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EDITORIAL

As you can see from the newsletter our colleagues from national committees are quite active during these spring months. Although on the level of WRA-PIARC association there was no major/special events organized in this time, contributions from NCs show that on a national level there is always something "going on".

I would however like to draw your attention to the meeting of PIARC Communications commission that took place after the Andorra 2014 congress. As the representative of PIARC national committees I participated to this meeting and presented the conclusions from the debate (workshop) that the NCs had in Rome last autumn. The report was accepted well at the COM COM and was sent to the Strategic planning commission, due to meet in June. The intention is that the recommendations from the NCs are to be considered in the preparation of the next PIARC Strategic plan 2016-2019 to help improve the overall functioning of the NCs in the association. Among other things I highlighted the recognised challenges that, according to the workshop findings, the majority of NCs face:

- quantity vs. quality of membership of the NCs (gaining new and keeping existing members),
- position and role of NCs in the overall structure of WRA-PIARC (current and in the future),
- NCs need to reach out to younger experts to become members of NC and thus ensuring the continuity,
- funding of NCs – although more successful NCs don't report this kind of problem, it needs to be addressed properly,
- organizing different seminars, conferences and other events for their members, that can't be carried out regularly if the financial and organizational resources are insufficient
- translation into French/English/Spanish language (the challenge is especially evident in organizing small-scale events, with a limited budget, as translation services are very expensive, but nevertheless very important if organizers wish to assure the presence of colleagues from African countries).

Another thing to be expected in the near future, under the preparation of the Communications commission is the survey for the First delegates. The survey has already been conducted once and due to a very good response, it has been decided to carry it out regularly in 2 years periods. The survey is aimed at getting a feedback from the First delegates about their wishes, troubles and ideas for the WRA-PIARC community and we expect that General Secretariat will get many of your opinions and/or proposals.

Bojan Leben, Representative of the World Road Association
National Committees



Your opinions and comments to

Bojan Leben: bojan.leben@zag.si



NC news, events, seminars & conferences

ARGENTINA

Forum on "*Sustainable mobility*"

14th-15th May 2014, La Matanza, Argentina

On 14th and 15th of May a forum on "*SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY*" was held at the National University of La Matanza. The main objective of the meeting was to provide the latest news and initiatives on road safety and mobility in the metropolitan area of Buenos Aires. The forum focused on issues of concern to communities, primarily on the integration of traffic engineering in public transport. Topics were discussed in workshops with leading transportation experts, including Mr. André Brotó from France. The event was successfully organized by the Argentinian Road Association in conjunction with the City of La Matanza, the Argentinian Traffic Engineering Society and the National University of La Matanza.

Seminar on "*Traffic safety*"

10th June 2014, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Year after year the Argentinian Road Association commemorates the Day of Traffic Safety. This year the event will take place in the main city of Argentina, Buenos Aires, at the hotel Panamericano, where specialists from public and private agencies will talk about the importance of traffic safety.

Space is limited. Sign in at: secretaria@aacarreteras.org.ar

More information: www.aacarreteras.org.ar

Conference on "*Road safety*"

17th June 2014, Paraná, Argentina

A one day conference on the issues of road safety will be held on 17th June at the Hotel Mayorazgo.

Space is limited. Sign in at: secretaria@aacarreteras.org.ar

More information: www.aacarreteras.org.ar

Seminar on "*Minimize fraud and corruption*"

25th June 2014, on-line

The webinar will be held at the headquarters of the Argentinian Road Association in the organization of the International Road Federation (IRF). The event will feature special guests from public, private and academic sectors.

Space is limited. Sign in at: secretaria@aacarreteras.org.ar

More information: www.aacarreteras.org.ar

Seminar on "*The importance of transport system in Argentina*"

18th July 2014, Argentina

The event will be organized by the Argentinian Road Association in conjunction with the Argentinian Chamber of Consultants.

More information: www.aacarreteras.org.ar

Workshop and seminar on "*Management of road congestion*"

30th July 2014, on-line

Workshop will be held in conjunction with the webinar of the International Road Federation (IRF). The event will host special guests from public and experts from private and academic sectors.

Space is limited. Sign in at: secretaria@aacarreteras.org.ar

More information: www.aacarreteras.org.ar



AUSTRIA



Midterm Meeting

30th June – 2nd July 2014, Vienna, Austria

The Austrian Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology and the Austrian National Committee will host the traditional midterm meeting of all chairs and secretaries of Technical Committees together with the Strategic Planning Commission in Vienna. This important meeting marks the half time of the current working cycle in preparation of the coming World Road Congress in Seoul in 2015.

Progress of work, content and structure of the Congress Sessions in Seoul and the selection of Specials Sessions will be debated in Vienna as well as the orientation of the next Strategic Plan 2016-2019, taking into account the input collected from Technical Committees, First Delegates and National Committees by respective surveys during spring 2014.

The meeting will also include a technical visit to working sites of the Austrian Highway Com-pany ASFINAG such as the traffic control center, the refurbishment of Vienna's most im-portant arterial highway A23, while flowing traffic and the city of Vienna's largest urban de-velopment project "Seestadt" and the Road Safety Task Force will meet on the occasion of the midterm meeting in Vienna.



