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EDITORIAL

FRIEDRICH ZOTTER

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Report of NC representative on Latin American Relations

On 30th March 2005 for the first time a joint meeting of PIARC Executive Committee and the Council of the Iberian and Ibero-American Road Directors (DIRCAIBEA) was held in Santiago, Chile. As representative of PIARC National Committees in the Executive Committee I took the opportunity to inform the present Latin American road directors about the importance of National Committees within PIARC and their role in the communication between countries and between PIARC bodies and member countries.

In respect to the aims of NCs - to channel the information from the Association to a national audience, to carry information of a national or regional situation to an international forum of experts, to support the First Delegate in his official function, to coordinate the representatives of a country in PIARC Technical Committees, to hold seminars on topics related to or concerning PIARC activities as well as joint seminars and events with other countries in the region - they are the fundamental backbone to ensure the exchange of information on an experts level.

Currently not so many NCs are established in Ibero-America, only Argentina and Mexico. Thus I asked the directors of Latin America to support the creation of

National Committees within their countries in order to strengthen the contacts on an expert level in parallel to the First Delegates contacts.

My visit and conversation with members of the board made me convinced, that the National Committee of Argentina is a very eligible example how an active performance of an NC in Latin America could be. Technical working groups are established, coordination is ensured by meetings of the board, seminars and conferences are organized, technical brochures published and bilateral contacts to neighboring countries and international relations to PIARC and other organizations are kept busy on various levels. And last but not least one could get easily access to the outcome of all those activities by a well structured homepage.

For those countries, who think it will be to early for the creation of a National Committee I may offer a step by step procedure. According to PIARC-Statutes the Association could recognise an existing organisation to act as an NC if it fullfills the major values particularly regarding the dissemination of the Association outputs and holding of seminars. Or, another option could be to name contact persons or institutions in order to discuss such initiatives for a fruitful benefit of the Association and its member countries as well.

As representative of National Committees in the Executive Committee I kindly like to offer my support in being a contact partner for these purposes.

Friedrich Zotter
Representative of PIARC National Committees

NATIONAL COMMITTEES MEETING IN BEIJING

The Annual Meeting of the conference of National Committees will take place in Beijing, China, 10th October 2005 at the occasion of the yearly council meeting. Main topics will be a summary presentation of the countries' activity reports, a status report on the Working Programme 2005-2008 of the NC representative, PIARC Newsletter and internet platform, actual needs of National Committees, PIARC Strategic Plan, cooperation and communication, events, publications and PIARC Congresses (Turin 2006, Paris 2007). All National Committees are very kindly invited to attend the meeting. Other members of the PIARC Council are welcome as guests as well.

PIARC PRIZES 2007

National Committees should support their First Delegate in starting a national PIARC prize competition within their countries by July 2005.

Entries may be entered based on one of the four themes:

- Construction, maintenance and operation of roads
- Road safety
- Sustainable development
- Communication

At the national level, each First Delegate is responsible for judging and determining the awards given by his/her country to the best entry in each of the four themes.

www.piarc.org/en/events/piarcprizes/

Your opinions and comments to

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

News

NRA NORDIC ROAD ASSOCIATION

The 70th Anniversary of NRA was celebrated on 17 June 2005 in Helsinki. The Chairman of the Latvian Road Administration, Mr. Talis Straume, accompanied by his colleagues from Estonia and Lithuania, expressed the congratulations of the Baltic Road Association (BRA), greetings from the Secretary General of PIARC were presented by George Racutanu.

www.nvfnorden.org

MEXICO

The representatives of the new Mexican National Committee are:

- **Mr Esteban Ambriz Reyes** (Chair)
Asociacion Mexicana de Ingenieria de Vias terrestres (AMIVTAC)
- **Mr Carlos Dominguez-Suarez** (secretary)
Asociacion Mexicana de Ingenieria de Vias terrestres (AMIVTAC)

amivtac@prodigy.net.mx

UNITED KINGDOM

A new Secretary General has been appointed: **Mr. John Smart** (The Institution of Highways & Transportation)

SPAIN

The Spanish National Committee is preparing the translation of the PIARC Road Safety Manual into the Spanish language.

