Dear colleagues,

This is my last address to you in my role of the Representative of PIARC National committees. As you may know, during the last National committees’ meeting, held in Cape Town, on 21st September 2016, the new Representative of the National committees was elected. I have absolutely no doubt that Mr. Saverio Palchetti from Italy will continue our common work with enthusiasm and great commitment. I wish him all the best in doing so!

I would like to thank again all of you for your collaboration, contributions and discussions that we had during the last four years. They were very valuable to me. I am pleased with the progress that we made in evolving the National committees’ community in the overall WRA-PIARC association. Many challenges we are facing have come up during our conversations and were highlighted through the survey that our colleagues from NC UK have carried out. We know clearly where we need to focus our attention in the future.

In relation to the NC Bulletin, special thank goes to the French, Quebec and Spanish national committees for their invaluable help in translating the NC Bulletin in French and Spanish. This way, our word can be read by all our members in their native language. It was a pleasure working with you all.

We stay in touch!

Bojan Leben
Representative of World Road Association National Committees
Dear Colleagues,

taking the baton from the formidable team composed of my Slovenian friends Bojan Leben and Bine Pengal, I am very grateful for their work. Let us look at the problems on the table, both operational and financial. I remember what Bojan wrote in last September’s bulletin:

"Probably the majority of the members of technical committees have come to learn about the World Road Association through the National Committees and NCS are the main point for sharing information between national experts and international partners”.

…and in June’s bulletin:

"The main problem of the NCs it seems is actually not so much financial constraints and lack of funding per se. It is more that the general or expert public, companies, universities, institutes, individual experts etc. are not interested to cooperate in the NCs. That might be due to not knowing about WRA-PIARC (promotional difficulties), or to not seeing a direct business opportunities in becoming a member”.

In my first communication to you, after the appointment in Cape Town, I would like to remind you of the three basic points of my vision.

1. Involvement and support: a strong support of the Italian national Committee which has been traditionally very active in our association. After being for some years the national coordinator of the Technical Committees, the Italian NC supported my nomination in Seoul, in November 2015, as Chairman of Task Force on Infrastructure Security and in Cape Town, last September, confirmed its strong support to be appointed as Representative of NCs for the next four years.

2. Organization and competence: continue and support communication in three languages of the association. The experience of the Italian NC since many years with the so-called "mirror” Technical Committees and Task Forces, is to disseminate and share with other National Committees. In our organization, we can speak three official languages of PIARC-WRA and, personally, I speak English, French and a little bit of Spanish. I think that it is very important in the Association not to leave isolated the part of the world not speaking English.

3. Dialogue and participation: openness to direct dialogue with all existing committees and countries interested in creating a national committee. I would like to establish a permanent forum of National Committees. As one of the fundamental tasks of the Representative of PIARC NCs is to represent the NCs in the bodies of the association, it is essential for him to have all the necessary information. A better way of communicating with the NCs and a wider space of discussion are necessary. It is serious, important, perhaps essential, to contribute to the decisions of different bodies of the association. A special attention is needed by the countries, interested in participating but having various difficulties.

Just travel one hundred kilometers in Italy and you go through different civilizations, different views, different cultures. They range from plains to mountains, from Baroque to the Roman, the Arab influences to those Normans. Similarly, you cannot think on a global level without taking into account the living sample and diversity. It should also give the sense of a common global mission and to appreciate the benefits that result from an optical “give and take”: increasing participation and contribution can increase knowledge and know how.

I will do my best to instill in the national committees the sense of a project, useful to all and I hope we will achieve great results together.

Saverio Palchetti
New representative of the World Road Association’ National Committees
ARGENTINA

Seminars on Road Safety
October 2016, in the Northwest provinces of Argentina

The main objective of these seminars was to optimize the level of safety of road infrastructures. Events were organized by the Committee on Road Safety of the AAC. The topics of the seminars were: design criteria for a safe system, safety inspections and audits in urban environment and on roads, detection of improper behaviour and risky situations, and the guidelines for the program “Toward Zero Vision”, which is being promoted by AAC. The special seminars were organized.

More information on the event: www.congresodevialidad.org.ar

BRAZIL

Meeting of TC B.4 Freight
4th – 5th November 2016, Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil

The meeting was organized with the participation of technical committee members and authorities of the Argentinian Roads Association.

Workshop of TC B.4 Freight
7th – 10th November 2016, Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil

Workshop was organized in conjunction with the 7th International Conference on Weigh-In-Motion - ICWIM7.

