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To subscribe on the PIARC Website
www.piarc.org

EDITORIAL

Paris World Road Congress, September 2007



In about 3 months France will host the 23rd World Road Congress of PIARC in Paris. The registration of participants and exhibitors is progressing very successfully, almost 60% of the exhibition space has been sold until end of May. The concept for the participation of PIARC National Committees in the PIARC pavilion has been completed and will be disseminated to all Committees in June. The concept does foresee a regional grouping by continents. Representatives of National Committees are kindly asked to remind their members on the deadline for the reduced "Early-Bird" registration fee at the end of June 2007. On-line registrations could be done at www.paris2007-route.fr

Meeting of the Executive Committee in Vienna, May 2007



The PIARC Executive Committee and the Strategic Planning Commission met 7-9th May 2007 in Vienna. Final preparations of the Paris World Road Congress and the development of the new Strategic Plan of the association were discussed at length with the members of the Executive group and Strategic Plan Commission. This includes the composition of the Strategic Themes and the respective Technical Committees as well. After various consultations and the discussion during the year 2006 a new draft of the Strategic Plan was presented and discussed in Vienna in order to prepare a final proposal to the Council at its meeting in September 2007 in Paris. PIARC National Committees have been involved at various stages in this process. The chairs of the PIARC Commissions on Communication, International Relations and Technological Exchange reported to the Executive Committee on the actual developments in their commissions.

Regional Meeting of African National Committees in Cotonou (Benin), March 2007

In March 2007 a regional meeting of the African National Committees was organised on the occasion of the Special Executive Committee meeting in Benin. Representatives from Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, the Congo, Cameroon and the host country Benin attended. The meeting was chaired by past president Mr. Michaud and PIARC Vice-President



Mrs. Leclerc. The National Committee representative Mr. Zotter was able to participate in a lively and encouraging discussion on the actual needs of NCs in the region. Read more below in the section of "Good practice examples". The meeting of the National Committees was followed by an international seminar on "Good governance", organised by TC 1.3.



Friedrich Zotter
Representative of National Committees
on the PIARC Executive Committee

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



NC News, Events, Seminars and Conferences

SENEGAL: CREATION OF A NEW NATIONAL COMMITTEE



The PIARC Executive Committee approved in its meeting on 8th May 2007 in Vienna the creation of a new National Committee in Senegal. Senegal is the 32nd National Committee around the world and as the representative of all National Committees I welcome our new colleagues.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

International Conference TRANSPORT – THE NEXT 50 YEARS

Christchurch Convention Centre
25 – 27 July 2007



The conference on Transport – The next 50 years will be of particular interest to professionals working for organizations that are involved in policy and planning, in the transport sector and or the delivery of transport services – road, rail, air, marine - freight in New Zealand and on an International level.

Who Should Attend: central government transport organizations, local governments and Territorial authorities, academics, researchers, public passenger transport providers, freight forwarders, heavy vehicle operators, freight carriers, the shipping industry, bus and coach operators, airline and airport operators, planners, contractors, suppliers of transport related equipment and technology, transport engineers, consultants, transport funders and investors, automobile associations and vehicle fleet operators.

For more information: www.transport07.co.nz/cms/index.php/home

CANADA

2007 Annual Conference & Exhibition of the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC)
October 14-17, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan



2007 TAC Annual Conference & Exhibition

October 14-17
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Transportation: An Economic Enabler

Photo: Tourism Saskatoon



Hundreds of representatives from the public and private sectors, as well as from academic circles, will assemble in Saskatoon in October for Canada's premier annual transportation event. The 2007 TAC conference theme of Transportation – An Economic Enabler reflects the industry's key role in growing the economy, achieving social objectives and advancing the overall well-being of the country. Some of the 150 presenters will delve into the theme with talks on best practices in urban transportation planning, government views on transportation as an economic enabler, supporting the economy through pavement preservation, the role of bridges as economic and social linkages, and transportation and the economies of small municipalities. Among the other presentation topics to be addressed at sessions, panel discussions and workshops include: applied human factors in the geometric design of roads, innovative contracting models for maintenance and construction, critical transportation issues, travel speed management, climate change impacts on transportation infrastructure and integrating transit service into communities. A panel discussion on risk management for roads is being organized by PIARC's Canadian National Committee. Rounding out the program are special luncheon presentations, a series of technical tours and an exhibition of transportation products and services.



