



ANNUAL REPORT

October 2007 – October 2008

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1 President's Foreword and Overview

In the year since the Paris Congress, over fifty technical reports from PIARC's eighteen Technical Committees on their work over the last four-year cycle have been published or finalised for translation and publication in the immediate future. Collectively, these reports document world best practice, state-of-the-art knowledge and developing trends across the rich tapestry of issues facing road transport in this first decade of the 21st century.

When I was elected President of the World Road Association in Montpellier four years ago, I identified **five major challenges** facing PIARC at that time. As we approach the end of the cycle, I am delighted that the first of these, ***maintaining the momentum in the excellent work of the Technical Committees***, has been well met. Further, with a smooth transition to the eighteen new Technical Committees following the Paris Congress, and the quick start they have made on developing their work programs for the new cycle, the momentum continues unabated.

Through an extensive consultation process under the guidance and leadership of the Strategic Planning Commission, a new Strategic Plan has been developed to guide the work of PIARC from 2008 to 2011. The main directions of the Strategic Plan were approved at the Paris Council meeting in 2007, and formal approval of the full plan is being sought at the 2008 Council meeting in Marrakech.

The major issues identified in this new plan - climate change, sustainable mobility, safety for all road users, good governance, efficient operations and service delivery, appropriate infrastructure to meet user needs, and innovation and effective deployment of technology – have grown from those in the previous plan, reflecting the changes of emphasis over the last four years.

The eighteen Technical Committees and their terms of reference have been established specifically to address the road and road transport goals in the plan and to deliver the designated outcomes. As before, the Technical Committees have been grouped into four Strategic Themes – Sustainability of the Road Transport System, Improving Provision of Services, Safety of the Road System, and Quality of Road Infrastructure – each to be guided and coordinated by a member of the Executive Committee.

As I approach the end of my term as President, it is appropriate in this, my last report to Council that I should also review the Association's progress in addressing the other four challenges that I put forward in Montpellier, and outline the plans that have been developed to continue the work into the new cycle from now until 2011.

Enhancing the effectiveness of information gathering, dissemination and exchange was the second challenge. This has been well met through increasingly embracing electronic media; strengthening and unifying the structure and format of technical reports and making them available free on the internet; revamping the Routes/Roads magazine into a more attractive and readable format and maintaining the quality of its contents; greater use of National Committees for gathering and disseminating information.

In addition, 24 seminars have been held in developing countries and countries in economic transition across a wide spectrum of road and road transport issues, with leadership and input from almost all Technical Committees, and coordinated by the Commission on Technological Exchanges and Development. These seminars reached a wide audience and were well received.



The new Strategic Plan calls for continuation of the successful seminar program, and of all the new Technical Committees are currently actively engaged in planning the seminars they will lead in the 2008-2011 cycle. Also, the number of National Committees continues to grow, and their active involvement in the work of PIARC in their respective countries and regions continues to increase, with strong encouragement from the Conference of National Committees and its representative on the Executive Committee and from the General Secretariat.

Thirdly, *the profile of PIARC has been raised*: in a number of developing countries through the seminar program, in other countries through the formation of new or reinvigorated National Committees, and through closer relations with regional associations, particularly with Ibero-American countries through DIRCAIBEA and with Asian countries through REAAA. More generally, PIARC's new logo, approved at the Paris Council meeting, has been introduced in 2008, and is already becoming widely recognised as symbolising the premier global body for the exchange of knowledge and information on road and road transport matters.

Raising the profile of PIARC relates closely to the fourth challenge, namely *increasing membership and lifting the level of activity of current members*. Progress against this challenge has been slow, but encouraging. Whilst overall membership remains substantially constant, the number of member countries has increased, as has the number of National Committees. Importantly, we are pleased to see a significant increase in the level of membership activity and participation from several countries.

