



Introduction to PIARC

November 2022

Why talk about roads?

- **Roads and Road transport are essential and they keep improving**
 - Roads represent about **80% of all inland transport**, now and for the foreseeable future
 - Roads are ready to support sustainable and low-carbon developments
 - Roads are everywhere: **active modes** (cycling, walking), **car sharing** (Uber...), **public transport** (buses), **alternative fuels** (electricity, LNG or hydrogen...)
 - Roads are key for **equity, inclusivity and accessibility**, and for UN's SDGs
- **Society's priorities and the larger context are evolving** very quickly
- **That's why our work is ongoing, on a wide range of topics**
 - They are identified in order to serve the needs of our Members and of the road community
 - Work is mainly conducted through our Technical Committees and Task Forces
 - Their Members are officially appointed by PIARC Member Countries
 - They write or improve reports based on best-practice and Identify directions

Roads serve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals



PIARC and DFID report, 2016

Introduction

What is PIARC?



What is PIARC?

- **PIARC = World Road Association**
- We were **founded in 1909** as a non-profit, non-political association
- **First global forum for the exchange of knowledge, policy and practice on roads and road transport**
- Recognised for the quality and neutrality of our work
- Work with HICs as well as with LMICs

- We have **125 member governments**, as well as regions, groups/companies and individuals.

- The Association mobilizes the experience and knowledge of **1,200 experts** from more than 80 countries in **20+ Technical Committees and Task Forces**.



PIARC's Four key missions

- Be a **leading international forum for analysis and discussion** of the full spectrum of transport issues related to roads and related transport;
 - Identify, develop, and disseminate **best practice** and **give better access to international information**;
 - Consider within its activities the needs of **developing countries and countries in transition** fully; and
 - Design, produce, and promote **efficient tools for decision making** on matters related to roads and related transport.
-
- The Association mobilizes the expertise of its members
 - Through operations guided by a **4-year Strategic Plan**



Knowledge exchange: The core of PIARC

- **PIARC mobilises international road and transport experts through more than 20 Committees:**
 - Ad-hoc dialogue among peers
 - Network building
 - Joint work towards commonly-agreed deliverables
- **These deliverables are widely accessible:**
 - Hundreds of Reports, Case studies, Literature reviews, etc.
 - Seminars or workshops
 - 5 comprehensive manuals (online)
 - Software and tools (HDM-4, QRAM)
 - Usually in English, French and Spanish. Usually free of charge.
- **PIARC Congresses and events are world-class focus points for:**
 - Dissemination of these deliverables
 - Further discussions and debate



PIARC and Languages

- **PIARC has three working languages:**
 - French, English and Spanish
 - Our outputs are published in those 3 languages
- **The working language of TCs and TFs is English**
- **TCs and TFs have to deliver their outputs in the 3 languages**
 - Organising translation is a task for the 3 Secretaries
 - Support from GS, such as « DeepL Pro»
- **More translations are welcome**
 - Usually coordinated by National Committees



Our outputs



Many PIARC reports



Downloadable pdf files

Available for free at www.piarc.org

■ Cycle 2012-2015:

- 40 technical reports were produced by the Technical Committees

■ Cycle 2016-2019:

- 46 reports

■ Cycle 2020-2023:

- 33 new reports already

Recent PIARC publications (> 1 per month)

- Improving Road Tunnel Resilience, Considering Safety and Availability - PIARC Literature Review
- How Countries Undertake Well-Prepared Projects: A Review on Ten Countries
- Snow and Ice Databook
- Best Practices in Funding and Financing of Road Infrastructure
- Diversity and Talent Management in Transport Administrations – The Road to Success?
- Greening of Freight Transport
- Use of Recycled Materials in Pavements
- Many more coming in the next months

<https://www.piarc.org/en/activities/PIARC-Directory-Technical-Reports/PIARC-Technical-Reports-2020-2023>



Online road dictionary

- Technical Dictionary of Road Terms
- **Mainly: English, French, Spanish**
- **Online, free of charge**
- As well as:
 - Chinese 51%
 - Estonian 41%
 - Japanese 84%
 - Dutch 100%
 - Farsi 78%
 - Polish 45%
- And many other languages



