EDITORIAL

Road Safety – A Global Issue

At its October 2010 meeting, the World Road Association’s Executive Committee endorsed the Association taking a more active role in supporting the United Nations Decade of Action for Global Road Safety. In this sense the National Committees of the Association should carry out actions or report on activities in this field. I have put one of these examples in front of this newsletter to invite other National Committees to follow with actions and reports.

Friedrich Zotter
Representative of National Committees on the PIARC Executive Committee

NC news, events, seminars & conferences

PIARC-QUEBEC

PIARC-Québec and the United Nations Road Safety Decade: Time to Act!

In April, on the occasion of the 47th Congress of the “Association Québécoise du Transport and Roads” (AQTR), a technical session took place on "The Decade for Road Safety UN: time to act!". Organized by PIARC-Québec, this session activity focused on Quebec's actions in response to this call for mobilization. Traffic safety is an important issue for which the World Road Association (PIARC), as well as Quebec, assume an important leadership role globally.

In opening, Anne-Marie Leclerc, President of PIARC, presented the commitment and leadership of the latter with respect to the Road Safety Decade (2011-2020). There are multiple solutions to road safety issues, which require a concerted and structured to provide safe roads. Government support in this struggle is essential to its success.

The accession of Quebec to the international movement and coordination of its actions to improve road safety has also been the subject of a presentation by Mr. Andre Meloche, First Delegate of Canada-Québec. On a more technical side, Lise Fournier and Daniel Aubin, members of PIARC Technical Committee 3.2 - Design and execution of a safer road infrastructure, presented the results of the work of this committee during the 2008-2011 cycle.

Further Information at: www.aqtr.qc.ca

Your opinions and comments to
Friedrich Zotter: friedrich.zotter@bmvit.gv.at
AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

**Austroads becomes the National Committee for Australia and New Zealand**

In April 2012, Austroads and the World Road Association entered into a memorandum of understanding through which Austroads was recognised as the World Road Association national committee for Australia and New Zealand. This is a positive step for both Austroads and World Road Association members in Australia and New Zealand. Both countries play a very active role in the work of the Association with representation on most technical committees, chairing two and providing the English speaking secretaries for several other committees.

Austroads is the association of Australian and New Zealand road transport and traffic authorities. Austroads has an extensive work program addressing issues of interest to Australian and New Zealand road transport agencies. It also publishes a comprehensive range of guides covering all aspects of road agency activities. These are generally adopted by road agencies and supplemented where necessary by their own documentation.

There was previously a separate Australian and New Zealand national committee of the Association, established to comply with the requirements at the time. This committee was supported by Austroads and its activities were closely aligned to those of Austroads. However, in 2011 the Association changed the criteria for national committees to allow existing national bodies to be recognised as the national committee for the Association through a memorandum of understanding.


IRELAND

**Creation of a National Committee**

We are further pleased to announce the creation of another new National Committee. The National Roads Authority of Ireland (NRA) forwarded a constitution for the establishment of a National Committee in Ireland. PIARC-Ireland shall comprise representatives of the NRA, the Department of Transport, the Association of Consulting Engineers (ACE), the Construction Industry Confederation (CIF), the Road Safety Authority (RSA), the academic community and various Local Authorities.

After review of these Statutes by the Secretary General and on proposal of the First Delegate of Ireland, Tim Ahern, and the representative of National Committees on the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee recognized in its April 2012 meeting PIARC-Ireland as a new National Committee of the World Road Association for Ireland. The Irish NC will now proceed by setting up an inaugural meeting.

As representative of National Committees I would like to congratulate my Irish colleagues and welcome them in the group of National Committees.

Contact: [info@nra.ie](mailto:info@nra.ie)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**Creation of a New Website**

AASHTO, acting as the National Committee of the United States of America for the World Road Association (PIARC) has announced the creation of a new website for the issues of the National Committee:

Look at [http://piarc.transportation.org](http://piarc.transportation.org)
ARGENTINA

XVIth Congress of Road Administration and Traffic
22nd – 26th October 2012 in Buenos Aires

The XVIth International ITS Congress, the XXXVIIth Asphalt Meeting, the International Seminar on Concrete Pavement and the Road Safety Exhibition “Expovial Argentina” will be held simultaneously at the XVIth Congress of Road Administration and Traffic at the same venue in Buenos Aires. The National Committees of Argentina and Uruguay and other stakeholders in the transport sector are organizing this congress week from 22nd - 26th October 2012.