NC News, Events, Seminars and Conferences

GERMANY

Landscape conference 2007, 14 -15th June 2007 in Soest

New developments, tendencies and research results on nature protection and landscape conservation in the field of road construction will be the topic of the 2007 conference. The conference will take place 14-15th June 2007 in Soest, Hessen. The conference is structured into specialized lectures and plenary sessions of central interest, followed by working groups. In these working groups the participants will have the opportunity to take part in a deepened technical discussion. The specialized program offers current contributions to the following ranges of topics:

- Requirements from the European Union environmental guidelines and their national conversion
- Protection of species, effects of traffic and emissions (noise, light) on Avifauna, bat population
- Habitat passages for Flora and fauna
- Public participation and information (Aarhus convention)
- Control and compensation measures.

In addition a post-conference excursion is also offered.

Information at: www.fgsv.de



NORDIC ROAD ASSOCIATION

Via Nordica 2008: Preview

The 20th Nordic Road Congress arranged by the Nordic Road Association will take place 9-11 June 2008 in Helsinki, Finland.

The Road Ahead in English

The Via Nordica 2008 congress offers participants with an opportunity to take part in a series of sessions that will be in English. The English language series leads participants through the whole spectrum of the congress, introducing seminars covering all themes. All other sessions will also be interpreted into English.

Exhibition

The Via Nordica 2008 exhibition offers a good chance to meet with road professionals and decision makers from all Northern Europe. The exhibition is situated in the congress hall in close proximity to the halls of the presentations. Exhibition space is available to be purchased now – book your square meters today!

For more about the exhibition and the programme on the congress visit the website address

www.vianordica2008.fi

NordBalt Seminar on Steel Pipe Bridges

7th June in Stockholm

June 7th - 8th NRA TC 32 Bridges and Tunnels will host a seminar on steel pipe bridges in co-operation with the Baltic Road Association. The seminar takes place in Stockholm, Sweden.

Information at: www.ptl.fi/NVFnorden/scripts/nyheter/detail.php?id=234



SOUTH AFRICA

12th Regional Seminar for Labour-based Practitioners

8th – 12th October 2007, Durban, South Africa

“Prioritising Employment Creation in Government Policies, Programmes and Investments”

The regional seminar for labor-based practitioners is a renowned forum for furthering knowledge and practice through the presentation of papers and stimulated debate amongst practitioners, planners, policy makers, researchers, funding and development partners – and all others involved in infrastructure development.

The seminar will cover rural and urban aspects of:

- Employment Impact Assessments
- Public Works Programmes and Social Transfers
- Employment-focused Procurement and Private Sector Development

Contact: nonkolo.mohajane@dpw.gov.za



NC News, Events, Seminars and Conferences



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Other NC activities and examples of good practice

BENIN

Regional Meeting of African National Committees in Cotonou (Benin), March 2007



In March 2007 a regional meeting of the African National Committees was organised on the occasion of the Special Executive Committee meeting in Benin. Representatives from Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, the Congo, Cameroon and the host country Benin participated. The meeting was chaired by past president Mr. Michaud and PIARC Vice-President Mrs. Leclerc.

The National Committee (NC) representative Mr. Zotter commenced the meeting with an introductory presentation on the role of the PIARC NCs and the advantages of having a NC within a country. After this introduction a lively and encouraging discussion on the actual needs of NCs in the region arose and it was very interesting to learn, that NCs in this area perform extremely well and are in a much stronger position than in many other parts of the world. Together with their respective first delegates they form a strong professional base to support and advise the political decision makers. It is a great honour to become member of a National Committee in one of the countries that have them.

African NCs are strongly interested in participating in the Paris 2007 World Road Congress. Within the PIARC pavilion at the congress exhibition the work of NCs will be summarized by regional grouping. NCs of a region will present their products and documentation, direct access to the individual websites of PIARC NCs and this should be available by means of an internet connection.

Concerning the technical context, represented in PIARC Technical Committees, the issue of road safety has absolutely priority within this area. Old and overloaded vehicles, increasing traffic volume and unsatisfactory road conditions lead more and more to severe safety problems. Especially cities are growing very fast and infrastructure can hardly follow. Thus measures for speed and charge control, rehabilitation and improvement of pavements and bridges as well as training courses for road users have been discussed intensively, however the questions could not be solved in the region alone. Assistance from outside is required, e.g. via a certification system like in the EU, financing and rehabilitation programs in co-operation with more developed countries and international funds, guidebooks and training courses.

AUSTRALIA

Research requirements of the Australian road industry



Austroads has undertaken a study to examine the research requirements of the Australian road industry in 2006. The report produced has been useful to establish the current situation in relation to road research in Australia. A small working group has now been established to formulate recommendations on:

- Development of a national road research register
- Improved coordination and dissemination of research undertaken by individual authorities
- Mechanisms to identify longer term strategic research priorities for the road industry
- Improved procedures for the selection of Austroads research projects, including cost benefit considerations
- Mechanisms to improve the awareness of international road research and its utilisation
- Greater utilisation of research to increase professional development opportunities for road industry personnel and staff retention in road authorities.