Nevertheless, there are a number of countries and regions where involvement remains dormant. Increasing membership and the active involvement of members has been specifically identified in the new Strategic Plan. To address this issue in the new cycle, a new Commission on Communication and International Relations has been established, combining the work of the previous Communications Commission with the excellent work that needs to be continued from the one-term International Relations Commission. Specifically, in addition to continuing to implement the Communications Strategy and Action Plan for PIARC previously approved by Council, the new Commission has been charged with developing a Marketing Strategy and Action Plan for PIARC to address issues of membership and relations with relevant international organisations.

Fifthly, changes have been implemented that have succeeded in *arresting a long-term, slow decline in the Association's financial resources*, and I am pleased to be able to report that the Association's current and projected financial situation now appears to be sound. Nevertheless, the Finance Commission will still need to, and has been charged with, keeping a close watch on both income and expenditure, specifically the setting of appropriate membership fees and ensuring satisfactory financial arrangements in regard to World and International Winter Road Congresses.

The most significant event in the PIARC calendar is of course the four-yearly World Road Congress. The Centenary Congress held in Paris one year ago was an outstanding success in every way. Again, I congratulate and thank our host country, France for this wonderful Congress. Since then, much of the work of the last year has focused on collecting and documenting the results of the Congress, and taking those results into account in planning and commencing the work ahead leading to the next International Winter Road Congress in Quebec in 2010 and the next World Road Congress in Mexico in 2011.



As I approach the end of my Presidency, I believe the World Road Association (PIARC) can proudly celebrate a century of achievement and service in its centenary year in 2009. I am confident that it is in good health, and will be in good hands, to continue its role of bringing knowledge of the state-of-the-art and best practices on all road and road transport matters to every corner of the globe for the benefit of humankind.

That I am able to say this with confidence is due to the commitment, cooperation and contribution of many hundreds of people who have served on Technical Committees, Commissions, National Committees, the Executive Committee and Council, and in organising and delivering Congresses and seminars. To them all, I offer my deep gratitude, but most especially to the Secretary General and his staff in the Paris office, not only for their good work, but also for the personal support and friendship shown to me, without which I could not have done my job as President.



Finally, I am sure the same support and friendship will be shown to the incoming President and Executive Committee, ensuring their success, and I wish them every good fortune as they guide the Association over the next four challenging years.

Colin JORDAN

President of the World Road Association (PIARC)