For more information have a look at www.congresodevialidad.org.ar/eng/index.html

AUSTRIA

19th ITS World Road Congress 2012
22nd – 26th October 2012 in Vienna

There are at least six reasons to attend the 19th World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems in Vienna:

Under the motto - Smarter on the way - ITS Vienna 2012 will focus on the benefit of ITS for all traffic users. Smarter on the way means connecting seamlessly, serving customers and encouraging sustainability. Around 1,000 expert presentations, including, for the first time, dedicated Strategic Sessions. Explore state-of-the-art ITS products and solutions spread across 15,000 square metres. To watch and experience an outstanding demonstration programme and cutting edge solutions. Discover hybrid and electric vehicles, autonomous cars and car-to-car and car-to-infrastructure communication. Widen the ITS audience at the public day on 25th of October 2012 by involving kids and young professionals because they are your future experts and users. Encourage worldwide policy attendance in order to foster a wide deployment of ITS solutions. And last but not least, as a place to visit, Vienna is a destination in itself. Austria, in the heart of Europe, has a well-deserved reputation for its integrated transport system, lively culture and excellent standard of living.

For further Information visit http://2012.itsworldcongress.com

BOTSWANA

6th African International Transportation Technology Transfer Conference
4th – 8th March 2013 in Gaborone

The Ministry of Transport and Communications, Botswana in collaboration with the Association of Southern African National Road Agencies (ASANRA) and other stakeholders in the transport sector worldwide is organizing the 6th Africa International Transportation Technology Transfer Conference to be held at Grand Palm Hotel (Gaborone International Conference Centre – GICC) in Gaborone, Botswana, from 4th to 8th March 2013. The Conference Theme is “Effective Management of Transport Infrastructure for Economic Recovery in Africa”.

Participants wishing to present papers to the 6th Africa T2 Conference are invited to send a one page abstracts written in English, to reach the Secretariat email by 31st July 2012.

For further information contact techtransfer@mopipi.ub.bw
**CANADA**

**2012 Transportation of Canada (TAC) Conference & Exhibition**

14th - 17th October 2012 in Fredericton, New Brunswick

*Transportation: Innovations and Opportunities*

More than 800 delegates representing the public and private sectors as well as academics will gather in Fredericton this October to attend the 2012 Conference and Exhibition of the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC), the country’s largest annual event in the field of transportation. The theme of TAC’s 2012 conference – Transportation: Innovations and Opportunities – clearly emphasizes the importance of recognizing Canadian expertise and know-how. The Transportation Association of Canada is a member of the Canadian National Committee of PIARC. Hosted by New Brunswick Transportation and Infrastructure, the conference will offer delegates an unparalleled opportunity to broaden their horizons in the roads and transportation sector:

http://www.tac-atc.ca/english/annualconference/

or visit www.cnc-piarc-aipcr.ca/ for further information

**CHILE**

**International Tunneling Events**

16th – 19th October 2012 in Santiago de Chile

The Chilean National Committee (ACCT Chile) organizes several International Tunneling Events in 2012. The PIARC Technical Committee meeting TC 3.3 "Road Tunnels Operations" and the International Seminar ‘Urban and Intercity Tunnels of Great Length: Challenges for the Design, Construction and Operation' will be held in Santiago on 16th and 17th to 19th October 2012, respectively.

This event is organized in conjunction with the Chilean Association of Roads and Transportation (ACCT), the Committee on Tunnels and Underground Space in Chile (CTES), the Coordination of Public Works Concessions MOP (CCOP), PIARC Technical Committee 3.3 on Road Tunnels Operations and the Department of Roads.

Contact: m.ropert@conpax.cl

**GERMANY**

**German Road and Transportation Congress**

16th – 17th October 2012 in Leipzig

with the ‘Road and Transport 2012’ exhibition

On 16 and 17 October 2012, the Road and Transportation Research Association (FGSV) will welcome experts to the German Road and Transportation Congress 2012 and the Road and Transport 2012 exhibition. Both will take place in the Congress Centre in Leipzig. The main themes of the congress are:

- Designing cities and traffic
- New developments and regulations in highway design
- Designing, managing, and equipping roads
- Innovations in road construction
- Sustainability in road maintenance
- Pavement performances

For more information and a comprehensive congress programme, please contact:

Forschungsgesellschaft für Straßen- und Verkehrswesen e.V. (FGSV, Road and Transportation Research Association)

e-mail.: koeln@fgsv.de

Internet: www.fgsv.de or www.fgsv-kongress-2012.de
GREECE
5th Road Safety Conference
11th – 12th October 2012 in Volos

The Hellenic NRA (among other stakeholders) will organize the 5th National Road Safety Conference in Volos on 11th – 12th October 2012. Further information will be provided in the next edition of the Newsletter or contact ggdegdse@otenet.gr
or visit www.cnc-piarc-aipcr.ca/ for further information

CHILE
5th International Congress on Sustainability of Road Infrastructures
29th – 31st October 2012 in Rome

The “Società Italiana Infrastrutture Viarie” (Italian Society for Road Design) is organizing the 5th International Congress on Sustainability of Road Infrastructures in October 2012 in Rome.