ROMANIA

A new president has been elected: **Eng.Aurel Balut** (Head of the Professional Association of Roads and Bridges of Romania)

SWITZERLAND

A new president has been elected: **Mr. Claude Morzier** (Engineer Cantonal of Fribourg)

Events & conferences

ARGENTINA

14th Argentinian Congress of Road Transport and Traffic

2005 EXPOVIAL ARGENTINA

26th to 30th September, 2005, Buenos Aires

This fourteenth edition of the Argentinian Congress of Road Transport and Traffic will be held in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires' Exhibition Centre.

During the days 26th to 30th September, 2005, papers selected by the different Thematic Commissions will be alternated with conferences of guest specialists, special sessions and technical visits. Construction and consultant companies and equipment suppliers will show their products, technologies and services in a simultaneous exhibition. #

Courriel : congreso@aacarreteras.org.ar

<http://www.aacarreteras.org.ar>

<http://www.congresodevialidad.org.ar>

AUSTRALIA

Call for Papers on <http://www.impc.com.au/bringingthegap/>

A call for papers was announced for Austroads' 6th Bridge Conference 2006 "Bridging the Gap", to be held 12 - 15 September 2006 in Perth, Australia.

Deadline for the submission of papers is 30 September 2005.#

AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND

Australian - New Zealand meetings

In conjunction with a meeting of Committee 3.3 - Road Tunnel Operations, held in Sydney in May, a workshop was held with twenty four committee members and forty external people attended as well as a number of local road authority staff. Another TC meeting of Committee 2.2 Inter Urban Roads and Integrated Interurban Transport was held in Adelaide in April.

The Australian and New Zealand National Committee convened a meeting of Australian representatives on PIARC technical committees in July. The meeting was a follow up to an initial meeting held in early 2004 prior

to the first meetings of the current committees. The July meeting was to obtain feedback from the Australian representatives on technical committees and to identify any issues and actions that could be taken to improve the benefits of participation on technical committees. There was also some discussion on the Paris World Road Congress and special sessions to be conducted there. A similar meeting for New Zealand representatives on technical committees will be held in August.

The Australian - New Zealand National Committee will hold a meeting in July 2005.#

BELGIUM

Call for papers on www.concreteroads2006.org

A call for papers was announced for the 10th international Symposium on Concrete Roads, **18 - 22 September 2006 in Brussels.**#

BELGIUM to follow

Preview of XXth Belgian Road Congress Brussels, 28-30 September 2005

www.congresbelgedelaroute2005.be/pageFR01.html

The Belgian Road Congress is organized every four years between the PIARC world congresses. After Genval (Province of «Brabant wallon») in 2001, the XXth congress will be held in Brussels (Heysel) in September 2005. The President of the Congress will be ir J.-C. Moureau, General Director of the Administration of Equipment and Transport of the Region of Brussels-Capital. The Belgian Road Association will co-operate to the organization of this event. After 65 years of existence, the congress has asserted itself as a major event for all the professionals involved in the construction, management and operation of road infrastructure in Belgium.

It forms the outcome of several years of work round seven themes: mobility; safety; installations for cyclists and pedestrians, new techniques related to cement

concrete; new techniques related to asphalt; environment and waste materials; and finally socio-economic, budgetary, legal and administrative aspects. These are without any contest topical subjects for all actors in the road sector. These themes allow to examine the main issues and innovations that the Belgian road sector is facing. Research and innovation in the road sector remain indeed a priority for the managers of the various networks.

Besides the working sessions that will be held on these various topics with a view to drawing conclusions and recommendations for the future, technical visits and an exhibition will also be organized during the congress. The exhibition will allow firms or institutions offering products or services related to the themes of the congress to make themselves known directly to the participants.

The congress also ambitions to give the opportunity to participants from other regions or countries to (re)build contacts between specialists.#

ITALY

3rd SIIV International Congress

From 22nd to 24th September 2005 Bari (Apulia) will host the 3rd SIIV (Italian Company for Road Infrastructures) international Congress "People, Land, Environment and Transport Infrastructure, Reliability and Development".

