EDITORIAL

One of my goals is to learn what National Committees need in order to increase their recognition in the whole World Road Association and to increase the recognition of each individual committee in its own country.

It is understood that some NCs are well included in their national surrounding while some others are not performing well and to get most of the NCs satisfied we would like to get answers to different questions that may improve each individual situation. Here are only a few:

- Would you appreciate suggestions and ideas from the representatives of particularly successful national committees?
- How would you increase the participation of the National Committees in the activities and governance of the World Road Association?
- Do you think that it is at all needed to increase the participation of members of NCs in the activities of the World Road Association?

I hope to get many good ideas from you, you can email me at any time or you can wait for our next annual meeting in Rome, where the discussion will be opened and questions can be asked, discussed and hopefully answered.

I expect that the next few months will give us all the answers to what works in our NC community, why, how and for what benefit and what are our next challenges. With that we will be able to upgrade the guide “Why and how to create a NC” and find more concrete solutions to support representation of smaller National Committees.

Finally, I would like to invite observers from countries that do not have a National Committee to attend our Annual meeting.

We are slowly but surely approaching Winter road Congress in Andorra. You will soon receive my separate email about the interest of your national committee to participate in the upcoming event, where we will all be able to exchange experiences and best practices within the World Road Association society.

Bojan Leben, Representative of the World Road Association National Committees

Your opinions and comments to
Bojan Leben: bojan.leben@zag.si
AUSTRALIA

Webinar on 3 new guidelines
17th September, 2013

A free webinar, providing an overview of the new "Guide to Road Design: Drainage", will be held on Tuesday, September 17 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM AEST. The guide is comprised of 3 parts, of which you can read more in the section of Publications and Software of this NC Newsletter.

Space is limited, so reserve your space: www2.gotomeeting.com

FRANCE

Snowplow contest
17th-18th September 2013, Blois, France

The World Road Association’s French NC in cooperation with the Committee for winter maintenance organizes a snowplow contest in Blois, France. Intention is to acknowledge and highlight the skills of the drivers in handling driving vehicles and maneuvering the blades. Around fifty stakeholders on national networks are expected to participate at this event and selected representatives will then attend the French championship to be held at the next international congress of winter maintenance in Andorra, from 4 to 7 February 2014.

Contact: yolande.daniel@ifsttar.fr

60 years of the World Road Association’s NC France
The World Road Association NC France will celebrate its 60th anniversary. A special General meeting will be held at this occasion on November 14th, 2013, followed by an evening event.

Seminar on Heavyweight vehicles
On December 3rd, 2013 the seminar which will focus on the "Heavy and light commercial vehicles in urban areas" will be held at the premises of the Ifsttar, at Champs sur Marne (Marne Valley), France.

Meetings of the World Road Association’s NC France
On December 4th, 2013 regular meetings of World Road Association NC France will be held at the Arche de la Défense, where an update on the work of the Technical Committees will be presented.

ITALIA

More activities

On May 30th the first meeting of Task force group 2 - Security, chaired by Roberto Arditi from SINA group, was held in Milano. Judging from the feedback of the group leader and members, the meeting went very well.

Next, organization of international World Road Association meetings is underway, also as part of the celebration of the centenary of the accession of the Italian Government to World Road Association. Most of the meetings will be held in Rome from 4th to 7th November at the Higher Police School: the last day, as usual, will be devoted to technical visit.

As for the Italian participation in the XIV Winter Road Congress (Andorra 2014), NC Italy reserved exhibit space of 72 square meters: we are currently designing the stand for the Italian Pavilion.

The NC Italy renewed its membership at the meeting of July and continues its regular activities, promoting the accession of new members to the Italian NC.
Seminar on Traffic safety on land routes
11th-14th September 2013, Durango, Mexico

The World Road Association’s National committee of Mexico, together with other stakeholders and organizers will organize a 3 day event (seminar) in September 2013 with the central topic of “traffic safety in road transport”. Topics will be covered by national and international experts, delegates will discuss the status of the road infrastructure of Mexico (from the point of security), how to plan for fewer accidents, driver education and other land transport problems.