PIARC

Search [OK] English

DISCOVERING PIARC WORK TOPICS OUR ACTIVITIES NEWS & AGENDA

FOLLOW PIARC [Twitter] [LinkedIn] [Facebook]

JOIN US IDENTIFICATION

Home > Our activities > Road Dictionary > Term search

Search a term in the Road Dictionary

Search: winter maintenance [OK]

Source language: English Target language(s):

Add criteria

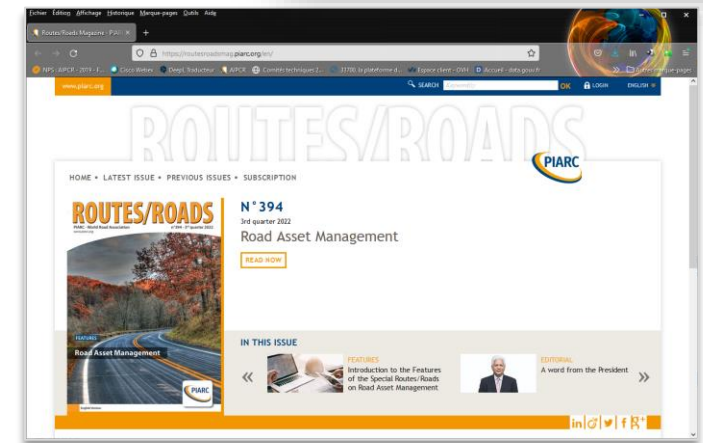
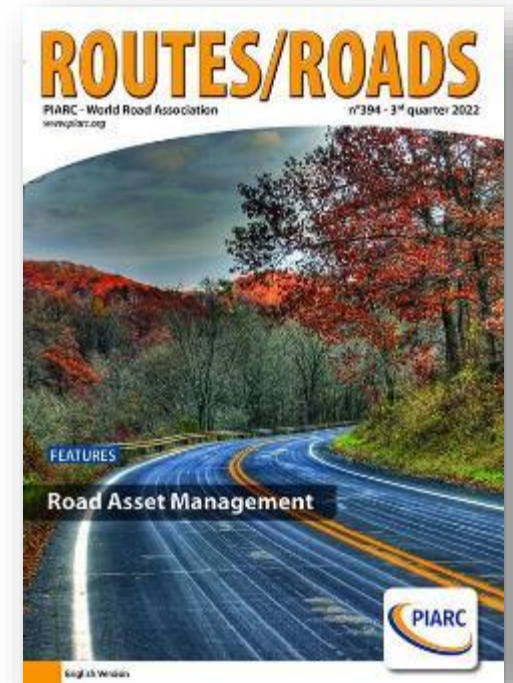
- The term and its synonyms
- Only the term
- All content

Results for the term: winter maintenance

Термин	Terms
Operations - Winter Serviceability	tool for winter maintenance
	winter maintenance syn : winter service
	winter maintenance contractor

Routes / Roads Magazine

- Our quarterly magazine
- Articles cover emerging road and road transport issues
- English, French and Spanish
- Print and online distribution
- 5,700 copies, readership in more than 140 countries
- Online versions:
 - routesroadsmag.piarc.org
 - [https://www.piarc.org/en/activities/Routes-Roads-](https://www.piarc.org/en/activities/Routes-Roads-Magazine)



Online Manuals : Easy access to knowledge

■ Five online manuals:

- [Disaster management \(2022\)](#)
- [Road Tunnels Operations \(2019\)](#)
- [Road safety \(2019\)](#)
- [Road asset management \(2019\)](#)
- [Road network operations and ITS \(2015\)](#)

■ Easy and attractive to use:

- Free of charge
- Key principles for each of the topics are included and discussed in the sections
- Case studies and links to detailed technical material and other references
- Can be downloaded and printed in chapters