For further information, the congress site is the following: www.siiv2005.com#

JAPAN

The 26th Japan Road Congress, Tokyo, 27-28 Oct. 2005 and the International Symposium

Since first held in 1952, the Japan Road Congress has been held every two years focusing on the future of Japan's road network. The Congress has contributed to the improvement of road policies and advancement of supporting technologies. About 3000 professionals, involved in road sector, will attend this event.

Six topics will be featured including "Building Road Assets," "Road Management, Repair, and Renewal," "Environment and Safety," "Road Administration Management," "Transportation and Transportation Planning," and "ITS" in the form of a panel discussion, oral presentation and poster session. In addition, a special lecture by a high-profile journalist will be presented. The Congress will take place at "Toshi Center Hotel." (2-4-1 Hirakawa-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo) The programme is conducted mainly in Japanese except for the International Symposium where simultaneous interpretation in English and Japanese is provided.

The International Symposium will also take place as a part of the above programme on 27 October, inviting the distinguished experts from PIARC Technical Committee (TC) 2.3 on Urban Areas and Integrated Urban Transport and PIARC TC3.2 on Risk Management. The aim of the symposium is to promote active exchange of ideas and knowledge in the field of road transport between international and national practitioners.

For registration and further information, please contact: info@road.or.jp

NORDIC ROAD ASSOCIATION

Putting research into use

On 26th and 27th September 2005 an international seminar entitled Implementation of Road Research in the Modern Road Administration will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark. To push forward the implementation of important research results, the Danish executive board of the Nordic Road Association, NRA, is hosting the seminar.

The intention behind the conference is to focus on bridging the gap between our different research and development projects and the eventual, practical use of the R&D results. This should be of immediate interest to researchers throughout the international road sector.

The goal of the two-day seminar is to provide recommendations and possible solutions on how research results can be transformed over national, social and

professional borders into practical use to benefit the road community. Keynote presentations at the seminar will include the following topics:

Implementation of research results – from an EU perspective, FEHRL visions for road research, Practical implementation of research results – a case study, Asset management in the Danish Road Directorate and finally the research strategy of the Danish Road Directorate. The core of the seminar is four technical workshops where the participants are encouraged to discuss ways of implementing research in the fields of road pavements, bridges, performance modelling and road condition monitoring. #

<http://nvf.vejdirektoratet.dk/dept.asp?page=dept&objno=72913>
ghb@vd.dk or bjs@vd.dk

SPAIN

Preview on the 4th Symposium of Tunnels, 28 October 2005, Sant Julià del Lòria, Andorra

The IV Symposium of Tunnels continues the series of the National Symposiums of Tunnels in Spain. Andorra will be the host of the Symposium this year. Approximately 500 delegates are expected to attend the congress during the three days of the congress, 26 to 28 October 2005, in Sant Julià del Lòria.

The theme Why are the tunnels safe? includes topics as centralized technical management, automatic incident

detection, ventilation systems, fire suppression, human factors, operation manual, etc.

The delegates will also be the jury of the II Road and Rail Tunnels Photographs Contest. Everybody can take part until 20 September, following the rules displayed in <http://www.atc-AIPCR.com/html/concurso2.html>

<http://www.atc-AIPCR.com/html/tunel05/index.html>
<http://www.atc-AIPCR.com>
ghb@vd.dk or bjs@vd.dk

UNITED KINGDOM

United Kingdoms National Congress 2005

On Thursday 9 June 2005 at the Burlington Hotel in Birmingham, the United Kingdoms national committee held its four yearly congress. The event saw the launch of the UK committee's new logo and with a title of "UK Roads - instep with the world?" the objective of the congress was to bring together international and national speakers to talk about their vision of the future, the way forward for UK roads and what is being achieved in the key areas of road safety and managing demand. By setting the UK's road transport issues in the context of the wider international experience the delegates were given the opportunity to learn about ideas and establish best practice that will help the transportation profession deliver better road transport for the UK.

The keynote speech was delivered by the Minister of State for Transport Dr Stephen Ladyman MP who commended the work of PIARC in disseminating knowledge and experience around the globe.

The congress's delegates, who in themselves offered lively debate during the question sessions heard from a number of eminent speakers on current topics such as road charging, the future use of technology and HOV lanes. However the most inspiring presentation was delivered by Chris Luebke, Director for Global Foresight & Innovation, ARUP who spoke about Change and the future.