More information about the event available at: http://www.is-wim.org/icwim7

ECUADOR

The National committee of Ecuador has in the last months participated or organized these next activities or events:

- preparation of activities to participate in the meeting of the PIARC Council, held in Cape Town, South Africa on 21st and 22nd of September 2016;
• carrying out the following seminars:
  * assessment of the actions, carried out in Ecuador, to comply with the commitments, required by the program “Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020” of the United Nations,
  * seminar on rural roads in Ecuador,
  * dissemination of the Code of Road Safety published by the PIARC,
  * international seminar on the prevention of risks in the transport infrastructure before the natural threats;
• preparing the proposal for a special project that was put into consideration to the Secretary General of the PIARC, dated 19th May, 2016;
• discussing about and noting the observations to be considered by the new representative of the National Committees, the Executive Committee and the Council of the PIARC:
  * organizing international seminars must become the responsibility of the national committees and not only of the first delegates, which tend to be political officials and are changing more times, so there is no continuity in the actions of the PIARC,
  * the NC Ecuador recommends that there should be a collaboration and coordination of activities between the First delegates and National committees, to encourage and sponsor the work the common work,
  * national committees should exchange information about technical reports of road works, carried out in individual countries,
  * national committees should exchange information about results of studies in road transport, carried out in the different member countries,
  * we recommend that the design of technical articles that are published in the journal ROUTES/ROADS is more reader-friendly for the technicians who read them,
  * we recommend that different technical committees coordinate their work with the national committees,
  * we recommend and support the exchange technological information via video-conferencing,
  * we recommend that National committees coordinate the exchange of experts through simple procedures.

The National committee of Ecuador hopes that these recommendations will be taken into account by the new representative of the National Committees, mr. Saverio Palchetti.

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ITALY

International meeting: Road safety towards new solutions - challenging policies and opportunities from new technologies
29th September, 2016, Rome, Italy

To meet the challenge of road safety, more than repression, a prevention of risky behavior is necessary as well as major investments in technological research. The most common international orientations aim at technologies capable of preventing road accidents and its consequences, and more and more improve a correct behavior of road users. Furthermore it is fundamental to confront with other countries' best practices concerning road safety, throughout the world. This was the aim of the international meeting organized by Italian PIARC NC and Anas S.p.A.

At the meeting, the members of the TC C.1 "National Road Safety Policies and Programs", present in Rome for the TC's 2nd meeting, also took part at a round table of discussion on the evolution of RSM and the Safe System Approach chaired by Mr. Roberto ARDITI. Also present at the meeting were the President of Italian NC, Mr. Gianni Vittorio ARMANI and Undersecretary of...
State for education, research and university Mr. Gabriele TOCCAFONDI together with high officers of the Ministry of infrastructure and transport.

Also at the meeting, Italian PIARC NC and ANAS S.p.A. made a common effort to promote the culture of road safety in particular towards young people (age 14-25) who are among the main victims of road accidents and deaths. A contest “Young video makers for road safety” was launched both at national and international level. Over 27 videos participated in the contest and the winning videos are going to be used in future road safety campaigns in Italy as public recognition of the high quality of the message and film making. At the meeting Mrs Priti GAUTAM, manager officer for the UNO Secretary general Special Envoy for Road Safety, was present who expressed, on behalf of the Organization her appreciation for the initiative.

During the meeting, prizes were awarded to the winners.

Website: www.thinkdrive.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ThinkAndDriveContest

PIARC international technical bodies

The recognition of Italy’s emerging role in PIARC is the appointment of three Italian experts to three of the most prominent technical bodies within PIARC:

- role of the Chair of the National Road Safety Policies and Programs TC C.1 has been assigned to Roberto ARDITI, director Scientific Relations Direction from SINA Società Iniziative Nazionali Autostradali;
- role of the Chair of the TF A.1 Innovative Financing has been assigned to Massimo SCHINTU, executive director from AISCAT;
- role of the Chair of the TF C.1 Infrastructure Security has been assigned to Saverio PALCHETTI from ANAS International.
Relations Unit, who is also coordinator of PIARC technical activities at the Italian PIARC National Committee.

At the meeting of the World Road National Committees of 21st September in Cape Town (South Africa), Mr. Saverio PALCHETTI was also elected as the new Representative of the National Committees, replacing the Slovenian Mr. Bojan LEBEN.

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SLOVENIA

13th Slovenian congress on roads and transportation
19th – 20th October, 2016, Portorož, Slovenia

As a main event for Slovenian roads community the congress was an excellent opportunity for road experts from Slovenia and abroad, to hear about the latest activities, future prospects and planned investments in road and transport research in Slovenia.

In two days of the congress programme there were a number of sessions, ranging from traffic policy and planning, sustainable transport, traffic safety, ITS, materials and technologies, international research programmes, management of road infrastructure etc.

We were pleased to be able to welcome to our congress the Secretary General of CEDR, Mr. Steve Phillips who presented the Action plan 2017-2019 of the organization. We also had the pleasure to host some of the experts, members of CEDR working group on road safety who gave their presentations in the introductory session of the congress and later held a meeting in Ljubljana.