CANADA - QUEBEC

49th Annual Congress of the Association québécoise des transports

The city of Québec recently hosted the 49th Annual Congress of the Association québécoise des transports (AQTr - the Québec National Association of Transport) on the theme: Transportation infrastructures, a motor for development. Again this year, PIARC-Québec members presented the results of their efforts in their areas of expertise. On this occasion, Mr. André Meloche, First Delegate of Québec to PIARC, and Mr. Claude Carette, Chairman of the PIARC-Québec National Committee, also announced the winner of the 14th edition of the PIARC-Québec "Concours de mémoires" (essay competition). The prize was awarded to Ms. Marione Edwig Aissi, Master's degree student at Université de Sherbrooke, for her project entitled "Étude de l'influence d'un agent d'expansion interne et d'un agent réducteur de retrait sur les variations volumiques libres et restreintes d'un béton" (Study on the influence of inter-nal blowing agents and shrinkage reducing agents on the free and restricted volumic variations of concrete). Each year, this contest encourages participants to reflect on one of the fifty or so issues that are addressed by the 17 PIARC technical committees during the current work cycle.

This year, the AQTr added a more international touch to the congress. Indeed, international delegations, including the Minister Delegate attached to the Minister of Equipment, Transport and Logistics of the kingdom of Morocco, attended the congress and discussed their large-scale transportation projects and the requirements for access to business development. In addition, an international exhibition in the convention center allowed participants to exchange with organizations from France, Mexico and Morocco. These activities complement the activities that the PIARC-Québec Committee organized as part of the AQTr's international expertise roundtable, and are in line with the Committee's will to increase exchanges with other PIARC national committees.

The AQTr also awarded its Josef-Hode-Keyser honorary award to Ms. Anne-Marie Leclerc, Assistant Deputy Minister at the Direction générale des infrastructures et des technologies of the ministère des Transports du Québec (General Department of insfrastructures and tech-nologies at the Québec's Ministry of Transport), for her unrivalled contribution in extending Québec's influence internationally. Ms. Leclerc was president of the World Road Association from 2009 to 2012 and is currently acting as past president. Needless to say, the PIARC-Québec Committee is extremely pleased with this nomination and congratulates Ms. Leclerc on this award.



Mr. Jean Mastropietro, Past President of the AQTr board of directors, **Ms. Anne-Marie Leclerc**, recipient of the Josef-Hode-Keyser Award and PIARC Past President, **Mr. Mohamed Najib Boulif**, Minister Delegate attached to the Minister of Equipment, Transport and Logistics of the Kingdom of Morocco, **Ms. Dominique Lacoste**, AQTr President and CEO, **Mr. Liguori Hinse**, President of the 49th annual congress of the AQTr, and **Mr. Daniel Toutant**, President of the AQTr board of directors.



MALI

On Saturday, February 15, 2014 a meeting of PIARC committees of Mali and National committee AGEPAR of Mali was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Amadou MALLE, National Director of Roads, 1st Delegate of Mali and President of PIARC national committee.

A report was made to the participants about the activities that the two committees carried out since their official foundation in 2013 at Yaounde. Delegates debated about continuing the activities for revitalization of Malian PIARC members, among other things also financial aspects. The payment of the government and collective fees are quite a burden for Mali and so the delegates decided to take some lobbying action to obtain additional funds for the payments. Furthermore the delegates mentioned a few countries, successfully participating in WRA-PIARC association, in order to encourage their political representatives to support the activities of technical committee members from Mali.

Certain obstacles to the greater participation from Malian experts in the technical committees of PIARC were recognized, major ones being:

- in the TCs the working language is only English,
- problems of obtaining visas for travel, and
- financial resources.

African first delegates issued a common letter to the PIARC President and Secretary General in 2013 about the issues of language problems and quite some time was devoted to this topic at the Council meeting in Rome in November 2013. However no bounding conclusions were made at that council.

Delegates of the meeting in Mali decided also that they will try to encourage Malian experts to cooperate more at the PIARC TCs and try to provide certain financial resources for their support.

At the end of the meeting it was confirmed that the meeting of the General Assembly of Malian PIARC members was to be held on 15th April 2014.

SPAIN

Technical conference on "Geotechnical repairs on operational infrastructures"

11th June 2014, Madrid, Spain



In the last thirty years a great effort has been done to build transport infrastructure in Spain. Therefore the road and railway networks have increased considerably, resulting in a wider context of maintenance activities. But in some cases, due to unfavorable and unforeseen geotechnical conditions, major repairs have to be done.

