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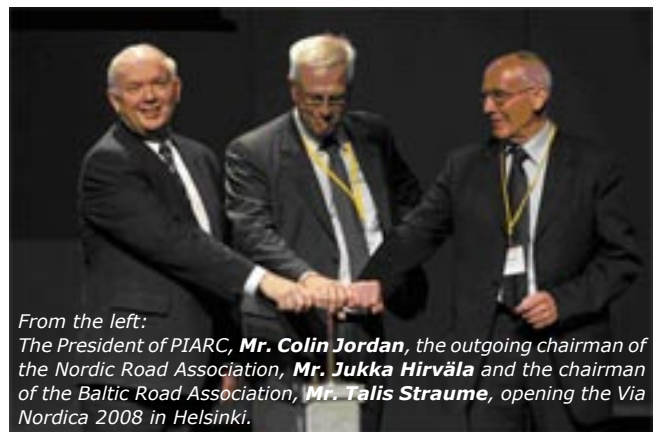
EDITORIAL

Every four years the Nordic Road Association (NRA), acting as PIARC National Committee for the Nordic countries, organises an international Road Congress – Via Nordica. Via Nordica offers experts and others within the field an excellent opportunity to share ideas, learn from one another and establish fruitful contacts.

The 20th congress within this series, Via Nordica 2008, was held in June in Helsinki, Finland. The slogan of the congress was “Via Nordica - the Road Ahead”. It focused on the challenges of the future and the solutions that must be created to meet them. The congress gathered many experts both from within the Nordic countries and from beyond. These experts were able to discuss and share knowledge on topical issues affecting the Nordic countries, bringing a valuable and welcomed international element to this Nordic Congress. In particular, the participation of experts from the Baltic countries and PIARC representatives was remarkable.

The documentation of this successful congress can be found on the congress website www.vianordica2008.fi.

For the Nordic Road Association the end of the congress was the start of a new period. The association’s new Nordic name and logo were presented at the closing ceremony; the association’s name in English will remain unchanged. Finland handed over the chair of the Nordic Road Association to Iceland for the next 4 years. The association’s new chairman is Mr. Hreinn Haraldsson, Director General of the Icelandic Road Administration.



From the left: The President of PIARC, **Mr. Colin Jordan**, the outgoing chairman of the Nordic Road Association, **Mr. Jukka Hirvåla** and the chairman of the Baltic Road Association, **Mr. Talis Straume**, opening the Via Nordica 2008 in Helsinki.



Mr. Hreinn Haraldsson, the new chairman from Iceland (left) and **Mr. Jukka Hirvåla**, outgoing chairman from Finland, at the closing ceremony of the congress with the new logo of the Nordic Road Association in the background.

A PIARC - Québec 2010 promotional stand at 2008 Via Nordica Congress



A delegation from the Québec National Committee participated in the 2008 Via Nordica Congress. Headed by the First Delegate for Canada-Québec and Vice-President of the World Road Association, Ms. Anne-Marie Leclerc, the Québec delegation’s mission was to promote the XIII International Winter Road Congress, to be held in Québec City, from February 8 to 11, 2010. (see www.aiprcquebec2010.org)

Some 1,200 participants took advantage of the opportunity to visit the exhibition organised as a complement to the scientific sessions. Over 300 exhibitors from 14 countries showcased the diverse range of products and services available. The many

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Your opinions and comments to

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

TO BE CONTINUED

visitors who dropped by the PIARC-Québec 2010 stand confirmed the growing interest, among both congress-goers and exhibitors, in attending the Québec congress in large numbers.



Finally, we should express our thanks to Finland for organising such a successful congress and for the outstanding performance in chairing the Nordic Road Association over the past four years. We have to thank Mr. Eroö Karjaluo and Mr. Jukka Hirvåla, who chaired the NRA and represented the Nordic countries in the PIARC Executive Committee. In particular, we would also like to thank Mr. Pär-Håkan Appel (*photo on the left*), the Secretary General of NRA, who carried the heavy work load and is well known for his ambitious involvement in the group of PIARC National Committees and member of the Correspondence Group of the PIARC magazine Routes/Roads.

