



1st Announcement

International Seminar on Road Disaster Management

*Responding to Extreme Weather Impact on Road Transport and
Infrastructure*

The Capital Zimbali, Ballito – 15 &16 October 2026



Organized by:

South African National Roads Agency Limited

PIARC TC1.5 “Disaster Management

Supported by:

National Department of Transport (NDoT)

National Research Foundation (NRF)

South African Local Government Association (SALGA)

South African Road Federation (SARF)

Eswatini National Disaster Management Agency (ENDMA)

University of Kwazulu-Natal

University of Cape Town

University of Pretoria

Resilience Global

Naidu Consulting Engineers

PMA Consulting Engineers

WSP Consulting Engineers

RHDHV-Atana



1. PIARC (Permanent International Association of Road Congresses)

(The World Road Association) is a non-political, non-profit organization whose mission comprises organizing international forums, disseminating best practice and promoting efficient tools for decision making in the road transport field. As part of its work, international seminars focused on various topics are organized to expand its global presence, providing the concerns of developing countries and those in transition. Four key missions of PIARC that stand out:

- Being a leading international forum for analysis and discussion
- Identifying, developing and disseminating best practice and give better access to international information
- Considering within its activities the needs of developing countries and countries in transition fully
- Designing, producing and promoting efficient tools for decision making on matters related to roads and related transport

2. Technical Committee 1.5 Disaster Management

Technical Committee 1.5 will progress topics related to improving the way road agencies manage during natural disasters. Disaster management is a critical issue facing road administrators. Natural disasters such as floods, landslides, and earthquakes can have a devastating impact on road networks, disrupting transportation and causing significant economic and social harm.

By developing robust disaster management plans and investing in infrastructure designed to withstand these events, road administrators can help to mitigate the impact of disasters, ultimately improving the safety and resilience of their networks.

In the 2024-2027 cycle, the Technical Committee will focus on disaster management against “Extreme Weather” and will work on exploring “Operational planning aspects of enhancing extreme weather resilience” under the three topics listed below. These topics will help guide investments in future roads.

- Coping with extreme weather
- Social resilience within communities and public authorities for extreme weather
- Infrastructure resilience for supporting supply chain during extreme weather events

3. Seminar Objectives

Extreme weather impact has a wide range of implications to the roads at local, provincial, national, regional and international levels. Damage to hundreds of kilometers of roads, bridges and other infrastructure is now a prevalent event around the world which stifles economic and social activities, access to health and education for even the most vulnerable communities. This seminar is held to share expertise and offer relevant case studies, recommendations so that there are effective solutions to our preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery to extreme weather impacts.

4. Seminar Attendee

The PIARC international seminar responding to extreme weather impact on road transport and infrastructure is intended for local authorities, road network administrators, the private sector, those responsible for road traffic and safety, design engineers, infrastructure design consultants, contractors, control and technical assistant consultants, academics, researchers, engineering students, and experts in other domains of expertise related to disaster management

and responding to extreme weather events. Pre-registration link will be made available in the 2nd announcement.

5. Location and Dates of the Seminar

Date: October 15th and 16th
Time: 09:00-17:30(UTC)
Venue: The Capital Zimbali
Address: 6 Zimbali Drive, Zimbali Estate, Dolphin Coast
Ballito

<https://www.google.com/maps?ll=-29.563806,31.190791&z=16&t=m&hl=en&gl=PH&mapclient=embed&cid=6637491368363023583>

6. Seminar Schedule

15th October

Session 1: *Coping with extreme weather*

Session 2: *Organizing specific extreme weather response*

Session 3: *Past case studies from HIC and LMIC*

Panel discussion on funding models on recovery from disaster

16th October

Session 1: *How road infrastructure can improve resilience of the country*

Session 2: *Infrastructure resilience to support supply chain*

Session 3: *Social resilience*

Panel discussions on how to manage different climates and geography within the same country

7. Registration Fee

R1250 per day charge for all participants attending onsite and online PIARC international seminar responding to extreme weather impact on road transport and infrastructure

Pre-registration if you are interested in attending the PIARC international seminar responding to extreme weather impact on road transport and infrastructure please fill out the pre-registration form here <https://???> (2nd announcement).

Online platform will be Microsoft Teams.

8. Languages

Official language for the seminar will be English.

9. Visa Application & Requirements

To apply for a visa to South Africa, you'll need to meet certain requirements and follow specific steps. Here are the general requirements:

1. **Valid Passport:** Your passport must be valid for at least 30 days beyond your intended stay and have at least two blank pages.
2. **Completed Visa Application Form:** Fill out Form BI-84.
3. **Proof of Financial Means:** Evidence that you can support yourself financially during your stay.
4. **Travel Itinerary:** Details of your travel plans, including accommodation and flight bookings.
5. **Yellow Fever Vaccination Certificate:** If applicable, depending on your travel history.
6. **Employment Confirmation:** If you are employed, a letter from your employer.
7. **Criminal Record Check:** If required for your visa type.
8. **Additional Documents:** Specific to the type of visa you are applying for.

You can find more detailed information and apply for a visa on the

<https://www.dha.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services/exempt-countries>

If you have any more questions or need further assistance, feel free to ask!

References

[1] [Department of Home Affairs - Apply for a South African Visa](#)

10. General Information

About Zimbali Estate

a coastal resort which is the epitome of luxurious estate living, located within the KwaDukuza Local Municipality which falls under the iLembe District and five minutes' drive from the King Shaka International Airport. Sprawling over 350 hectares of stunning terrain, Zimbali Coastal Resort is a sophisticated fusion of premium lifestyle amenities, natural beauty and modern estate design which is ideal for international delegates from a safety and comfort perspective. Accommodation for delegates is recommended within Zimbali Estate for ease of logistics and to avoid shuttling delegates around the area, accommodation facilities are within walking distance from conferencing facilities of the seminar venue

Travelling and transportation to Zimbali, it is more convenient to fly directly through the King Shaka international airport alternative fly through the OR Tambo international airport in Johannesburg then transiting with domestic flights to King Shaka is an option.

Getting Around in Zimbali

- Uber: Uber is one of the best ways to get around Zimbali and surrounding areas
- Rent a Car: Zimbali (Ballito) is rather widespread and with many things to do around and beyond.
- Shuttle Services: SANRAL will provide this service to seminar delegates accommodated far from seminar venue

Zimbali Estate and the surrounding residential areas are generally safe, especially in tourist areas like beaches, farms and golf courses. Townships: Areas have higher crime rates. Guided tours are recommended for people who want to visit the townships.

11. Accommodation

Zimbali offers diverse areas for accommodation, catering to various preferences. For a vibrant, central experience, ideal for beach lovers and stunning views.

Hotels Around Zimbali

- Fairmont Zimbali Resort
- Zimbali Lodge by Dream Resorts
- La Montagne
- Coco De Mer Boutique Hotel
- Hampshire Hotel – Ballito
- Ebandla Hotel & Conference Centre
- Ballito Hills
- Sala Beach House



