discussed, and further information will be available from exhibits and poster displays.

More information is available from: arrb.com.au/ss08

ARRB CONFERENCE

30 July - 1 August 2008, Adelaide, South Australia

ARRB conferences promote and facilitate discussion about issues relevant to the transport industry, and new research being undertaken on the local and international scene. Conferences are held every two years throughout Australasia, and involve local and international delegates. The next ARRB conference will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Discussions will be held about local and international research and case studies which provide innovative and practical solutions to current and emerging issues.

More information is available from: www.arrb.com.au/conferences

PREVIEW

Austroads Bridge Conference 2009

26 - 30 May 2009, Auckland, New Zealand

Austroads bridge conferences are held every two or three years, bringing together professionals with an interest in bridge engineering to investigate the progress and future directions for bridge engineering both nationally and internationally. It is not only the first time the Bridge conference will be held in New Zealand, it will also link in with the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Auckland Harbour Bridge on 30 May. The theme of the 2009 conference focuses on the important role of bridges within the transport network.

A website for the conference is under development and is expected to be launched in March 2008. For more information about the website or conference please contact Douceline Van Arts at:

douceline.vanarts@transit.govt.nz



AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Agreement between Austroads International Committee and REAAA Australian Chapter

The REAAA Australian Chapter has indicated its willingness to enter into an agreement with the Austroads International Committee. The agreement will seek to link World Road Association activities in Australia to a broader audience; strengthen the links between the two organisations in the Asia/Pacific and provide enhanced benefits for the members of the REAAA Australian Chapter through greater access to World Road Association information and its activities. It is anticipated that the agreement will:

- recognise that activities of the REAAA Australian Chapter and Austroads International Committee are complementary and mutually beneficial
- increase knowledge and awareness of the World Road Association, its activities and benefits, amongst road professionals in Australia and the Asia Pacific
- increase benefits to members of REAAA through the provision of information and knowledge transfer activities of the World Road Association.



The agreement is expected to be endorsed at the next Austroads Council meeting in March 2008.

Further information: www.austroads.com.au



PORTUGAL

Following a government decision, a new model for the management and financing of the road infrastructures sector was defined in 2007 and is being implemented.

This new model consists of:

- The creation of new body, Institute for Road Infrastructures, I.P., (InIR) an institute with public functions of regulation and supervision of the sector of the road infrastructures.
- The transformation of Estradas de Portugal, EPE (EP, EPE) into a state-owned limited company, with corporate autonomy, now designated by Estradas de Portugal, SA (EP, SA).

InIR is from now on, the Portuguese National Road Authority. InIR purposes are: ensuring greater transparency and cautioning in the relationship of the State with the EP, SA and greater transparency in the formation of prices and tariffs, always having in mind the public interest and the need of the strengthening of an emerging market.

InIR has as its main mission: to oversee the management and operation of the road network, to check the application of laws and regulations, the concession and sub-concession contracts, always having in mind the need for ensuring the implementation of the National Road Plan, as well as for ensuring the efficiency, equity, quality and safety of the road infrastructures, respecting the user's rights.

EP, SA, is now a concessionary company, which focuses on the conception, design, construction, financing, maintenance, operation, upgrading and enlargement of the national road network, under a long term concession contract between EP, SA and the state.

More information: maria.dourado@inir.moptc.pt



Australia and New Zealand

Austrroads publications

Recent releases include:

- Guide to Traffic Management Part 1: Introduction to Traffic Management
- Guide to Traffic Management Part 6: Intersections, Interchanges and Crossings
- Guide to Pavement Technology Part 4: Pavement Materials
- Guide to Project Delivery Part 1: Overview
- Guide to Project Delivery Part 2: Project Delivery Planning and Control

A further 11 publications will be released within the coming weeks. These include:

- Glossary of Austrroads Terms
- Austrroads Bituminous Materials Safety Guide
- Guide to Road Safety Part 3: Speed Limits and Speed Management
- Guide to Road Safety Part 9: Roadside Hazard Management
- Guide to Traffic Management Part 5: Road Management
- Guide to Traffic Management Part 11: Parking
- Guide to Pavement Technology Part 9: Pavement Work Practices



All Austrroads publications are available through www.onlinepublications.austrroads.com.au.