Friedrich Zotter

Representative of National Committees
on the PIARC Executive Committee

NC news, activities, seminars and conferences

MORROCCO

Annual Meeting of PIARC National Committees

28-29 October 2008, Marrakech (Morocco)

The 2008 Annual Meeting of PIARC National Committees will be held in connection with the 2008 PIARC Council Meeting in Marrakech, Morocco. The meeting will start in the afternoon of October 28 and will conclude on October 29 and will be held at Hotel Palmeraie Golf Palace.

The meeting documents may be accessed through the members' area of the PIARC web site, or alternatively via the Representative of PIARC National Committees, Mr. Friedrich Zotter, by e-mail to friedrich.zotter@bmvit.gv.at



FRANCE

New representatives within the French National Committee

Mr. Michel Démarre has been elected as the new president of the French National Committee. The new Secretary-General is Mr. Patrick Mallejacq, supported by Ms. Yolande Daniel as deputy to the Secretary-General. Mr. Yves Robichon is acting as past president.



Contacts: demarre@siege.colas.fr
patrick.mallejacq@lcpc.fr
yves.robichon@developpement-durable.gouv.fr
yolande.daniel@lcpc.fr



NORDIC ROAD ASSOCIATION

The association's new chairman is Mr Hreinn Haraldsson, Director-General of the Icelandic Road Administration (hreinn.haraldsson@vegagerdin.is). The new Secretary-General is Mr Thorir Ingason (thorir.ingason@vegagerdin.is) from the Department for International Affairs.

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

9th World Congress
of Metropolis
22-25 October 2008

CONNECTING
CITIES SYDNEY

www.metropoliscongress2008.com

9th World Congress of Metropolis

22-25 October 2008, Sydney

The Congress' overall theme is 'Connecting Cities' highlighting the increasing importance of cities, more so than nations, as principal hubs of international interaction. Globally, major cities are increasingly connecting via transnational public and private networks. Over 100 global cities will be gathering in Sydney to develop these interdependent webs of collaborative governance, knowledge exchange and advanced service provision.

Further information at: www.metropoliscongress2008.com

CANADA



2008 Annual Conference & Exhibition of the Transportation Association of Canada (TAC)

21-24 September 2008, Toronto, Ontario

Hundreds of representatives from the public and private sectors, as well as from academic circles, will assemble in Toronto in September for Canada's premier annual transportation event. The 2008 TAC conference theme of Transportation – A Key to a Sustainable Future reflects the significant role that transportation can play in supporting sustainability and ultimately the quality of life of all Canadians and their future generations.

Many of the 150 presenters will delve into the theme with talks on sustainability from policy to reality, climate change impacts on infrastructure, sustainable urban transit services, flexible design for sustainable roads, active transportation planning and quantifying sustainability in pavement rehabilitation. Among the other presentation topics to be addressed at sessions, panel discussions and workshops are road safety for P3 projects, the knowledge needs of engineers in 2020, traffic operations tools, transportation planning for small and medium-sized municipalities, as well as innovative construction and maintenance practices to minimise costs and disruptions. A panel discussion on sustainable public private partnerships is being organised by PIARC's Canadian National Committee (CNC). Rounding out the program are special luncheon presentations, a series of technical tours and an exhibition of transportation products and services.

Information at: www.cnc-piarc-aipcr.ca



CANADA – QUEBEC

International Road Safety Symposium

8-9 October 2008, Laval University, Québec City



This symposium aims at improving understanding of the links between the main components of the road safety governance system, i.e. the State, controlling forces, insurance systems, the various road victim associations, the medical corps and the media. The relations between these various categories of stakeholders now constitute a system – in the sense that they are interdependent – and must be regarded as an overall entity.

