The Hungarian National Committee (NC) is a very young organisation in Hungary established after substantial consultations with the existing national committees in Europe, mainly with our neighbouring countries. In the course of the Council meeting in Rome in 2001, the presented statute of our new established Hungarian National Committee of PIARC had been approved and the official activity could be started.

The first main objective was the creation of the framework of this new organisation. The document on the foundation contains that the Hungarian NC organises its work in cooperation with the well introduced, in 1994 founded Hungarian road organisation, the Hungarian Association of Road Issues (MAUT).

The most important activities of NC are focused on the organisation of several PIARC technical committee (TC) meetings in Hungary during the last period. All these events enjoy considerable supports from the PIARC Secretary General in Paris and the Hungarian NC co-operated strongly during the preparation and execution processes. Another important task is the increasing of the members participating in the organised activity of PIARC.

The NC concentrated on the organisational and professional details of these meetings and conferences in Hungary in co-operation with all relevant parties, first of all with the PIARC headquarters and the Hungarian first delegate of PIARC. Further future tasks represent the strengthening the national wide activity of the Hungarian National Committee. As a part of this activity, we co-ordinated the elaboration of the Hungarian national reports in all themes for the XXII. World Road Congress held successfully in Durban in October 2003. We also prepared and co-ordinated the participation of the official Hungarian delegates to this Congress.

After this congress, the PIARC started the new period of work with the establishment of the new technical committees. Our organisation made proposals for the new committee members for our first delegate and the Ministry of Economy and Transport approved the persons selected and delegated to the Committees. Hungary plays an active role in this work: our experts participate in 19 technical committees and one TC (Urban Areas and Integrated Urban Transport) designed the Hungarian professor Csaba KOREN as chairman.

At this stage of the work, we newly prepare meetings in Hungary. Three technical committees (2.2. Interurban Roads and Integrated Interurban Transport, 2.5. Rural Road Network and 3.1. Road Safety) will hold their meetings in Budapest this year, partly connected to the Hungarian international conference series “On Safe Roads in the XXI. Century” supported also by PIARC. The third such conference will take place in Budapest between 25 and 27 October, 2004. This conference will be held with the objective to carry on the efforts started in 2000 and followed in 2002, as well as to enable the leading professional experts in the Central-East European region and Western countries to share their experiences and ideas about road safety, to effectively cooperate in this critical field of traffic policy and to discuss the achievements.

Budapest, 2004, September 23