Feedback about Austrroads publications

Austrroads is always seeking feedback about its publications. Users can provide feedback about the technical content of a publication, the format, layout or style of the publication, or whether the publication met expectations in order to develop relevant and informative publications, easy to use and to be recommended to others. There is an electronic feedback form available on www.onlinepublications.austrroads.com.au. Feedback is also appreciated about the usability of the publications website, downloading publications, or the ordering and payment process.

GERMANY

The FGSV – Library offers specialized information services in the area of roads and transport and maintains an extensive library with a stock of about 50,000 volumes in the fields of road and transport.

Main areas cover:



- Transport Planning
- Road design
- Road traffic technology
- Urban transport
- Road construction and maintenance
- Tunnel and bridges
- Historical editions

Information available at: www.fgsv.de/bibliothek

NORDIC ROAD ASSOCIATION

NRA Report 1/2007:

**Vehicle combinations based on the modular concept
Background and analysis**



At the end of last year Nordic Road Association's TC 54 Vehicles and Transports completed the report Vehicle combinations based on the modular concept, Background and analysis (64 p., ISSN 0347-2485). The report is written by John Aurell and Thomas Wadman from Volvo Trucks.

The report is in English and it describes the development of weights and dimensions of heavy vehicles in Europe. It illustrates the background to the modular concept (EMS) and explains the advantages with the modular concept. The report provides an extensive analysis of the performance of a large number of conventional and modular vehicle combination types. The report can be downloaded from the association's website www.nvfnorden.org or ordered by mail.

SPAIN



Nº 123 of the Spanish Road Magazine "Rutas" has been published. Reports about the conclusions of the World Road Congress in Paris, a National Seminar on Design and Construction of Retaining Walls, the Ministry of Public Works in Panama as well as contributions on Travel times on interurban roads and Weight stations on the net are covered in this issue.

Information at: <http://www.atc-piarc.com/>

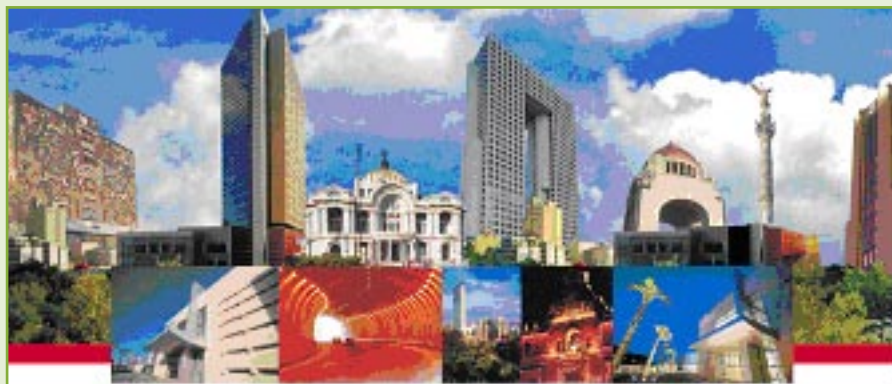
13TH PIARC WINTER ROAD CONGRESS 8 – 11 February 2010 in Quebec City



The preparation of the 13th PIARC Winter Road Congress is making excellent progress. The Executive Committee of the World Road Association took the opportunity of visiting the Congress facilities at its meeting in February 2008 in Québec City. The themes of the Congress sessions will be proposed by the Technical Committee B.5 on Winter Service at its next meeting in April 2008.

24TH PIARC WORLD ROAD CONGRESS 25 – 30 September 2011, Mexico City

The 24th World Road Congress of the World Road Association will be held in Mexico (Mexico) from 25 to 30 September 2011.



Your opinions and comments to

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