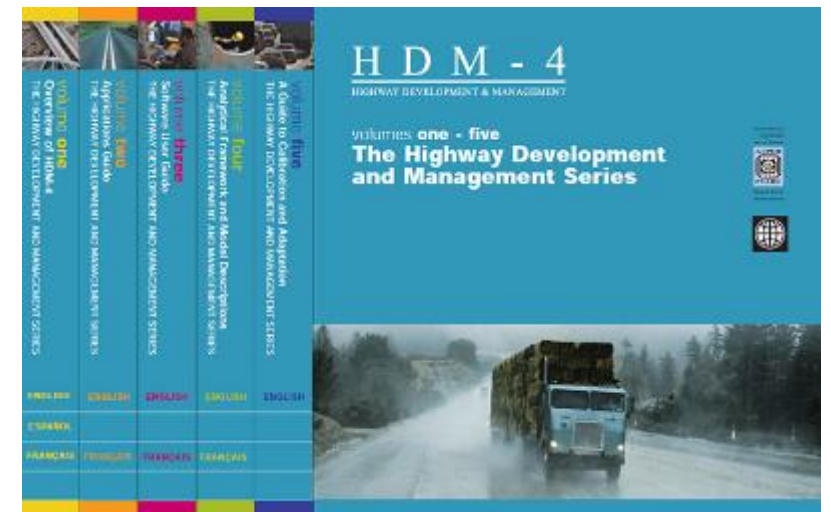
Software

■ HDM-4

- The primary tool for the analysis, planning, management and appraisal of road maintenance, improvements and investment decisions
- Developed with numerous stakeholders
- Distributed through HDMGlobal

■ DG-QRAM

- Tool for managing dangerous goods transport in tunnels
- Distributed by PIARC
- [Version 4 is available \(August 2019\)](#)



Many international PIARC Events

▪ Many thematic seminars and workshops:

- October: "*Implementation of BIM in Road Asset Management - Challenges and Opportunities*", Mexico
- 22-24 November 2022: "*Climate change and disasters*", Indonesia
- 3 December 2022: "*Development and management*", Mexico
- 14 Dec 2022: "*Low and Lower-Middle Income Countries – Impact of ecology and climate transition on project preparation : financing, capacity building, technical standards*", Online
- April 2023: "*Advances in Design, Construction and Operation of Tunnels*", India
- Etc.