For more information about this symposium, visit:

<http://www.aqtr.qc.ca/cgi-cs/cs.waframe.content?click=90344&lang=1>

2nd National Winter Road Congress

3-4 October 2008, Lévis Congress Centre

In the context of work undertaken by two of its technical departments, Winter Services and PIARC-Québec, the Association Québécoise du Transport et des Routes (AQTR) is holding its 2nd National Winter Road Congress, a congress addressing all those who, whether from Canada or abroad, are interested in the issues associated with winter road maintenance. This congress will look at management and new innovations in the area of winter service. Ms. Gudrun Öberg, president of PIARC's Technical Committee B.5 on Winter Services, will speak about the Committee's work.

For more information about this congress, visit:

<http://www.aqtr.qc.ca/cgi-cs/cs.waframe.content?click=91062&lang=1>



CHILE

9th International Congress PROVIAL 3-7 November 2008, Puerto Varas

The 9th version of the PROVIAL Chile Congress, organised by the Road Directorate of Chile and the University Austral de Chile, is offering a programme of excellent quality with national and international lectures in the field of road network development and best practice examples to be shared with the audience.



Universidad Austral de Chile

International Organisations such as PIARC, the US – Federal Highway Administration and the Conference of Ibero-American Road Directors are supporting this event.

Information at:
www.provial.cl/english

FRANCE

Interroute & Ville Conference 2008

23-25 September 2008, Parc des Expositions, Rennes



The 2008 Conference incorporates 40 presentations and 200 speakers. Eight hundred attendees are expected for this high-level forum, which will analyse the industry as it is today, innovation, local, national and environmental issues and respond to the new need for vocational training for councils, designers, contractors and builders.



Theoretical papers in the morning followed by hands-on sessions in the afternoon, discussions with experts from project management, contracting authorities, manufacturers and suppliers, educational talks, case studies and feedback based on experience – a wide range of subjects including materials, techniques, civil engineering projects and winter maintenance.

Information at: www.interroute-ville.com

GERMANY

German Road and Transportation Congress with the exhibition 'Road and Transportation 2008'

8-10 October 2008, Düsseldorf

Representatives of administrations and the academic and private sectors underline the significance of the German Road and Transportation Congress:

- A panel of distinguished guests will discuss the challenges of global warming for the road and transport sector on 8 October 2008.
- Papers and debates will focus on the current and future orientation of the road and transportation sector.
- At the 'Road and Transportation 2008' exhibition, suppliers will present the latest engineering developments in the fields of traffic planning, road design, traffic engineering, construction materials, road construction, environmental technology, and software.

Reports on the following construction subjects will be made at the German Road and Transportation Congress 2008:

- road surfaces
- road construction
- road maintenance and the environment

The papers on traffic telematics will address the following topics:

- safety concerns in road design and road planning
- increasing safety with high-quality road equipment
- combating congestion with traffic management

Some 1,200 participants are expected to attend the German Road and Transportation Congress and the 'Road and Transportation 2008' exhibition. But it is not all hard work: in addition to the many fascinating, high-quality presentations, delegates can look forward to meeting colleagues and forging new contacts at this key road transport event.

Contact: www.fgsv.de (German Road and Transportation Research Association)



ITALY

International Road Safety Exhibition

20-22 November 2008, Verona

Verona, 20-21-22 Novembre 2008



The sixth edition of the International Road Safety Exhibition will be held on 20-22 November 2008 in Verona, Italy. The postponement of the meeting of European Ministers has made an inevitable shift in the timing of this event, initially scheduled to commence in June. The choice to shift the event was made in order to provide greater resonance on the issue of road safety at international institutions and within the European Union.

Information at: www.sissonline.it

SLOVENIA



International Symposium on Pavement Surface Characteristics for Roads and Airfields (SURF)

21-23 October 2008, Grand Hotel Bernardin, Portoroz

Every four years PIARC organises an international symposium on pavement surface characteristics for roads and airfields, so called SURF events. The success and interest shown in the first five symposia has encouraged PIARC Technical Committee TC 4.2 «Road/Vehicle Interaction» and the Slovenian PIARC National Committee to organise the 6th International Symposium on Pavement Surface Characteristics of Roads and Airfields in 2008.

The symposium provides a unique opportunity of discussing the latest developments in pavement surface characteristics of roads and airfields. This is a one time opportunity for specialists to share their knowledge and experiences.