The congress topics cover Environment, Society & Culture, Safety, Economy, Engineering & Resource utilization and Project management. More than 150 abstracts have been submitted and the Scientific Committee will define the organization of the sessions. Selected papers will be published by two International Journals:

- International Journal of Roads and Airports (IJRA) and

More information at www.siivroma.it or contact the secretariat at segreteria@siivroma.it

MEXICO
XIXth National AMIVTAC Meeting of Roads
18th - 20th July 2012 Mazatlan, Sinaloa

The Mexican National Committee (AMIVTAC) is organizing the XIXth National AMIVTAC Meeting of Roads, to be held in Mazatlan, Sinaloa from 18th to 20th of July, 2012. The general theme of the meeting is “Mobility as an important factor for the development of Mexico”. The National Meeting includes Technical Presentations and a Machinery Exhibition on issues like Planning, Project Design, Construction, Financing, Maintenance, Conservation, Supervision, Operation and Quality Control of Roads, Railroads, Airports and Ports.

Within the AMITAC National Meeting an academic meeting with Universities and students, a presentation by Rodolfo Felix Valdes with the theme “The evolution and development of the Mexican roads”, as well as awardings for the best Professional Development, Post Graduated Thesis and best Technical Article will take place.

During the Technical visit, participants will have the opportunity of discovering the “Baluarte Bridge”, that has been recognized by the Guinness Book of Records as the highest Bridge with 402.6 meters of heigh.

More information of the XIXth National AMIVTAC Meeting can be found at: http://reunionviasterrestres2012.org, further information on AMIVTAC at: www.amivtac.org/

UNITED KINGDOM
Annual UK Congress
31st October 2012

The National Committee is currently planning their annual Congress event (every year except when the World Congress takes place) which the National Committee links to arrangements to host a TC meeting. For 2012 this will be linked with a meeting of TC 1.4 Road Transport System Economics and Social Development and the Congress will be themed around the work of that Committee.

Further information will be displayed at: www.piarc.co.uk
BELGIUM

Roads for a better live – A tribute by the Belgian Road Association to the 24th World Road Congress in Mexico 2011

As the Belgian National Committee within PIARC, the Belgian Road Association (ABR) is the link between the World Road Association and the Belgian road sector. It also sends Belgian representatives to technical committees (TC) of PIARC. TCs are organized around the themes of the Strategic Plan which has been established for four years and TC members report on their activities at the following World Road Congress.

On Wednesday, February 29, 2012, the BRA held a “Post-Mexico” workshop in the auditorium of CRR Sterrebeek, with presentations by TC members of 2008-2011 and Belgian Congress participants and, in the afternoon, an interactive session with members of TCs for 2012-2015. The objective was to share the most striking conclusions of the Congress and inform members of the TCs on their operation.

The Director General of the CRR, Claude Van Rooten, member of the Executive Committee of PIARC and Secretary of the BRA, wrote in that capacity a summary of the consolidated text of the PIARC General Secretariat on the Congress. This summary can be found on page 22 and following pages of the CRR bulletin no. 90 (www.brrc.be). The full version of the consolidated text was published in issue no. 352-353 of the Routes/Roads of PIARC.


CANADA-QUEBEC

12th edition of the PIARC-Québec submission contest

The annual contest for students at Master Level is an opportunity for candidates to promote their work on finding new ways to increase efficiency and competitiveness of transport networks. For this 12th edition, participants had to focus their thinking on one of the issues addressed by the technical committees of PIARC in the current work cycle, presenting an innovative solution to a current issue affecting one of the areas of road transport.

The 2012 scholarship was awarded to Mr. Luc Beaulieu for the memory system development of decision support dedicated to the maintenance management of a road network not coated, as summarized below:

The road length of the Canadian public road network is more than one million kilometres, of which about half is uncoated, resulting annually significant maintenance costs. Despite an often limited budget, the road network managers must maintain un-surfaced roads safe and efficient. In this context, the development of a system of decision support for managing the maintenance of such roads was necessary.

The thesis presents a comprehensive experimental program which was conducted to identify practical stabilization and treatment by a dust suppressant. A comprehensive analysis of life cycle maintenance of rural roads is then performed to quantify the environmental impact of proposed practical solutions. Finally, a multi-criteria analysis can integrate environmental, social, economic and operational and is incorporated in the system of decision support to ensure that the practical solution chosen meets the objectives and preferences of the manager. This is an approach that opens up an innovative and rigorous thinking and managing this type of road networks!

Further Information at: www.aqtr.qc.ca
Transport innovation in Europe took another significant step forward with the successful conduct of the Transport Research Arena Conference – TRA 2012 in Athens. The top transport research event in Europe, gathering every two years the key stakeholders (experts, operators, industry and policy-makers) was hosted this year in Greece, from April 23 to April 26, in the International Conference Centre of the Athens Concert Hall (Megaron Mousikis Athonin).