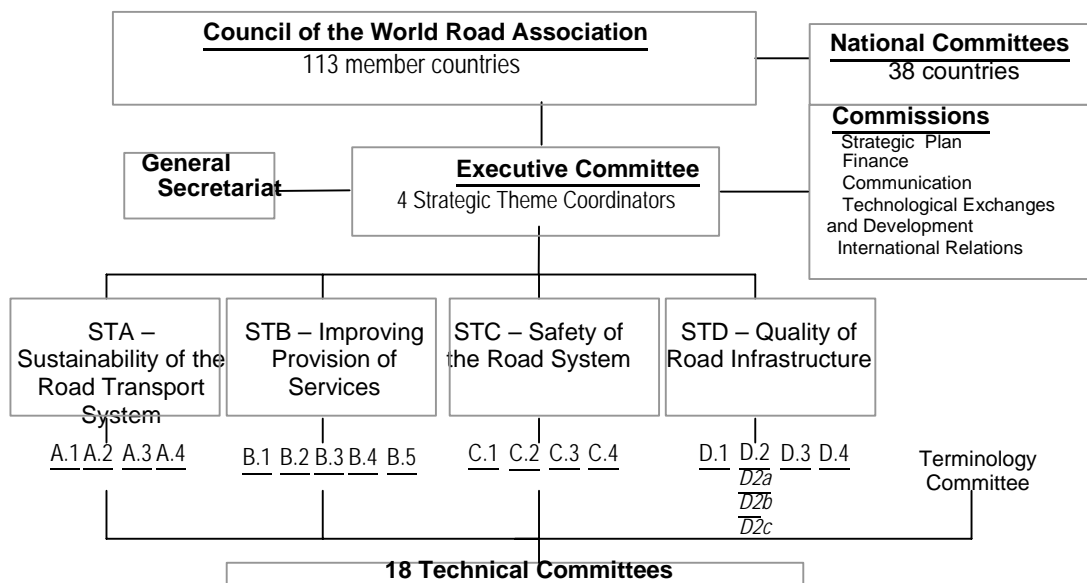


2 PIARC in 2008

2.1 Organization

The World Road Association (PIARC), a non-profit organization, was formed in 1909. PIARC is the oldest international association concerned with road policy, road technology and management of road networks. PIARC holds a unique place as an international forum for information exchange and discussion of all issues related to road infrastructure and transport. The current structure of the organization is presented below.

PIARC Structure as at 1st October 2008



2.2 Governing Bodies

The overall responsibility for the Association is in the hands of the World Road Association Council. At the Council meeting on 15 September 2007 in Paris (France), 116 delegates, representing 41 member countries were present.

As at 1st October 2008, the Executive Committee comprises the following membership:

- President: Colin JORDAN (Australia),
- Immediate Past President: Olivier MICHAUD (Switzerland),
- Vice-Presidents: Francisco CRIADO BALLESTEROS (Spain) and Anne-Marie LECLERC (Canada-Quebec).
- Members: Nazir ALLI (South Africa), Ginny CLARKE (United Kingdom), Dong-chang DAI (People's Republic of China), Oscar DE BUEN RICHKARDAY (Mexico), Mario FERNANDEZ RODRIGUEZ (Chile), Riccardo FORMICA (Italy), Menno HENNEVELD (Australia), Jukka HIRVELÄ (Finland), Keiichi INOUE (Japan), Dato' Ir. Dr. JUDIN bin Abdul Karim (Malaysia), Gheorge LUCACI (Romania), Carlo MARIOTTA (Switzerland), Jean-Mathieu MBAUCAUD (Congo), Télé David OLODO (Benin), Julio Cesar ORDIZ ANDINO (Argentina), Peter PENGAL (Slovenia), Claude VAN ROOTEN (Belgium), and Friedrich ZOTTER (Austria), Representative of the Conference of National Committees.
- Jean-François CORTÉ, Secretary General.

During 2008 the Executive Committee has received three resignations resulting from changes in position.

- Wolfgang HAHN (Germany),
- Eero KARJALUOTO (Finland),
- Patrice PARISÉ (France).

Five Commissions, chaired by nominated members of the Executive Committee, assist the activities of the Executive Committee:

- Strategic Planning Commission, chaired by Ginny CLARKE (United Kingdom),
- Finance Commission, chaired by Carlo MARIOTTA (Switzerland),
- Communications Commission, chaired by Claude VAN ROOTEN (Belgium),
- Commission on Technological Exchanges and Development, chaired by Oscar De BUEN RICHKARDAY (Mexico),
- Commission on International Relations, chaired by Olivier MICHAUD (Switzerland).

2.3 Members

There are five categories of PIARC members: national governments, regional authorities, collective members, individual members and honorary members.

As at 1st November 2008 PIARC member countries include **113 national member governments** from around the world. Approximately two thirds of the member countries are developing countries or countries in transition. There are approximately 2,000 other members (about half of which are individual members) from nearly 140 countries.

During 2008, two new membership applications were received: the Republic of Moldavia (February 2008) and the Republic of Niger (March 2008).