▪ SURF 2022 - 9th Symposium on Pavement Characteristics

- Milan (Italy), 12-14 September 2022

▪ 2nd PIARC International Conference on Road Tunnel Operations and Safety

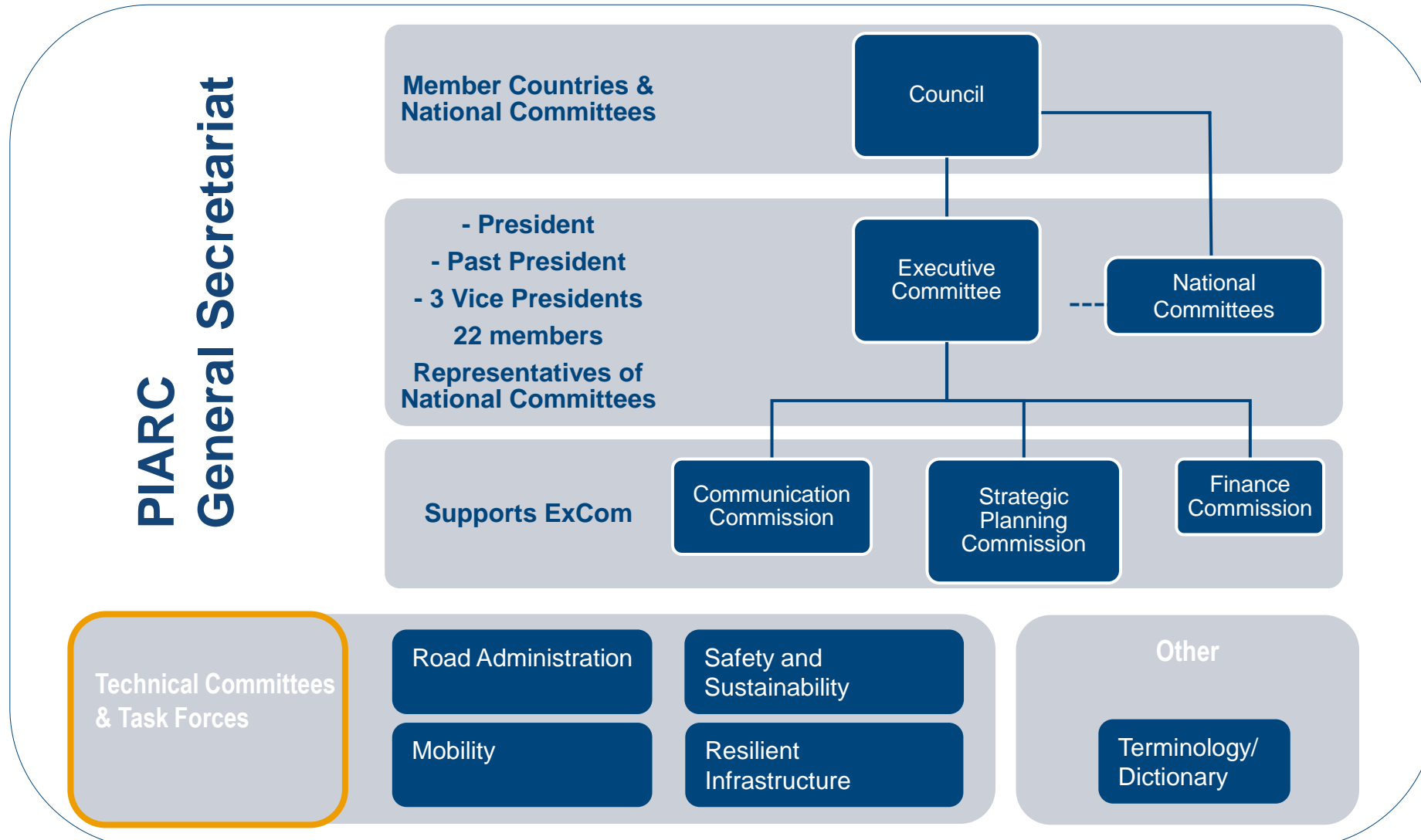
- Granada (Spain), 25-28 October 2022



Our structures



PIARC Organisational Structure



New Executive Committee 2022 - 2024

President

Nazir Alli, South Africa

Past President

Claude Van Rooten, Belgium

Vice-Presidents

Emma Lía Albrieu Cipollina, Argentina

Geoff Allan, Australia

Mark Henry Rubarenzya, Uganda



Members

Alexander Walcher, Austria, **Anne-Séverine Poupeleer**, Belgium, **Bine Pengal**, Slovenia, **Birgitta Worringen**, Germany, **Joshua LaRocque**, Canada, **Chungeng Wu**, China, **Claudine Tremblay**, Canada-Québec, **Emanuela Stocchi**, Italy, **Emma Lía Albrieu Cipollina**, Argentina, **Ernesto Barrera**, Chile, **Geoff Allan**, Australia, **Hugh Gillies**, United Kingdom, **Hyeon-Seung Lee**, South Korea, **Juan Pedro Fernández Palomino**, Spain, **Jorge Arganis Díaz Leal**, Mexico, **Mamoudou Alassane Camara**, Senegal, **Mark Henry Rubarenzya**, Uganda, **Mārtiņš Dambergs**, Latvia / BRA, **Randall Cable**, South Africa, **Sandrine Chinzi**, France, **Sanjay Kumar Nirmal**, India, **Gloria Shepherd**, USA, **Setsuo Hirai**, Japan, **Václav Neuvirt**, Czech Republic

National Committees' Representative

Clemente Poon Hung, Mexico

48 PIARC National Committees in 49 Countries

They are independent country-based organisations.

Objectives:

- Facilitate national exchanges on roads and road transport
- Promote the work of PIARC
- Liaise with national experts and issues

- Algeria, Argentina, Australia (Austroads), Austria,
- Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso,
- Cameroon, Canada, Canada-Québec, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic,
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- France,
- Germany, Greece, Hungary,
- India, Ireland, Italy, Japan,
- Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco,
- Niger, New Zealand (Austroads),
- Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania,
- Senegal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland,
- Tanzania, Tunisia
- United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay



General Secretariat

- **Main missions:**

- Ensures the daily management of the Association in accordance with the resolutions and decisions of the Council and the Executive Committee.
- Represents the Association in all legal and administrative matters that impact on the operations of the Association.

