EDITORIAL

Time for a farewell

At the Annual Conference of National Committees in the morning of 24th October 2012 in Lucerne, Switzerland, a new Representative of National Committees to the Executive Committee will be elected for the working cycle 2012-2016.

After eight years serving as the Representative of National Committees within the World Road Association it is time for a farewell and some conclusions about the achievements reached. Reviewing the highlights of the work in the ending working period I would like to point out in particular the following:

- each National Committee is now entitled to send a representative of its own to the annual Council meetings;
- recognition of existing national organisations as a National Committee of the World Road Association by way of a Memorandum of Understanding;
- the introduction of a quarterly National Committees electronic Newsletter (30 issues published);
- a number of presentations, workshops and discussions during the annual conferences;
- joint pavilion and presentations of National Committees at the World Road Congress and other events of the Association;
- clear definition of the benefits deriving from the existence of a National Committee in a country (in co-operation with the Communication and International Relations Commission - CIRC);
- development of an updated brochure for that purpose;
- description of major activities of National Committees within annual activity reports (published on the website);
- creation of National websites at most of the National Committees;
- introduction of an National Committees Award;
- significant contribution to all major actions of the Association as the Anniversary in 2009 or the Decade for Road Safety;
- development of a corporate identity within the Association.

Through all these actions the number of National Committees has increased significantly during the past years. Ten new National Committees have been established and the links to existing Committees strengthened substantially. The group of National Committees seems well prepared to face the future challenges of changing administrations and economic constraints.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone again for their support in my work as a Representative of National Committees, especially those who supported me in producing the electronic Newsletter by contributions, translation or layout. I am looking forward to my new assignment as Strategic Theme 1 Coordinator. At the same time I would like to invite you to continue the successful path with my successor who will be elected during the National Committees Annual Conference in October 2012.

With my best regards,

Friedrich Zotter
Representative of National Committees on the PIARC Executive Committee

Your opinions and comments to Friedrich Zotter: friedrich.zotter@bmvit.gv.at
EDITORIAL

LAST CALL FOR CANDIDACIES!

As mentioned above, a new Representative of National Committees to the Executive Committee for the working cycle 2012-2016 will be elected at the annual meeting of National Committees in the morning of 24th October 2012 in Lucerne, Switzerland. Representatives of National Committees are kindly invited to present their application for this function until 15th September 2012 to the Secretariat General at info@piarc.org

NC news, events, seminars & conferences

JAPAN

New President of the National Committee

Mr. Keiichi Inoue, Vice-President of the World Road Association and Strategic Theme Coordinator for Strategic Theme 2 in the working period 2008-2012, has been elected as new chairman of the Japan Road Association, the Japanese National Committee of the World Road Association. He succeeds Mr. Kotaro Hashimoto, who stepped down in June 2012. We congratulate Mr. Inoue for his election and thank Mr. Hashimoto for his persuasive support of the group of National Committees during the past years.

Further information at: www.road.or.jp

ARGENTINA

The National Committees of Argentina and Uruguay together with other stakeholders in the transport sector are organizing XVth Road and Transport Congress in Cordoba in the week from 22nd - 26th October 2012. The Congress is accompanied by a remarkable trade show, the 7th Expovial Argentina.

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

EL SALVADOR

International Seminar Rural Roads and developments
28th-30th November 2012 in San Salvador (El Salvador)

This international seminar organised jointly by the Government of El Salvador and the Technical Committee 2.5 Networks of rural roads and rural accessibility of the World Road Association has the following goal: to enable the sharing of experiences on the construction and maintenance of rural roads to provide connectivity, sustainability and development. The general theme of the Seminar is “Rural Roads and Development”.

Please contact: FOVIAL (Mrs. Mercedes Barrientos) at: mbarrientos@fovial.com

FRANCE

2012 Interroute&Ville Trade Show and first IDRRIM Congress
2nd-4th October 2012 in Lyon

The French National Committee is pleased to announce the upcoming INTERROUTE&VILLE trade show, and the first IDRRIM Congress, taking place from 2-4 October 2012, in Lyon, France. This event is dedicated to urban and inter-city road and transport infrastructure. Spread over 15,000 m² of exhibition space, it will bring together over 250 exhibitors promoting the international excellence of French road technology.