A preliminary report is being prepared for the next Austroads meeting in June.

AUSTRIA

Report on the 7th ASTRAD SYMPOSIUM on Road Management and Winter Maintenance

- A story of success



For the 6th time the ASTRAD-Symposium on Road Management and Winter Maintenance took place on 18th and 19th April 2007 in Wels, Austria. In total, 117 exhibitors welcomed more than 1,500 professionals from the road management and road maintenance sector. The latest developments in equipment and technology for road operation and winter maintenance were presented at several technical sessions and in an exhibition area of 3,000 sqm indoor and 5,000 sqm outdoor at free admission for registered visitors. Thus the Symposium serves as a primary forum orientated on operational level, where the industry and manufacturers meet the users of their appliances and applications. Research and development present their latest equipment, while users such as "road masters" and representatives from municipalities, provinces and local authorities can express their demands and wishes for the future. It is this exchange of opinions and knowledge that can be judged as an extraordinary and fruitful contribution to the high standards of development within the Central European industry in the sector of road maintenance. In the last years, interest and popularity of the event has been growing steadily, and today even international participation is being achieved despite the forums orientation on the national level. The next Symposium is scheduled for April 21st and 22nd 2009.

Find more information at:
www.astrad.org



Other NC activities and examples of good practice

CANADA-QUEBEC

Report on the 42nd Congress of the Quebec Association of Transport and Roads

On the 3rd April 2007, the 42nd Congress of the Quebec Association of Transport and Roads (AQTR) was held in the city of Quebec. The sessions comprised of the following presentations:

- Assessment of the activities of the Quebec PIARC National Committee for the year 2006 by President Daniel Toutant
- Assessment of the meeting of the Strategic Theme 4 "Quality of the road infrastructures" and a round table discussion relating to the management of the credits held in Quebec in August 2006
- Scenarios of ventilation for the control of the fires and smoke clearing in road tunnels

- PIARC Seminar on the safety of the road infrastructures in Togo
- Assessment of work of the Committee 2.2 interurban Roads and integrated interurban transport

The First Delegate of Canada-Quebec and vice-president of PIARC, Mrs. Anne-Marie Leclerc, announced further activities.

For the PIARC prize competition, awards to three contributions were given at the Congress. The prize-winning summaries will be published in French on the website of the PIARC-Quebec National Committee at: www.aqtr.qc.ca towards mid-June 2007.



NC Publications and software



Australia and New Zealand

Austroads newsletter

Austroads produces a bi-monthly newsletter which is distributed electronically to over 2,500 subscribers. The format of the newsletter been changed to incorporate a new section highlighting some of the work of selected World Road Association technical committees. Previously a separate newsletter was produced containing this information. The April newsletter included reports on the work of the following technical committees:

- Sustainable Development and Road Transport
- Road Pavement

To subscribe to the Austroads newsletter visit the Austroads website www.austroads.com.au/wra_australian_national.html

Austroads Publications

Austroads produces high quality publications which assist road agencies in the planning, design, construction, maintenance, operation and stewardship of roads. Topics include asset management, bridge and pavement technology, road design, road safety, traffic management, transport planning, project delivery and evaluation. Recent releases include:

- Guide to Bridge Technology Part 3: Bridge Design Procurement

Research reports

- Improving Traffic Incident Management: Literature Review
- Review of Current Traffic Incident Management Practices
- Improving Traffic Incident Management: Evaluation Framework
- Microsimulation as a Planning, Operations and Training Aid for Incident Management
- Interim Works Effects Models
- Review of Recent Developments in Road Pricing, Including Freight: Phase I - Key issues and experience
- Review of Recent Developments in Road Pricing, Including Freight: Phase II - Possible applicability of road pricing in Australasia

Technical reports

- The Physical Properties of Australian Bitumens 1956 - 2004
- ITS Technologies for Metropolitan Freight Vehicle Operations - A Literature Review
- Case Study and Test Method Review on Moisture Damage
- Service Life of Pavements: Context, Review and Definition of Terms
- Managing the Impacts of Rising Watertables and Salinity on Remaining Pavement Life - Report of 2005/2006 Activities

All Austroads publications are available through the Austroads publications website www.austroads.com.au/wra_australian_national.html