- **Based in Paris**

- **Salaried staff as well as**

- **Experts seconded from their country**



PIARC Committees and Task Forces



Membership

- **Members of PIARC Committees are formally appointed**
- **Most are nominated by their First Delegate**
 - Member
 - Corresponding Member (not compelled to take part in meetings)
- **Associate Members can be added:**
 - Initiative of TC/TF Chair or GS
 - To be discussed with all TC/TF members
 - Validation through General Secretariat



Work program

- **TCs / TFs are required to organize activities over the course of the four years (for TCs) and two years (for TFs):**
 - Allocating tasks to specific members of the TC/TF
 - Identifying major milestones, Planning activities month by month
 - Etc.
- **This work should adhere to the quality standards of PIARC:**
 - Aiming at a broad geographic representativity
 - Implement a careful review process within the TC/TF
 - Liaise with the STC and GS
- **Changes may occur, New ideas may emerge, Difficulties may occur...**
 - That's normal
 - Need to be identified by the Chair and discussed with STC and GS

PIARC Congresses



Congresses in 2020 - 2023

■ The World Road Congress

- Important event that has established the Association's reputation and is held at the end of a four-year work cycle
- The next WRC will take place in Prague in 2023

■ World Winter Service and Road Resilience Congress

- Held roughly halfway through the four-year cycle
- Similar objectives and outcomes as the World Road Congress albeit with more focussed topics
- The last edition was Calgary in February 2022 (online)
- It tackled resilience in addition to winter issues
- <https://proceedings-calgary2022.piarc.org>

■ The programme of both Congresses is coordinated by PIARC.

■ A call for papers is organised for both Congresses.



World Road Congress 2019 - Abu Dhabi

6 – 10 October 2019

Full proceedings are available here:

<https://proceedings-abudhabi2019.piarc.org>





		PLENARY	CR A	CR B	CR C	CR D	CR E	CR F	POSTERS SESSIONS	CS 5	CS 7	CS 9
SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER	MORNING	OPENING SESSION										
	AFTERNOON	MINISTERS' SESSION										
MONDAY 7 OCTOBER	MORNING		FS03: Road Resilience	SPS1: Contribution of road transport SPS2: Drones	FS04: Sustainable pavement	FS02: Road safety partnerships	FS01: Socioeconomic impacts CAV	SDSD: Infrastructure		W01: Weigh-in-motion	W02: Road Network Operations / ITS	
	AFTERNOON	KEYNOTE 1	FS06: Sustainable urban freight	TCTFA2: National and subnational coordination	FS07: Transport is not Gender Neutral	FS05: Sustainable Financing	SDSB: Mobility	TCD1: Road asset management	PS1: C1, C2, TFC1	W05: Climate Change adaptation	W03: Road Safety Manual & UN targets	W04: Concrete pavements
TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER	MORNING		TCE3: Disaster management	SDSA: Finance	FS09: Disability-Inclusive Road Transport	FS08: Implementing innovative technologies	TCB1: ITS / RNO	TCD2: Pavements	PS2: E2, D5, B4	W07(1): HDM-4 integration in asset management	W06: RSA & RSI in LMIC	
	AFTERNOON	KEYNOTE 2	SPS3: Electric Road Systems SPS4: PER	TCA1: Performance road administration	FS10: Connected & Autonomous Mobility	SDSC: Road Safety	TCB2: Winter service	TCD3: Bridges	PS3: D2, B1, E3	W07(2): HDM-4 future developments	W08: Rural Access Index	
WEDNESDAY 9 OCTOBER	MORNING		SDSE: Climate Change	TCA2: Socio-Economics	FS11: BIM for highways	TCC1: Road safety policies	TCB3: Urban mobility	TCD4: earthworks & rural roads	PS4: D3, B2, A1, TFA2	W09: Road Asset Management	W10(1): Airfield pavements innovation	
	AFTERNOON	KEYNOTE 3	TCE1: Resiliency of infrastructure	TCA3: Risk management	FS12: Transparency in Transport	TCC2: Safer road infrastructure	TCB4: Freight	TCD5: tunnels operations	PS5: D4, B3, A2	W11: BIM Standards	W10(2): Airfield pavements characteristics	
THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER	MORNING		TCE2: Environmental considerations	TCTFA1: Innovative financing	FS13: Long distance freight	TCTFC1: Security	TCTFB1&2: automated vehicles	SPS5: Unpredicted Infrastructure Failures	PS6: D1, A3, E1, T41	W13: African Task Forces	W12: Regional Road Safety Observatories	
	AFTERNOON	CLOSING SESSION										