On-line registration at: www.surf2008.si/registration

Further information: www.surf2008.si

UNITED KINGDOM

Conference on Transport and Climate Change Moving people, Changing Expectations

2 October 2008

A Conference on Transport and Climate Change with the general theme "Moving people, changing expectations - Going beyond good intentions in the response to climate change" will be organised jointly by the Institution of Highways & Transportation IHT, the Transport Research Laboratory TRL and the British National Committee of PIARC.

Further information: john.smart@iht.org



VIETNAM

CODATU XIII Conference

12-14 November 2008, Ho Chi Minh City

Under the general theme of the conference "Sustainable Development Challenges of Transport in Cities of the Developing World: Doing what works" the following main topics have been defined:

- The new context of urban transport
- Urban transport in Vietnam's major cities
- Urban planning, transport and economic development tensions
- Financing transport infrastructure and services
- Inter-modality challenges
- Environmental concerns and solutions for clean urban mobility

The final list of selected papers, the structuring of the sessions, and the names of the presenters will be detailed in the next programme announcement.

Further information at: www.codatu.org

Other NC activities and examples of good practice



AUSTRIA

Smooth handover for a new working period

12 March 2008, Vienna

Austria has a long tradition in sending highly qualified professionals into PIARC's Technical Committees. In the past period 25 professionals supported the Technical Committees, currently 27 professionals work in 18 of the 20 Committees. Members mainly come from the public or semi-public sector such as the national highway company, universities and local authorities. The Austrian National Committee will continue to provide this exchange and transfer of knowledge between national and international level by continued annual meetings between the Austrian Technical Committee members and other national experts of the road community in the framework of the National Transport Research Association FSV.

Recently, the appointed national experts have started their work in the newly established PIARC Technical Committees. Continuing an approved and successful tradition, Austria's former Technical Committee members met the new ones during a meeting on 12th March 2008 hosted by Austria's Federal Ministry of Transport. During the meeting the new members were informed about the World Road Association's working principles. In order to ensure a smooth transition, former and newly appointed experts joined an intensive discussion covering issues from organisational matters to conscientious ways of working.

More information at: www.fsv.at/piarc/index.html

CANADA-QUEBÉC

Meetings of Technical Committees A.3, C.4 and B.5 to be held in Québec

Three of the World Road Association's Technical Committees opted to hold meetings in Québec in October 2008. At the invitation of Québec National Committee president, Daniel Toutant, Committee A.3 (Road System Economics and Social Development) will meet in Montréal, alongside the Symposium on urban transportation rates, scheduled to take place on October 21. Technical Committee C.4 (Road Tunnel Operations) will also meet in Montréal in October, with a complementary one-day workshop that will allow the Génie conseil québécois to exchange ideas with the international experts gathered for the occasion. Lastly, Technical Committee B.5 (Winter Services) will meet in Québec City, site of the next International Winter Road Congress, in order to finalise its organisation and participate in the 2nd National Winter Road Congress, which will be held at the Centre de Congrès et d'Expositions de Lévis on October 3 and 4.

The Québec National Committee wishes to take this opportunity to thank the First Delegate for Canada, Bryce Conrad, for his help in organising these meetings.

More Information at: www.aqtr.qc.ca



FRANCE

Meetings of the French National Committee

20 March 2008, Grande Arche

These annual meetings have become a well known event for the French road community. The meetings held this year combined experts from both the former (2004-2007) and current technical committees (period 2008-2011). Participants had an opportunity to reflect on the achievements, presented at the last World Congress in Paris. The objectives of the



new PIARC Strategic Plan were also presented. In addition, the Mirror Committees presented the outputs of their work. Finally, Dominic Hucher, Director-General of Roads and Acting First Delegate of France was able to participate at the end of the day.

You can view presentations at: www.cf-aipcr.org

UNITED KINGDOM

Highlights of the year had been an increasing membership and a gradual revitalisation of the World Road Association UK (WRA UK). It is of particular pleasure that Transport for London are now members of the organisation and are represented on the Technical Committees. There has been a very high number of applications to represent the UK on the PIARC Technical Committees and places were oversubscribed. In total, the UK has 28 representatives.