This benchmark event in France is organised in conjunction with the first IDRRIM (the French Institute of Roads, Streets and Infrastructure for Mobility) Congress. During this technical value added congress, over 700 French and international delegates will be discussing the topic: “Preserving existing and preparing future land-based transport infrastructure.”

TO BE CONTINUED
Administration representatives, political decision-makers, elected representatives, project managers and contractors, architects and engineering consultants working in sustainable mobility and regional planning will come together for three days at this event.

Today the trade show and congress, closely linked to current concerns about regional planning and the rapid growth of cities, are more committed than ever to the philosophy of sustainable development which, in France, is being developed by the state and the local authorities.

Find all the information at www.interoute-ville.com

Request your visitor pass in the 'visit' section.
You will receive your free pass by email with the code: INTER2012

To register for the conference: go to the "IDDRIM Congress" section.

The French National PIARC Committee will be present at the show and warmly invites you to visit its stand. www.cf-aipcr.org

GERMANY

German Road and Transportation Congress with the exhibition ‘Road and Transport 2012’
16th-17th October 2012 in Leipzig (Germany)

The German Road and Transportation Research Association (FGSV) cordially invites professionals working in the road transport and construction sector to attend the German Road and Transportation Congress 2012 and the exhibition ‘Road and Transport 2012’ at the Congress Center in Leipzig.

Both events will run from 16th to 17th October 2012.

Reports on the following subjects will be made at the German Road and Transportation Congress 2012:

- Innovations in road construction,
- Sustainability in road maintenance,
- Pavement performances,
- Designing cities and traffic,
- New developments and regulations in highway design,
- Design, road management and equipment.

Some 1,500 people are expected to attend the German Road and Transportation Congress and the ‘Road and Transportation 2012’ exhibition. But it’s not all hard work: in addition to the many fascinating, high-quality presentations, delegates can look forward to meeting colleagues and forging new contacts at this key road transport event.

More information is available at: www.fgsv-kongress-2012.de

ITALY

The 5th International SIIV Congress “Sustainability of Road Infrastructures”, will be held in Rome, Italy, on October 29th-31st 2012. Registration is now open. Registration and further information is available through the Conference Official Website www.siivroma.it.
The Slovenian National Committee is quite busy with helping in the organisation of the main event for Slovenian roads community this autumn, the 11th Slovenian Road and Traffic Congress, to be held 24th-25th October 2012 in Portorož. The Congress presents an opportunity for road experts from Slovenia and abroad, to hear about the latest activities, future prospects and planned investments in road and traffic research in Slovenia. The decision to organise a Congress despite financial constraints, comes no doubt as a pleasant surprise and a positive sign of encouragement to the road sector in Slovenia.

The date of the Congress just happens to coincide with the PIARC Council meeting in Switzerland, but we have nevertheless been able to get a confirmation from a dozen of international experts on road safety, also members of PIARC, to come to Slovenia, and take part in the Congress. As a separate event NC PIARC Slovenia is (at the same time as the Slovenian road congress) is organising a meeting of Technical committee TC 3.2, in which two experts from Slovenia are actively involved. It is planned to coordinate the activities of the two events in such a way that the experts will be able to participate in both of them. They will also involve students of traffic engineering from University of Ljubljana and University of Maribor who will be able to learn first hand from the international acclaimed experts.

Take a look at it at [http://www.nc-piarc.si/](http://www.nc-piarc.si/) and see you in Portorož in October 2012.

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**SPAIN**

**Course on road surfaces, materials, design and rehabilitation**

27th-28th September, 4th-5th October and 18th-19th October 2012 in Madrid

The field of pavement engineering is currently supported by a large base of scientific, technological and regulatory knowledge, however, there seems to be a certain lack of awareness regarding the practical application of that knowledge. Very sophisticated means and materials are used in the construction of road surfaces. Their employment in inadequate conditions can ruin all the effort previously conducted.