LATEST PIARC TECHNICAL REPORTS

<http://publications.piarc.org/en/technical-reports/>

C2.4 COMMITTEE

FREIGHT TRANSPORT AND INTERMODALITY

MEASURES PROMOTING ALTERNATIVES TO THE ROAD AND INTERMODAL TERMINALS



The substantial increase in the volume of freight transport by road requires seeking the optimal use of the various transport modes in a sustainable development perspective. The report identifies the key trends and issues in intermodal transport. It examines the role and responsibilities of the public and political authorities in promoting intermodal transport, and describes a series of governmental measures at

national as well as international level to encourage intermodality (from transport network planning to standardization issues). A number of good practice cases promoting intermodal transport in various countries are provided. The last part of the report points out the still very insufficient share of intermodal transport, identifies the various obstacles—whether related to technology, operation, infrastructure, etc.—that impede the development of intermodal transport, and makes recommendations to improve the situation.

PIARC Reference: 2007R02

Bilingual English-French, 175 pages

ISBN: 2-84060-191-3

C2.1 COMMITTEE

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURES



Based on a survey conducted in countries with different stages of economic development, and on several case studies, the report focuses on:

- how sustainable development is considered in road transportation at different levels (political, planning, strategic and operational);
- which methods, goals and criteria are used to evaluate sustainability;
- what are the social and environmental impacts that are given attention, especially natural habitat fragmentation issues and severance effects in urban areas;
- how environmental issues are taken into consideration in the construction and maintenance stages of the road network.

PIARC Reference: 2007R01

Bilingual English-French, 124 pages

ISBN: 2-84060-190-7

C3.3 COMMITTEE

SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT FOR FIRE AND SMOKE CONTROL IN ROAD TUNNELS



This report complements the PIARC report published in 1999 "Fire and Smoke Control in Road Tunnels". After a presentation of the basic principles of smoke and heat progress at the beginning of a fire, the report presents the safety concepts for tunnel fires. It draws the lessons from the fires which occurred in the Mont-Blanc, Tauern and Saint-Gothard tunnels. The role of transverse and longitudinal ventilation is presented. The question of emergency exits and escape routes is addressed in detail, from their design point of view but also regarding the methods for warning and guiding tunnel users. The latest technological advancements in automatic fire detection and extinction are presented and discussed.

The report presents recommendations on the design criteria for the resistance to fire for road tunnel structures. It reviews the topics that need to be considered regarding operational responsibilities for emergencies, in particular those relating to the response by emergency services.

A detailed bibliography and technical appendices on various topics including smoke dampers are also included in this report, which is the authoritative reference document in the world on these issues.

Reference: 05.16.B;

62 EUR (51 EUR for PIARC members)

Bilingual English-French, 344 pages.

ISBN: 2 - 84060-189-3

This report is part of the previous work cycle (2003-2006). It can be purchased in a hard copy.

A special bid enables you to purchase a collection of the 12 reports produced by the Road Tunnels Committee since 1995--and still up-to-date. More information at:

<http://publications.piarc.org/en/technical-reports/part1.htm>

NC Publications and software

SPAIN

The road transversal section: a safety design

The Interurban Roads and Interurban Integrated Transport Technical Committee has recently published a book on "The road transversal section: a safety design" where innovated road transversal section designs for safety improvement are technically justified.

At the end of May, Sandro Rocci, Technical Committee president launched the new publication on a monographic session, open to all Spanish technicians.

Information at: www.atc-piarc.com



PIARC Congresses

FRANCE

23rd World Road Congress

17-21 September 2007 in Paris (France)

On-line registration for the congress, exhibitors and accommodation is open.

Newsletter 5 of the Congress is available at www.paris2007-route.fr



Australasian delegation to World Road Congress

Austrroads is continuing to promote Australian and New Zealand participation in the World Road Congress in Paris. It is anticipated that a significant Australasian delegation will attend, with possibly 100 delegates.

A delegate handbook will be produced providing details of Australasian delegates and their partners. A welcome function has been organised for the Australasian delegation on the evening of Sunday 16 September, prior to the official Congress opening on 17 September. A small exhibition to showcase the work of Austrroads and the Australian and New Zealand national committee will also be arranged. The possibility of a post Congress tour is being explored. Austrroads has organised one of the special sessions on heavy vehicle operation and is involved in several other sessions.

Australia and New Zealand are also contributing to the historical exhibition being organised as part of the Congress to commemorate one hundred years of motorised road transport.

CANADA

13th International Winter Road Congress

8th – 11th February 2010 in Quebec

Preliminary information on the congress is available at: www.aipcrquebec2010.org/accueil.asp



Your opinions and comments to

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