PIARC National Member Governments (1st October 2008)

ALGERIA	COTE D'IVOIRE	KOREA (Rep.)	RUSSIA
ANDORRA	CROATIA	KUWAIT	SALVADOR (EI)
ANGOLA	CUBA	LATVIA	SAUDI ARABIA
ARGENTINA	CZECH Rep.	LITHUANIA	SENEGAL
AUSTRALIA	DENMARK	LUXEMBOURG	SLOVAK REPUBLIC
AUSTRIA	DOMINICAN Rep.	MADAGASCAR	SLOVENIA
AZERBAIJAN	ECUADOR	MALAYSIA	SOUTH AFRICA
BANGLADESH	EGYPT	MALI	SPAIN
BELGIUM	ESTONIA	MAURITANIA	SRI LANKA
BENIN	FINLAND	MAURITIUS	SWAZILAND
BHUTAN	FRANCE	MEXICO	SWEDEN
BOLIVIA	GABON	MONGOLIA	SWITZERLAND
BRAZIL	GERMANY	MOROCCO	SYRIA
BULGARIA	GHANA	NAMIBIA	TANZANIA
BURKINA FASO	GREECE	NEPAL	THAILAND
BURUNDI	GUATEMALA	THE NETHERLANDS	TOGO
CAMBODIA	GUINEA	NEW ZEALAND	TONGA
CAMEROON	HONDURAS	NICARAGUA	TUNISIA
CANADA	HUNGARY	NORWAY	TURKEY
CANADA-QUEBEC	ICELAND	PAKISTAN	UGANDA
CAPE VERDE	INDIA	PANAMA	UKRAINE
CHAD	INDONESIA	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	UNITED KINGDOM
CHILE	IRAN	PARAGUAY	UNITED STATES
CHINA (PEOP. REP.)	IRELAND	PERU	URUGUAY
COLOMBIA	ISRAEL	PHILIPPINES	UZBEKISTAN
CONGO (REP.)	ITALY	POLAND	VENEZUELA
CONGO (DEM REP)	JAPAN	PORTUGAL	VIET NAM
COSTA RICA	KENYA	ROMANIA	YEMEN
			ZIMBABWE

2.4 National Committees

Member countries may decide to create a National Committee to represent PIARC on a national level, to contribute towards ensuring more participation in the activities of PIARC and to ensure more effective distribution of the work of PIARC. The representatives of the National Committees meet once a year in conjunction with the Council meeting.

As at 1st October 2008, PIARC has National Committees or organizations acting in the capacity of a PIARC National Committee (Austroads and the Nordic Road Association-NVF) in 38 countries.

PIARC National Committees (as at 1st October 2008)

Algeria	Canada	Japan	Portugal
Argentina	Canada-Quebec	Korea (Rep.)	Romania
Austroads (<i>Australia, New Zealand</i>)	Congo (Rep.)	Madagascar	Senegal
Austria	Czech Republic	Mali	Slovak Republic
Belgium	France	Mexico	Slovenia
Benin	Germany	Morocco	Spain
Burkina Faso	Greece	NVF (<i>Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden</i>)	Switzerland
Cameroon	Hungary		United Kingdom
	India		
	Italy		

2.5 General Secretariat

As at 1st October 2008, the PIARC General Secretariat includes:

- a Secretary General and a Deputy Secretary General seconded by France,
- five Technical Advisers seconded from Austroads, Côte d'Ivoire, Japan, the Nordic Road Association (NVF) and Spain, for a period ranging from nine months to two years,
- seven permanent staff who are remunerated by PIARC, including one in recruitment process.

For the past year, the movements among the technical advisers were as follows:

- Masaki TSUBOUCHI (Japan) replaced Masamitsu WAGA (Japan) in 2008;
- Arve KIRKEVOLD (NVF, Norway) has been replaced by Fredrik FRIBERG (NVF, Sweden) from October 2007;
- Leanne GRANT (Austroads, Australia) has been replaced by Michelle BARAN (Austroads, Australia) from June 2008;
- Miguel CASO-FLOREZ (Spain) has been working at the General Secretariat since September 2005;
- Toussaint AGUY (Côte d'Ivoire) has been working at the General Secretariat since January 2007.

3 Strategic Plan 2008-2011

The 2008-2011 PIARC Strategic Plan, submitted for approval at the Council meeting in Marrakech, sets whole-of-organization objectives and structures the activities of the Technical Committees in four “Strategic Themes”, each one led by a coordinator nominated by the Executive Committee.