Moreover, the technology of road surfaces, especially relative to the bituminous mixtures, is changing, incorporating new technologies and materials, while offering the same level of performance than the traditional ones, obviously improving the sustainable development, reducing the emission of contaminants (half-warm mixed asphalts), valuing residues of the road (hot recycled and low temperature) or other (rubber powder mixtures from used tires), and reducing acoustic pollution (mixtures of low noise).

It is therefore time to share the peculiarities of manufacture and performance of these materials. This course aims to stress aspects to be considered in the use and application of materials, machinery and procedures, both traditional and commonly used, as well as the new ones.

Information note: The Spanish National Committee will shortly launch an online edition for Latin America. Have a look at [www.atc-piarc.com](http://www.atc-piarc.com)

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**Course on graphics systems design applied to the design and implementation of roads**

11th, 13th, 18th and 20th September 2012 in Madrid

Our professional environment demands that we are capable of relaying technical information using simple graphic systems that have the ability to transmit data properly structured and presented. The aim of this course on Graphics Systems Design, using Vector and Raster applications like AutoCad 2013, Adobe Photoshop and Adobe Acrobat CS6, is learning the process of generation and edition of images and visual information systems to strengthen the transmission of technical data into a graphic.

Information note: The Spanish National Committee will shortly launch an online edition for Latin America. Have a look at: [www.atc-piarc.com](http://www.atc-piarc.com)
Backed by the dynamism of its world-renowned team of specialists, the World Road Association-PIARC committee on pavements is organizing the 7th Symposium on Pavement Surface Characteristics: SURF 2012. This 2012 symposium will be held in the United States in the city of Norfolk, Virginia, and will focus on providing smooth, safe, quiet, and sustainable travel through innovative technologies. The symposium offers a unique platform to send a strong message about the importance of considering surface characteristics when building, renewing, and preserving roadways and airfields. SURF 2012 provides a rare opportunity for practitioners and researchers to share knowledge and expertise on this subject.

The program is ready for download at: [http://www.cpe.vt.edu/surf2012/program.html](http://www.cpe.vt.edu/surf2012/program.html)

For more information, contact:
Dr. Gerardo Flintsch, flintsch@vt.edu ou Edgar David de León Izeppi, edeleonizeppi@vtti.vt.edu at the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute.

Other NC activities and examples of good practice

**GREECE**

The Hellenic National Committee actively participated in the preparation and organisation of National Conferences held in Greece. Specifically:

- Transport Research Arena, 2012 International Meeting, Athens, May 2012;
- FEHRL General Assembly meeting in Athens, April 2012;

For detailed information contact: ggdegdse@otenet.gr

**ITALY**

During a press conference on 25 July the Italian Road Administration ANAS organised a “streaming” direct presentation how to Plan a summer vacation in 2012 in Italy, everybody could follow on home computers, tablets or smartphones via [www.stradeanas.it](http://www.stradeanas.it) or directly on [www.stradeanas.tv](http://www.stradeanas.tv)

During the conference steps to facilitate travel for tourists on the network of main roads and highways of the country with information on sites accessible and downloadable from office on alternative routes and timing of departures and returns have been illustrated. This is a new instrument of traffic information in real time, a real TV channel "all news" on the viability, which may be used by anyone browsing the Internet with a PC, Mac, smartphones or tablet.

For further information contact: [www.stradeanas.it](http://www.stradeanas.it)
IRELAND

The PIARC Ireland National Conference will take place in Limerick on 4th October 2012. National and international speakers will cover with their presentation the full range of roads and transportation issues.

Contact: Mr. Albert Daly adaly@nra.ie

JAPAN

Pre-announcement

Japan Road Conference
The Japan Road Conference takes place every two years. The next conference, celebrating 30th anniversary, is scheduled on 30th & 31st October 2013 in Tokyo. In this conference, international session will be held in cooperation with international bodies. The direction and content of these sessions is still under discussion. The Japan Road Association has a major role in this conference.