This conference deals with road and railway works and is aimed at professionals involved in maintenance and repair works of the transport infrastructures. For further information please visit our website: www.atc-piarc.com

SWITZERLAND

Change at the head of the Swiss National Committee

During the 2008 General Assembly Mr. René Suter was elected as President of the Swiss National Committee. From 2004 he worked in the PIARC Technical Committee 1.3 "Performance of Road Administrations". From 2008 to 2011 he was a member of the Technical Committee B1 "Good Governance of technical administration". During his activity as President, he organized with other members of the Executive Board a Swiss pavillion with the support of the Federal Roads Authority (ASTRA) in three World Congresses (Quebec, Mexico and



From left to right : René Suter, Sylvia Meister, Andreas Heller

Andorra). In the national context, he was responsible for organizing the annual conference and through his connections he was able to invite colleagues from countries such as Sweden, Germany and Austria to participate to these events. Having taken his professional retirement four years ago, he is now pleased to leave over the management of the National Committee to Mr. Andreas Heller.

The new President

At the General Meeting of 7th May 2014, Mr. Andreas Heller was elected the new president of the Swiss National Committee. Currently Andy, as he is commonly known, is the Thurgau cantonal engineer. By his education he is a civil engineer, graduated from the ETH Zurich, he is 51 years old, is married and has three adult children. He is not only a road expert, but also an excellent musician. Prior to his current position, he worked at a large civil engineering company as CEO and active politician in the Grand Council of the Canton of Thurgau.

UNITED KINGDOM

World Road Association UK is pleased to be taking forward the lessons learnt from the UK delegation at the International Winter Road Congress and thank the organisers for pulling together such an excellent range of technical sessions that could inform further enhancements of UK winter service operations.

Workshop on "Security of road infrastructure"

28th April – 1st May 2014, UK

The UK hosted the meeting of TC 1.1 Performance of Transport Administrations and Joe Burns, Chairman of World Road Association UK writes: *"I am pleased that the UK has the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas directly with the members of TC1.1. I am particularly grateful for the engagement with the Transport Select Committee and Department for Transport and hope that the week will be the spur for further dialogue as they seek input and challenge from the world transport community into their deliberations on the best policies, practices and standards in the UK."*

Workshop on "Security of road infrastructure"

10th – 12th June 2014, London, UK

Roy Brannen, UK First Delegate writes: *"As you will hopefully be aware, the World Road Association, through its Task Force on Security, is organising a workshop concerning the security of road infrastructure. This is a "by invitation only" event. The workshop will be held in London in the period from June 10th to 12th June 2014. The city has excellent international transport connections and a wide range of accommodation. For further information please contact Nina Knutsen (nina.knutsen@piarc.org), Technical Advisor for Theme 3 who has been very helpful in pulling the seminar together."*

Other Activities and Examples of Good Practice

SPAIN

On-line course on "Professional Expert on Pavements of Civil Works"

5th May through the year 2014, on-line

The course is intended for national as well as international professionals and will be open throughout 2014. It started on 5th May.

On-line course on "Geotechnical Maintenance of Road Works"

5th May through the year 2014, on-line

The course is aimed at professionals involved in geotechnical aspects, maintenance and repair of road infrastructures. It is intended for national and international professionals. It started on 5th May.

On-line technical conference on "Highway capacity manual 2010"

Through the year 2014, on-line

The Highway Capacity Manual 2010 is a complete renovation of the traffic engineering. It aims to give an overview of the changes, stressing the difference between service level and quality of service as well as other important updates. The conference is intended for national as well as international professionals.

More information on www.atc-piarc.com



AUSTRALIA

ROAD SAFETY

In the first quarter of 2014 Austroads completed a number of significant road safety projects. The reports from those projects include:

- Model National Guidelines for Setting Speed Limits at High-risk Locations
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-R455-14>
- Reducing Speeds on Rural Roads – Compendium of Good Practice
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-R449-14>
- Understanding Run-off-road and Head-on Crashes in Urban Areas
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-R450-14>
- Improving Roadside Safety
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-R437-14>
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-R436-14>
- Australian National Risk Assessment Model
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-R451-14>



PROCUREMENT

In early 2014 Austroads and the Australasian Procurement and Construction Council released the Building and Construction Procurement Guide. The Guide outlines a process for the development of procurement strategies, and specifically responds to a range of issues raised by industry by establishing a series of common tendering and contracting principles.

The World Bank has shown interest in the Guide as a potential model for their projects.

<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-G92-14>

Austroads has also released a report that documents the findings from investigation of international ITS procurement practices. It includes 14 case studies from six countries namely the US, UK, Netherlands, Japan, Singapore and Hong Kong.

<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-R448-14>

PAVEMENT TECHNOLOGY

Austroads continues its history pave technology research with the release of four new technical reports:

- Towards Incorporating Heavy Vehicles into the Austroads Sprayed Seal Design Method
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-T260-14>
- Literature Review of the Adhesion Mechanisms in Emulsion Seals
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-T261-14>
- Performance Requirements for Bitumen Sprayers
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-T262-14>
- Austroads Asphalt Deformation Trial: Dandenong Road
<https://www.onlinepublications.austroads.com.au/items/AP-T264-14>



The World Road Association Congresses

XXVth World Road Congress Seoul 2015

2 – 6 November 2015, Seoul, South Korea

Call for papers is opened on topics, selected by the World Road Association.

Deadline for the submission of abstracts is 30th September 2014!

Visit the website <http://www.piarcseoul2015.org> for more information.



Your opinions and comments to

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