A very successful day was summed up in a closing speak by the Institution of Highways and Transportation's President David Hutchinson.

www.piarc.co.uk/

Activities

THE NORDIC ROAD ASSOCIATION (NRA) - COOPERATION WITH THE BALTIC ROAD ASSOCIATION (BRA)

The Nordic Road Association was founded in 1935 with model taken from PIARC and its congresses which were attended by Nordic road experts. They agreed that a closer cooperation between the PIARC congresses would strengthen the position of the Nordic countries in a global perspective. This is still one of the main pillars of the Nordic cooperation.

The main work is done in 15 "permanent" committees and some theme groups dealing with topical issues of the period. All committees work both on a national level and a Nordic level. They consist of some 10 members/country/committee. The chair of the committees changes every 4 years, balanced between the countries. The Committees make studies and do benchmarking. They arrange seminars on a Nordic level but also 2-3 seminars/year together with the committees of the Baltic Road Association (BRA).

The NRA is led by a Board consisting of the chairmen, vice chairman and secretaries of the national Boards. The chair is also rotating in periods of 4 years and is now in Finland. The period ends with a congress (Via Nordica). The 20th NRA congress is to be held in Helsinki in June 2008.

The paying members of NRA are public and private organisations and companies, universities, research centres, associations etc.

Please read more about NRA on our home page

www.nvfnorden.org

RELATION TO PIARC

An agreement of understanding was signed between PIARC and NRA in 1992 and renewed in Kuala Lumpur in 1996. According to the agreement NRA is placing a senior adviser in the head office of PIARC, one year at a time.

In practise NRA has had a mandate in the Executive Committee of PIARC. The chairman of NRA has represented all Nordic member countries in the EC.

Nordic experts are active members of the Technical Committees. The nominations of Nordic persons as chairmen of TCs are discussed and agreed upon within the NRA. The importance of exchange of information between the committees of PIARC and NRA is strongly pointed out to the Nordic members.

The Nordic sections of NRA have been offered the position as NCs within PIARC. NRA is extremely pleased with this situation, where the national sections have a «loose» connection to the PIARC, giving the same information to NRA as to the NCs.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE BALTIC ROAD ASSOCIATION

There are frequent contacts between both Associations on various levels. The boards are meeting together regularly as well as BRA members are participating in NRA technical committee meetings. One of these meetings took place at the occasion of the 70th Anniversary of NRA on 17 June 2005 in Helsinki, when representatives of all Baltic states were present.

Furthermore NRA arranged in co-operation with the Baltic Road Association (BRA)

a seminar on «Co-operation between State Road Administrations and Other Road Administrations» in Copenhagen on 31 May-1 June 2005 and 2nd Seminar on Restructuring Road Management in Visby on 15-16 September 2005. These seminars are planned for experts and decision makers from the Baltic and Nordic Countries.

www.balticroads.org/

AUSTRALIA – NEW ZEALAND

New Australian and New Zealand Guide to Project Evaluation

Austrroads, which works in conjunction with the Australian and New Zealand National Committee of PIARC, has produced a new Guide to Project Evaluation. The Austrroads Guide to Project Evaluation Parts 1 to 8 is a dynamic system of evaluation methods, which provides guidance on good practice, a consistent approach to key data used in analysis, and state-of-the-art tools to assist transport agencies and practitioners charged with the task of evaluating projects in the roads sector.

The eight parts of the guide assemble knowledge on project evaluation methods, parameters and tools into a readily available and accessible resource for planners and decision-makers. The guide offers guidance to practitioners seeking advice for 'beyond the standard benefit-cost analysis (BCA) or multi-criteria analysis (MCA)' evaluations, that is, project risk assessment, the national and regional impacts of projects, distributional (equity) effects of projects, and project post-evaluation analysis.

Parts 1 to 7 of the Guide to Project Evaluation series are now available through the Austrroads publications website at: <http://www.onlinepublications.austrroads.com.au/script/home.asp>

Part 8 of the series is due for release late in 2005. This Austrroads guide is complementary to the «National Guidelines for Transport System Management in Australia» recently published by the Australian Transport Council, and available at: <http://www.atcouncil.gov.au/documents/NGTSM.aspx> (ATC 2005). The ATC National Guidelines are multi-modal in nature, with the first edition focusing on non-urban land transport planning and infrastructure investment analysis. The ATC Guidelines will be used by the Australian Government for its AusLink program.