PIARC International workshop
Technical Committee 1.5 and Japan Road Association are drafting a plan for hosting an international workshop in Osaka. Collaboration with IRF is currently considered. The tentative plan is as follows.

• TC 1.5, “International Workshop on Risk Management for Roads”, May 29, 2013, Osaka. Further information at: www.road.or.jp

PERU

The Secretary General of the World Road Association, Mr. Jean-François Corté together with other international experts gave a lecture at the 2012 Andean Highway Congress in August 2012 in Lima. For general information about this event please contact Esteban Salinas at esalinas@irfnews.org.
**SLOVENIA**

End of May 2012 the Slovenian National Committee has succeeded in renovating its website. It has been designed from scratch, to make it more in line with the official website of WRA-PIARC. The goal was also, to make it more appealing for visitors and interactive and user-friendly for members.

Take a look at it at [http://www.nc-piarc.si/](http://www.nc-piarc.si/) and browse through the English section.

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**NC Publications and software**

**ARGENTINA**

N°206 - July 2012 of the Magazine of the Argentine Association of Roads, “Revista Carreteras” is mainly dedicated to the XVIth Argentine Congress of Roads and Traffic, to be held from 22nd to 26th October 2012 in Cordoba.

Have a look at: [www.aacarreteras.org.ar](http://www.aacarreteras.org.ar)

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July/August issue of the Argentine Road Magazine “Vial” and past issues are available on-line at [www.editorialrevistas.com.ar](http://www.editorialrevistas.com.ar)

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**AUSTRALIA - Latest Publications**

**Cycling on Higher Speed Roads**

This report investigates the provision of facilities for bicycles on sealed roads with speed limits of 70 km/h or more. It outlines how to improve these roads for cyclists where off-road alternatives or on-road, lower speed, direct options are not available.

**Heavy Vehicle Roughness Band Index: An Alternative Trigger for Pavement Rehabilitation**

This report has developed a new index, the Heavy Vehicle Roughness Band Index (HVRBI), as a measure of ride quality for heavy vehicles. The HVRBI is intended for use by road asset managers as a trigger to initiate pavement intervention works.

**Investigation into the Properties of Alternative Surfacing Binders and Bitumen Extending Binders**

Bitumen is a major component used in the construction of roads in Australia and New Zealand. As it can only be manufactured from a small number of the crude oils in the world, the future supply and cost of bitumen will be directly linked to the availability of suitable crude oil sources.

**Development of Marginal Costs for Heavy Vehicle Bridge Usage**

This report develops approaches that estimate the marginal cost (MC) of bridge wear for heavy vehicle usage and estimates the availability and reliability of the data needed to use these approaches. Two approaches were examined.

Austroads technical and research reports are available for free from the Austroads website [www.austroads.com.au](http://www.austroads.com.au)
Accepted papers will be presented during poster sessions and included in the Congress proceedings. Outstanding contributions will be selected for oral presentation during the technical sessions of the Congress. Publication of the accepted papers is subject to the registration of at least one of the co-authors to the Congress.

Submission of abstracts and full papers
Contributions are invited only on the topics described below. Authors are invited to submit an abstract using the on-line facility from the Congress website at: www.aipcrandorra2014.org before 31st December 2012.

The abstract must be submitted in either English or French, with a maximum of 400 words. All papers must be original work available to be released for publication. Material that has been previously published will not be accepted. Any reference of a political, commercial or advertising nature must be excluded from the papers. Any indication of a brand name should be excluded in the title and in the abstract. The abstracts will be reviewed anonymously by the PIARC Technical Committees and decisions will be notified to the authors by E-mail before 1st April 2013.

Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to submit a full paper on-line before 31st July 2013. These will be reviewed by the PIARC Technical Committees and decisions regarding publication and requests for amendments will be notified to the authors before 31st October 2013.

The full papers can be submitted in one of the official languages of the Congress: English, French or Spanish. If the paper is submitted in Spanish, it is strongly recommended to include a translation in English or French for the review.

Further information at: www.aipcrandorra2014.org

Your opinions and comments to

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