More than 1600 people took part in the conference. In an exhibition hall of about 1000 square metres, the exponents, both from the private and the public sector, presented innovative solutions for a safer, faster and more energy efficient transport sector in Europe.

TRA 2012, whose main theme was «Sustainable mobility through innovation», was attended inter alia by high ranking officials in the European Commission and the Greek public administration, researchers, academics and others.

For the first time, the TRA Conference dealt extensively with all surface transport modes: road, rail and waterborne and underline interlinks between them. The Conference proved to be a great opportunity for all transport stakeholders to give a boost to European and global transportation through the exchange of knowledge and experiences, as well as by developing co-operations and business.

The Conference was organized by the European Commission, the Greek Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks, the Conference of European Directors of Roads, the European Road Transport Research Advisory Council, the European Rail Research Advisory Council and the European Technology Platform WATERBORNE.

Meeting of Governing Board and Technical Groups of CEDR:

During the TRA 2012, the meeting of Governing Board (GB) of CEDR took place in Athens as well. The GB welcomed the news that Poland and Germany are considering hosting TRA in 2016 and 2018 respectively and invited the chair and the secretariat to finalize and sign the Letter of Intent on ITS. Likewise in the frame of TRA 2012, the fruitful meetings of 5 Technical Groups of CEDR took place in Athens.

E-mail: contact@tra2012.gr or ggdegdse@otenet.gr

UNITED KINGDOM

How the World Road Association brought the international arena into focus for reviews.

A study of international practice, carried out by the UK delegation of the World Road Association (WRA UK), was referenced across a number of areas in the recently published Potholes Review. The study was carried out to support the Highways Maintenance Efficiency Programme (HMEP) – which led the Potholes Review - and also provided input to the Scottish Roads Review. The project was directed by Jim Barton (First Delegate for WRA UK) and Joe Burns (Chairman of WRA UK) with CIHT providing significant support.

The study found that the approach within the UK to dealing with highway maintenance and potholes compares well with international best practice, but nevertheless there is scope for further improvements.

Jim Barton, First Delegate of WRA UK said 'It was good to be able to demonstrate the value that the World Road Association network can offer the UK. We wrote out to a number of First Delegates asking them to nominate experts in highway maintenance in their particular country. We then consulted those experts via an online survey based on issues being addressed in the HMEP and Scottish [Roads] Review. More in-depth conference calls were conducted over the Web with a number of countries based on the answers they provided. This proved to be a very effective way of accessing international expertise. I was pleased to have the support of CIHT to help manage the review and the use of their online survey facilities and web conferencing technology made the process of gathering information very easy'.

Joe Burns, Chairman of WRA UK said that 'The survey demonstrates that whilst UK practice compares well with international best practice, we can still learn a lot from colleagues overseas. It is important to keep asking questions and challenging our delivery, but it also shows that the UK has a lot to offer the world in terms of delivering high quality highway maintenance operations'.
Other NC activities and examples of good practice

Report:
Potholes Review:

International best practice on procurement
Presentations by Western Roads Australia - from Maria Sarubian on ‘Applying science to relationship evaluation’ and Robert Barnsley on ‘ISA procurement outcomes’ – have been given to the CIHT procurement and delivery panel. This translated international thinking on approaches to procuring to an expert panel in the UK. Technology helped facilitate this process through the use of a web-conferencing facility.

Creating an international policy environment
The National Committee has established a process where the UK Technical Committee representatives will report to the UK Roads Liaison Group to ensure that international knowledge is directed into policymakers within the devolved government scenario. Knowledge will be collected and shared through ‘Communities of Interest’ and managed through a WRA UK LinkedIn group – this will further draw international best practice into an established space.

Get further informed at: www.piarc.co.uk

NC Publications and software

ARGENTINA
Revista Vial
No. 84 of the Magazine Revista Vial and a special issue on Road Safety are available on-line at

www.editorialrevistas.com.ar/

ITALY
Issue no. 92 of the Italian Road Magazine Strade & Autostrade is available on-line at:

http://www.stradeeautostrade.it/edicem/rivista_sea/
The 14th International Winter Road Congress in 2014 will be held in Andorra la Vella. With its privileged geographical situation and unsurpassable climatic conditions, Andorra is the perfect setting for holding this important congress on winter service.

The conference centre has a main hall with capacity for 1000 people, with the additional facility that everything that is going on in the main hall can be followed by videoconference, from adjacent rooms and the exterior covered exhibition areas.

The exhibition space for material is arranged in up to 5,000 m² of covered area at one side of the conference halls. This area will be supplemented with an outside space of 4,300 m², where the most modern machinery used in the tasks to guarantee winter road viability can be displayed.

www.aipcrandorlad2014.org