SDS = STRATEGIC DIRECTION SESSION
WS = WORKSHOP

FS = FORESIGHT SESSION
TC = TECHNICAL SESSION

SPS = SPECIAL PROJECT SESSION
TF = TASK FORCE



27th World Road Congress

2 – 6 October 2023

■ Very rich technical Content:

- Ministerial session
- All our 25 Committees will present their work
- Papers from the call for papers on 49 topics will be presented too (we received 766 abstracts)
- Foresight Sessions with our partner organisations

■ Great opportunity to:

- Present your work with a national pavilion
- Engage with ministries, with experts, with industry...
- Learn more about PIARC outputs
- Discuss new ideas



<https://www.piarc.org/en/activities/World-Road-Congresses-World-Road-Association/XXVII-World-Road-Congress-Prague-2023>

Next PIARC Congresses

- **17th World Winter Service Congress**

- Chambéry, France
- February 2026



- **28th World Road Congress**

- Call for candidacies will be published in January 2023

PIARC Strategic Plan 2020 - 2023



Role of the Strategic Plan

- The Strategic Plan guides the activities of PIARC over a 4-year cycle.
- In particular, it:
 - Identifies what are the priority issues for PIARC members
 - Establishes Committees and Task Forces

Development of the Strategic Plan

The process involved several steps of consultation:

- **Internally:** First Delegates, National Committees and Technical bodies, Low and Middle income countries.
- **Externally:** Advisory group – Workshop, Interviews with external stakeholders.
- **New STCs, Chairs and Secretaries** were consulted too

The next Plan, covering 2024-2027, is under development

- Focus on resilience, road safety, digitalization, decarbonization



Goals

- Increase **flexibility** to attend PIARC members' needs in a **quick changing world**.
- Produce **more useful and frequent outcomes** to give **more visibility** to PIARC, and to make it **more relevant**.
- Improve **quality of outcomes**, so that PIARC continues to be recognized for producing **valuable road related products**.
- Ensure a **diversified and value-added production** of outcomes to improve PIARC's portfolio and extend its scope to a **wider audience**.
- Overcome the “**silo concept**” among Technical Bodies to achieve a **more integral and interconnected knowledge**, and to add **cross-cutting issues**.



Key horizontal issues

- **Climate change**
 - **Resilience**
 - **Road safety**
-
- Our Plan reflects mega-trends, including those that go beyond roads
 - It also places roads in the context of the global transport system

PIARC Technical Committees 2020 – 2023

1. Road Administration	2. Mobility	3. Safety and Sustainability	4. Resilient Infrastructure
TC 1.1 Performance of Transport Administrations	TC 2.1 Mobility in Urban Areas	TC 3.1 Road Safety	TC 4.1 Pavements
TC 1.2 Planning Road Infrastructure and Transport to Economic and Social Development	TC 2.2 Accessibility and Mobility in Rural Areas	TC 3.2 Winter Service	TC 4.2 Bridges
TC 1.3 Finance and Procurement	TC 2.3 Freight	TC 3.3 Asset Management	TC 4.3 Earthworks
TC 1.4 Climate change and resilience of Road Network	TC 2.4 Road Network Operation/ITS	TC 3.4 Environmental Sustainability in Road Infrastructure and Transport	TC 4.4 Tunnels
TC 1.5 Disaster management			
TF 1.1 Well-Prepared Projects	TF 2.1 New mobility and its impact on road infrastructure and Transport	TF 3.1 Road Infrastructure and Transport Security	TF 4.1 Road Design Standards
(TF 1.2 HDM-4)	TF 2.2 Electric Road Systems		
TF 1.3 Well-Prepared Projects in LMICs			
Terminology Committee			
Road Statistics Committee			