Seminar on Management of risks in the road infrastructure
9th-11th October 2013, Merida (Yucatan), Mexico

Mexican association of road engineers (AMIVT) and the World Road Association’s National committee of Mexico invite you to the seminar on risks management. Main objective of this seminar is to provide a platform for experts to share their experiences and discuss issues and challenges related to the management of risks to which road infrastructure is exposed. The seminar is open to members of the international community interested in road access and share knowledge on best practices in Risk Management Highways.

Seminar on Road Infrastructure Management: Current Practice and Prospects for Development
31st March - 2nd April 2014, Cancun, Mexico

The World Road Association’s National committee of Mexico invites you also to the international event in the spring next year, on road infrastructure management. More information about event will be provided in the next issue of NC Newsletter.

More information about all three seminars is available on: www.amivtac.org

UNited Kingdom
Congress on road safety
23rd October, 2013, Birmingham, UK

A Congress on “Global lessons for safer roads – infrastructure solutions for road safety” will be held on the 23 October in Birmingham, UK. The Congress builds upon very successful Congresses in previous years.

The National Committee hosted its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 31st of July 2013. Additionally, the World Road Association UK is running a snow plough competition in advance of the Winter Congress to promote best practice amongst winter service crews. The competition is a fun element of a Congress aimed at the serious business of the management and maintenance of roads in winter. The UK has both the opportunity to contribute to and learn from the Congress. The rules we have set to find the UK representative are simple and seek a wide spectrum of entries from the public and private sector across the UK.

The National Committee will also run a technical seminar on the 22 October to ensure good knowledge sharing and learning between the UK Technical Committee representatives and other bodies such as the University sector and CEDR.

More information about the event on: www.piarc.co.uk

Other NC activities and examples of good practice

SPAIN keeps on proposing new courses with a new course on slope stability.

Course (online edition) on Basic Course on Slope stability calculation by limit equilibrium methods
1st September 2013, on-line

The first part of the course is a theoretical lecture, a review of the basic concepts of the Filtration theory and limit equilibrium methods, necessary for its application in slope stability calculations. Then, the content will be focused on the practical application of GEOSTUDIO™ software package, with the teachers support. The last part of the course will be a practical exercise to be resolved by the student in the next weeks and finally evaluated by the teachers.

At the beginning of the course the students will be provided by a quick guide for using the GEOSTUDIO™ package. There will be a series of forums during which students can make inquiries directly to the Technical Director.
New, 92nd edition (July - August 2013) of the on-line magazine Vial is available for Spanish speaking readers. There are again some interesting topics covered in this edition, and Argentinian national committee welcomes you to read through the magazine on http://editorialrevistas.com.ar

In May 2013, Austroads produced three news Guides to help road designers provide communities with efficient and effective road drainage systems. The guide contains information and worked examples covering the analysis and design of key drainage components such as open drains and channels, pit and pipe systems, culverts, floodways and small basins. The guide comprises three parts:

- Part 5 – General and Hydrology Considerations
- Part 5A – Road Surface, Network, Basins and Subsurface
- Part 5B – Open Channels, Culverts and Floodways

The three Guides can be purchased individually or as a set as hardcopies or PDF downloads from https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AGRD-DRAIN

Best Practice Guidelines for Procurement of ITS Solutions

This report documents how Australian and New Zealand jurisdictions are currently procuring a range of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) solutions and recommends ways jurisdictions could improve their ITS procurement practices. The report considers different procurement methods of various ITS solutions which range in scale from the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of large managed motorway projects, to smaller isolated systems.

In June Austroads published a report that considered what implementing a Safe System means for asset managers. Both the Australian and New Zealand National Road Safety Strategies have adopted the Safe System approach which represents a significant change in the way that road safety is managed and delivered in Australasia. The report provides a background to the Safe System and examines a range of infrastructure and road use management solutions which could help reduce road trauma.


World Road Association Congresses

XIVth International Winter Road Congress 2014
4th - 7th February 2014, Andorra la Vella, Andorra

Registration is opened for congress members and their travelling companions. Early registration period with lower fees up to 12th January 2014!

Visit the website, for more information:

http://aipcrandorra2014.desenvolupament.ad

XXVth World Road Congress Seoul 2015
2 – 6 November 2015, Seoul, South Korea

Visit the website

http://www.piarcseoul2015.org

for more information.