Access to the Austrroads publications website is available to the general public as well as Austrroads members. Users are able to order and purchase publications online in either electronic or hardcopy format. Many Austrroads publications, including research reports are available for free as PDF downloads. All users can also register to receive notifications on new releases and updates.

austrroads@austrroads.com.au

MAGAZINES OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES

- . Routes et Transports (Canada-Quebec)
- . Rutas (Spain)
- . Strasse und Verkehr (Switzerland)

- . Le Strade (Italy)
- . Doro (Roads) (Japan)
- . **Roads and Bridges (Romania), below.**

REPORT ABOUT THE MAGAZINE apdp@ir.ro

Starting with 1991 the Romanian Professional Association of Roads and Bridges is publishing a "Roads - Bridges" magazine, in 48 pages. Since the year 2003 it has a monthly apparition and has an internal circulation of 1,500 copies. The magazine is addressing to all Romanian Association members and has the following permanent main columns:

EDITORIAL

INFORMATION – upon meetings f.e. with the chiefs of the National Road Stations

STRATEGIES, PROSPECTS and TOPICAL INTEREST – the public-private partnership, traffic safety in present, streets construction in the residential district etc.

TECHNOLOGIES, TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS – in road and pavement construction

INVESTMENTS and LEGISLATION – Quality legislation as a guarantee for road infrastructure development

"Roads and Bridges"

MANAGEMENT – Considerations over the present study of research regarding the management of road infrastructure quality

RESTORATIONS and REHABILITATIONS –The problem of Romanian roads in general and in specific cases: restoration of one third of the Bucharest ring road

ENVIRONMENT – Breaking up of the natural habitats
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH – f.e. Informatics application

EMPLOYERS – An active and efficient presence

BRIDGES – Wide open cantilever bridges of prestressed concrete f.e.

URBAN ROADS and HIGHWAYS – Bucharest – Constanta highway f.e.

EVENTS – Technical meetings, seminars and conferences

WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT ... - column

PORTRAITS and ANNIVERSARIES#

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PIARC Congresses and Seminars

XIITH PIARC INTERNATIONAL WINTER ROAD CONGRESS,

TURIN, 28-30 MARCH 2006

<http://aipcr2006.it/>

STATUS REPORT ON PREPARATIONS

The Italian Organising Committee is carrying on its activity for preparing the Congress whose main theme is "Keeping Road Users on the Move in Winter".



Circular n. 3 is going to be distributed, the Exhibitors' Manual is under way and the internet site www.aipcr.2006.it is periodically updated as well as the Exhibition Pavillon.

The Italian Minister of Infrastructure and Transport, Mr. Pietro Lunardi and the General Secretariat welcomed the IOC suggestion to hold the Ministers Session on March 28th 2006 at the Auditorium of Centro Congressi Lingotto. It is

the first time in the history of the Winter Road Congresses and it is for us a great pleasure to promote the orientations of the Strategic Plan that underlined the need to ensure Winter Road Congresses the same significance as World Congresses.

As for the Exhibition, IOC solicited member Countries to participate in the Exhibition Pavillion and to reserve the areas in order to profit of this important show provided by the Exhibition. Apart from Italy, till now the following countries gave their adhesion: Quebec, Northern Countries (Norway, Iceland, Sweden, Finland, Denmark), France, Switzerland, Austria, Japan, United States.

7 technical visits have been planned in order to illustrate the organisation systems, maintenance and management methods of roads in winter.#

CANADA - QUEBEC

Canada-Quebec has indicated being a candidate to host the XIIIth PIARC International Winter Road Congress 2010 in the city of Quebec. The decision will be taken at the Council meeting in Beijing.

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Prepared for December 2005

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- **Argentina:** Review of the 14th Argentinian Road Congress EXPOVIAL 2005, 24 – 28 October 2005
- **Australia:** Report on the Newsletter of Austroads
- **Belgium:** Review of XXth Belgian Road Congress – Brussels, 28-30 September 2005
- **Central Europe:** Regional Meeting of National Committees, Vienna

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