Some organisation directions



PIARC and LMICs

- **PIARC covers High Income Countries as well as Low and Middle-Income Countries**
- **We take care to include LMIC-specific topics in the work of our Committees**
- **HICs as well as LMICs are represented on our decision-making bodies**
- **Support mechanisms are available:**
 - Special fund to cover part of the travel expenses of experts to PIARC events
 - Funding for PIARC seminars in LMICs



PIARC Partnerships

■ Objectives:

- Avoid duplication
- Share opinions
- Contribute to one another's activities (e.g. Strategic Plan)
- Promote our outputs

■ Examples:

- ITF
- World Bank
- Regional road organisations
- Etc.

■ Advisory Group



Gender inclusion and Diversity

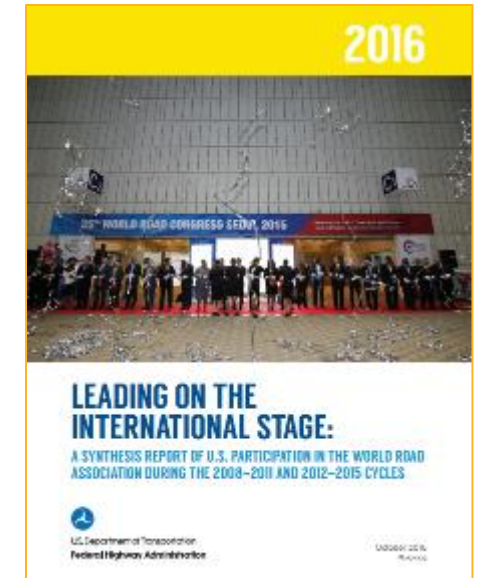
- **Gender inclusion and diversity were recently agreed as values for PIARC**
- **Practical actions will include:**
 - Encourage women's participation in PIARC activities
 - Cover gender-specific needs in the work of our Committees
 - Organise ad-hoc training and mentoring sessions

Conclusion



World Wide Knowledge exchange: The core of PIARC

- **Aimed at practitioners more than research**
- **International dialogue is more necessary than ever**
 - Efficient and Cost effective
 - Cf. FHWA report « Leading on the international stage » (2016)
- **PIARC mobilises international road and transport experts:**
 - We provide the network
 - Ad-hoc dialogue among peers
 - Showcasing national achievements
 - Learning from others
 - Building networks
 - Joint work towards commonly-agreed deliverables
- **Our outputs are open to all and widely accessible:**
 - Reports, Online tools, Workshops, Seminars, Congresses...



Advantages of being a member

- **Easy access to existing reports and to a wide network of colleagues**
- **In Committees, the country's experts can discuss with their peers**
 - Learn from them, Share national examples (promotion)
 - Develop common solutions or approaches to issues
 - Quick access to experts if you have an urgent problem (and it's free)
 - These exchanges are efficient : save time and money
- **Mobilize the national road community**
- **Take part in the strategy and management of PIARC**
- **International recognition and Influence**
- **Exhibit at the World Road Congresses**

Thank you for your attention!



Nazir Alli

PIARC President

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@PIARC_Roads



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www.piarc.org



Acronyms

- **TC: Technical Committee**
 - Sometimes also used for the Terminology Committee and the Road Statistics Committee
- **TF: Task Force**
- **STC: Strategic Theme Coordinator**
 - Oversees a Theme, i.e. a collection of TCs and TFs
- **SPC: Strategic Planning Commission**
 - Monitors the implementation of the Strategic Plan
- **ExCom: Executive Committee**
- **1D: First Delegate**
 - Main representative of a member country (e.g. Road Director)
- **GS: General Secretariat**