The Strategic Themes for the 2008-2011 period

Strategic Theme A - Sustainability of the Road Transport System	
Objective	Encourage the development of road transport policies and programmes that result in beneficial community outcomes for sustainable and safe mobility in economic, environmental and social terms, with special attention paid to energy issues and the mitigation of the impacts on climate from the road transport system.
Coordinator	
Strategic Theme B - Improving Provision of Services	
Objective	Encourage the improvement of services provided to the community by improved operation of the road transport system, integration with other transport modes, good governance and a customer-oriented approach.
Coordinator	<i>Keiichi INOUE (Japan)</i>
Strategic Theme C - Safety of the Road System	
Objective	Improve the safety and efficiency of the road system, including the movement of people and goods on the network, while effectively managing the risks associated with road transport operations and the natural environment.
Coordinator	<i>Mary PHILLIPS (United States)</i>
Strategic Theme D - Quality of Road Infrastructure	
Objective	Improve the quality of road infrastructure through the effective management of assets in accordance with user expectations and managers' requests.
Coordinator	<i>Anne-Marie LECLERC (Canada-Quebec)</i>

The following table summarises the titles, Chairs and Secretaries of the 18 PIARC Technical Committees. Seventeen Technical Committees are associated with one of the four Strategic Themes, while the Committee on Terminology falls under the guardianship of the General Secretariat.

For the current cycle of activities, all Committees now have a Spanish-speaking Secretary, as well as an English-speaking and a French-speaking Secretary.

The first meetings of the new Committees were organized in Paris in March-April 2008, in four series of meetings, one for each Strategic Theme. The meetings were attended by more than 400 participants from 43 PIARC member countries.

**Chairs and Secretaries of PIARC Technical Committees, 2008-2011 cycle**

	Chairs	French-speaking Secretary	English-speaking Secretary	Spanish-speaking Secretary
Terminology	Daniel VERFAILLIE (BE)		Martin LAMB (UK)	Cristina HIGUERA (ES)
ST A - Sustainability of the Road Transport System				
A.1 Preserving the Environment	Simon PRICE (UK)	Agnès JULLIEN (FR)	Lisa ROSSITER (NZ)	Juan Fernando MENDOZA (MX)
A.2 Financing, Managing and Contracting of Road System Investment	Henri CHUA (UK)	Samira IRSANE-SEMAAN (FR)	Martin FLETCHER (NZ)	Gerardo GAVILANES (ES)
A.3 Road System Economics and Social Development	Alberto COMPTE (ES)	Maxime JEBALI (FR)		Guillermo TORRES (MX)
A.4 Rural Road Systems and Accessibility to Rural Areas	Dennis ROSSMANN (SA)	Tiraogo OUEDRAOGO (BF)	Eric SICKAM (PG)	Enrique Leon DE LA BARRA (MEX)
ST B - Improving Provision of Services				
B.1 Good Governance of Road Administrations	Paul VAN DER KROON (NL)	André BERNARD (FR)	Brendan NUGENT (AUS)	Carmen PICON (ES)
B.2 Road Network Operations	Martial CHEVREUIL (FR)	Alexis BACELAR (FR)	Richard HARRIS (UK)	Juan Othon MORENO (MX)
B.3 Improved Mobility in Urban Areas	Hubert PEIGNE (FR)	Marc ELLENBERG (FR)	Anita CURNOW (AU)	Cecilia OLAGUE (MX)
B.4 Freight Transport and Inter Modality	Hans SILBORN (NO)	Benoit CAYOUPETTE (CA-QC)	Cecil SELNESS (US)	Ester FERNANDEZ -(ES)
B.5 Winter Service	Gudrun OBERG (SE)	Didier GILOPPE (FR)	Paul PISANO (US)	José DEL PINO ALVAREZ (ES)
ST C - Safety of the Road System				
C.1 Safer Road Infrastructure	H.J. VOLLPRACHT (DE)	Lise FOURNIER (CA-QC)	John DOUGLAS (AU)	Roberto LLAMAS (ES)
C.2 Safer Road Operations	Ahmad FAHRAN Mohd Sadullah (MY)		Chang Kyun KIM (KR)	Jesus LEAL (ES)
C.3 Managing Operational Risk in Road Operations	Michio OKAHARA (JP)	Johanne LEGAULT (CA-QC)	Roly FROST (NZ)	Gustavo MORENO (MX)
C.4 Road Tunnel Operations	Pierre SCHMITZ (B)	Alexandre DEBS (CA-QC)	Robin HALL (UK)	Ignacio DEL REY (ES)
ST D - Quality of Road Infrastructure				
D.1 Management of Road Infrastructure Assets	Anita KÜNKEL-HENKER (DE)	Ghislaine BAILLEMONT (FR)	Mick LORENZ (AU)	Jose ORTIZ (CO)
D.2 Road Pavements	Michel BOULET (FR)	Guy TREMBLAY (CA-QC)	Suneel N. VANIKAR (US)	
<i>D.2.a. Road surface characteristics</i>	Francesca LA TORRE (IT)	Luc-Amaury GEORGE (FR)	Peter BRYANT (AU)	Rodolfo TELLEZ (MX)
<i>D.2.b Flexible and semi-rigid pavements</i>	David HEIN (CA)	Marie-Thérèse GOUX (FR)	Hyun Jong LEE (KR)	Rafael LIMON LIMON (MX)
<i>D.2.c Concrete pavements</i>	Raymond DEBROUX (BE)	Robert MESNARD (FR)	Anne-Séverine POUPELEER (BE)	Juan José OROZCO (MX)
D.3 Road Bridges	Satoshi KASHIMA (JP)	Pierre GILLES (BE)	Brian HICKS (CA)	Pablo DIAZ (ES)
D.4 Geotechnics and Unpaved Roads	Martin SAMSON (CA)	Jean-Claude AURIOL (FR)	Alex KIDD (UK)	Paul GARNICA (MX)