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SPAIN

Conference: Technical committees PIARC "From Seoul to Abu Dhabi"
28th September, 2016, Madrid, Spain

The conference was organized at the Center for Public Works Studies and Experimentation (CEDEX) and has been attended by over 150 professionals from the public and private sector.

The idea has been to make a presentation about the activities of each of our national committees and to cover different targets. The
most important one was to communicate the work done by our committees with regard to the World Road Congress and the activities to be undertaken in the next four-year working cycle. Also to detect aspects of each of our committees which may have passed unnoticed and awaken the audience’s interest. Another target was to share working methods or approaches to serve as inspiration to others, and to have a global idea of the aspects addressed by our national committees and therefore an important part of the working area covered by us. This Conference was intended to serve as a starting point to begin a short period of reflection on the general activity of our committees in order to establish a new Strategic Plan.

For further information on our activities please visit our website: [www.atc-piarc.com](http://www.atc-piarc.com)

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Meetings held by our National Technical Committees in 2016

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<th>National Technical Committees</th>
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<td>W.G. Crisis Management by Winter Service</td>
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<tr>
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<td>TC 7/8- ROAD PAVEMENTS</td>
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<td>W.G.5 Use of geosynthetics for road surfaces</td>
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<td>W.G.6 Adhesion risk with bitumen emulsion</td>
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<td>TC.11- BRIDGES</td>
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<td>W.G. Repair, reinforcement and protection of concrete bridges</td>
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<td>W.G. Waterproofing</td>
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<td>W.G. Composite materials</td>
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<td>20-1-16, 18-5-16 and 22-9-16</td>
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<td>TC.13- ROAD SAFETY</td>
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<td>TC.14- ROADS AND ENVIRONMENT</td>
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<td>TC.21- ROADS WITH LOW TRAFFIC INTENSITY</td>
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In the beginning of the new strategic period (2016-2019), the NC Switzerland has decided to focus its annual conference, which took place in Bern on 17th November, 2016 on the activities of the technical committees.

The four themes as part of the priorities of the Federal Roads Office (FEDRO) were addressed within the working groups: road safety, the management of the road heritage, the transport of goods and the area relating to bridges. These workshops had the objective to promote the activities of the PIARC and allow an exchange of views and suggestions with Swiss experts on the areas concerned in order, where appropriate, to integrate the work of the TCs.

PIARC held its Dinner Debate and Congress events on 31st October and 1st November 2016. These events were held in Glasgow, Scotland. As part of these activities, PIARC UK has been working with Technical Committee D1. A number of experts from D.1 were presenting at the PIARC UK Congress event. The National Committee has been supporting the visit. Part of the meeting involved a technical tour of Traffic Control Centre and Queensferry Crossing in Scotland. At the same time, PIARC UK held a meeting with the UK representatives to the World Road Association.

Later in November, PIARC UK also hosted A2 Road Transport System Economics and Social Development – this time the meeting was held in London.

PIARC UK is constantly seeking to link our Technical Committee representatives to existing groups, boards and committees in the UK to provide support and promulgation opportunities.

The Chairman, Andrew Boyle will also attend the meetings of the CIHT regions to promote the work of PIARC – this will take place in 2017.
NC News, Events, Seminars and Conferences

Other NC activities and examples of good practice

NC Publications and Software

The World Road Association Congresses

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ITALY

Communication and promotional activities

The Italian NC is concentrating its efforts in promoting the Association in Italy through all means available like the web site www.aipcr.it and the social medias like Facebook and Twitter with its own dedicated pages. LinkedIn is also a powerful means of contacting a rich network of professionals in the field of road and road infrastructures. Gathering new members is a top priority and members have increased since 2014. In particular, members of the Mirror Technical Committees have been sensitized to join the Association also as paying members.

As part of our campaign to promote the Association and propose special benefits reserved to members, borrowing the idea from PIARC website TC’s web spaces, the Italian website is proposing a special section dedicated to technical committees with the scope of facilitating the TCs work and create a liaison between TCs and paying members. Special services are presented such as a library, a forum of discussion, events, mail to the TC, a Cloud for sharing documents among members of the TC, results of TCs’ meetings. All these services should provide benefits for our paying members and encourage new paying members to join the Association.

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SPAIN

RUTAS magazine

Number 168 (July-September 2016) of our quarterly RUTAS Magazine has been released.

We offer the possibility of downloading RUTAS Magazine in digital format from our website. Additional information available at: www.atc-piarc.com
World Road Association Congresses

15th Winter Road Congress
20th to 23rd February 2018!

More information:
http://aipcrgdansk2018.org

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XXVIth World Road Congress
6th to 10th October 2019!

More information:
http://www.piarcabudhabi2019.org