The Paris Congress was particularly successful and there has been a lot of positive feedback. In all, the UK presence incorporated the attendance of over 90 individuals. This year, a joint IHT/TRL/WRA UK Conference will be held on 2nd October, focussing on the topic of climate change.

The WRA UK is also planning to deliver a series of presentations to the IHT UK Branches over the next year to further share the learning and knowledge of the organisation. The aim of this roadshow is to inform the IHT UK Branches about

the work of the WRA. Branches have been offered the opportunity to invite speakers from the WRA UK to present at their branch meetings. Two presentations will be given, a generic one and a technical one, focusing on the work of one of the technical committees.

Links with IHT are being strengthened with joint meetings now held between the WRA UK Technical Representatives and the IHT Technical Board Chairs and Vice Chairs.

Information at: www.piacr.co.uk

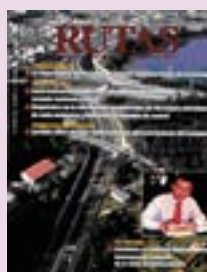
NC Publications and software

FRANCE

Issues Nr. 19 and 20 of the French National Committees Newsletter have been published.

Information at: www.cf-aipcr.org

SPAIN



No. 126 of the Spanish Road Magazine "Rutas" has been published. Previous issues can be accessed via the website of the Spanish National Committee www.atc-piarc.com/rutas

NORDIC ROAD ASSOCIATION



Read the presentations from Via Nordica 2008

The 20th congress of Nordic Road Association, Via Nordica 2008, was held in June in Helsinki, Finland. The documentation of the very successful congress can be found on the congress website www.vianordica2008.fi.

New report in English

The report "Road wear from Heavy Vehicles - an overview" has been published by the Technical Committee on Vehicles and Transport. The report is an overview on how different studies of road wear have reported the effect of various vehicle dependent parameters, for heavy vehicles, such as axle load, tyre properties etc. The report can be read and downloaded from the association's website: www.nvfnorden.org.

NORDIC-BALTIC TRANSPORTATION LIBRARIES

The Nordic-Baltic Transportation Libraries consist of special libraries, situated in Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden, which focus exclusively on roads and transportation.

These transport-orientated libraries provide the Nordic-Baltic transportation community with publications and information on roads and road transportation issues. They also disseminate the results of R&D.

www.nvfnorden.org > click on Partnership with Baltic Road Association



PIARC Congresses

13TH PIARC WINTER ROAD CONGRESS 8 – 11 February 2010 in Quebec City

On the theme of "Sustainable Winter Service for Road Users", specialists with relevant expertise are invited to submit proposals for papers (abstracts) if they wish to be speakers at this event.



The technical sessions will allow for more in-depth coverage of the following six themes:

- Theme 1** Winter Service Planning, Management and Delivery
- Theme 2** Safety and Mobility in Winter: Social, Environmental and Economic Aspects
- Theme 3** Winter Service information Systems
- Theme 4** Snow and Ice Control Techniques and Technologies
- Theme 5** Winter Service and Sustainable Transportation
- Theme 6** Climate Change Impacts – Impacts on Road Maintenance

The call for papers will open on September 1, 2008. To submit an abstract of your proposed paper, visit the Submit an abstract page on the official website of the Congress, at <http://www.aipcrquebec2010.org/>.

Registration for the congress will begin on June 1, 2009 over the Congress website. Visit the site regularly to find out the latest news, and add your name to the information mailing list by sending us an email message to quebec2010@agoracom.qc.ca

Sign up now to reserve your exhibit space by writing to quebec2010@opus3.com

www.aipcrquebec2010.org

24TH WORLD ROAD CONGRESS 25 – 30 September 2011, Mexico City

The 24th World Road Congress of the World Road Association will be held in Mexico City, Mexico from 25 to 30 September 2011. Centro Banamex is the largest business centre in Mexico and offers the best facilities and the most professional team to organise events.

Your opinions and comments to

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