4 Activities over the October 2007 – October 2008 period

4.1 Executive Committee

The Executive Committee administers the Association, conforming to the guidance and decisions approved by the Council. In the course of this year, meetings were held on 12-13 February 2008 in Quebec City (Canada-Quebec) and on 12 June 2008 in Helsinki (Finland).

The Executive Committee has among others proceeded to designate Chairs of Technical Committees for the 2008-2011 cycle (Quebec City meeting) and has finalized the Strategic Plan of the Association for the 2008-2011 period (Helsinki meeting).

In addition, the Helsinki meeting reached consensus on the proposed modifications to the statutory documents of the Association (Statutes, Internal Rules), which are submitted to the Council for approval, and the updating of the PIARC member Guide (Blue Guide).

4.1.1 Strategic Planning Commission

The Strategic Planning Commission met on 26-27 November 2007 in London (United Kingdom) and on 11 June 2008 in Helsinki (Finland).

These two meetings were held following the Paris Council meeting in 2007. The main tasks completed were to finalize the General Report of the Paris Congress; to prepare the text of the 2008-2011 Strategic Plan, by incorporating the input from the first Technical Committee meetings held in Paris in March-April 2008; and identify proposed modifications to the statutory documents.

4.1.2 Finance Commission

The Finance Commission met in May and September 2008 in Zurich (Switzerland) and in Rome (Italy) respectively. The meetings were aimed at reviewing:

- the financial situation of PIARC over the 2004-2007 period,
- the accounts of the current year 2008,
- the draft budget for 2009.

4.1.3 Communication Commission

The Communication Commission met on 13 February 2008 in Quebec City (Canada-Quebec). The Commission has mainly focused on the future changes in its activities as a result of the integration of the Communication Commission and the Commission on International Relations.

4.1.4 Commission on Technological Exchanges and Development

The Commission met on 12 February 2008 in Quebec City (Canada-Quebec) and in Marrakech on 27 October 2008. On that occasion an assessment was made of the Directory of Professional Training Organizations, which was introduced on the PIARC website on the occasion of the Paris Congress, featuring 30 organizations from 15 countries. In addition, the PIARC Road Knowledge Support System (RKSS) concept was further discussed.



4.1.5 Commission on International Relations

Together with the Executive Committee and the General Secretariat, the Commission has continued its efforts to recruit new members and develop links with other international organizations. For this Council meeting, this is reflected by:

- the membership application submitted by Moldavia and Niger,
- the proposed framework for an agreement with REAAA, *Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia*.

The meeting in Quebec City gave the opportunity to assess the progress of the eleven partnership agreements that PIARC has signed with international or regional organizations in the road sector (list in Annex 3).

4.2 Conference of the PIARC National Committees

Friedrich ZOTTER (Austria), Chairman of the Conference of National Committees, provided the impetus for the activities of the Conference of National Committees which have continued over the past twelve months, and contacts have been further undertaken in order to encourage the creation of new National Committees.



The activities are supported by the Newsletter of PIARC National Committees, a link between the National Committees and a tool to promote the activities of the various PIARC National Committees. It is a quarterly newsletter published in English, French and Spanish. It is formatted by the General Secretariat prior to the publication on

the website and the dissemination.¹

4.3 General Secretariat

In addition to the administrative support provided by the General Secretariat to the Association's bodies, the day-to-day running of the Association, the publication of the quarterly magazine of the Association, *Routes/Roads*, over the past year, it is worth pointing out the following actions in particular (detailed in the following pages):

- **participation in the 23rd World Road Congress** - supervision and support to the technical programme process; organizing the PIARC pavilion in the exhibition; production and dissemination of the DVD of Congress proceedings² in the three official languages of the Congress: English, French and Spanish (see paragraph 4.4);
- **cooperation with partner associations and institutions** - follow-up and development of new actions (see paragraph 4.8);
- **publication of Technical Committee reports from the 2004-2007 cycle** (see paragraph 4.7);
- **launching the activities of Technical Committees for the 2008-2011 cycle** - call for nomination of members to the Technical Committees, organization of the first meetings and providing support to the new Technical Committees (see paragraph 4.5.1);

¹ Issue number 14 of the Letter of National Committees was released in September 2008.

² This DVD contains information on the Congress and the exhibition, the documents prepared for the 45 sessions and the presentation files; the 2007 PIARC activity report; the general report and the detailed conclusions of the sessions; the winning essays of the PIARC Prize competition, etc.



• **communications policy**

- ✓ *implementation of the use of the Association's new logo* adopted by the Council meeting in Paris. The logo was unveiled by President Jordan at the Congress and has been in general use on all communication media of the Association. A note on the use of the new logo was circulated to all National Committees;³
- ✓ *redesign of the PIARC website:* public area, members' area, and workspaces for the new Technical Committees (see para 4.6).



- **HDM-4 software for road investment analysis:** the Spanish language edition is currently in preparation process.

4.4 PIARC Congresses

4.4.1 XXIIIrd World Road Congress, Paris, 17-21 September 2007

The 23rd World Road Congress gathered more than 3,500 participants from 121 countries, under the general theme « The Choice for Sustainable Development », which was developed during the 45 half-day sessions (Technical Committee sessions, Special Sessions) organized at the Congress, in accordance with the scientific programme developed by PIARC.



The ministers' session was attended by approximately 60 ministers. They participated in three roundtable discussions on the topic of "User charging: potential and limits".

All PIARC bodies brought their contribution to the Congress events, namely to the Strategic Direction Sessions, Technical Committee sessions, Terminology workshops, awarding of the prizes for the PIARC Prize Competition, introduction of the Directory of Professional Training Organizations in the road sector.

Moreover, more than 1,500 participants took part in the Congress exhibition, which attracted 200 exhibitors approximately, including 16 national pavilions of member countries. The PIARC exhibition presented in a single room the products of the Association (website, publications, HDM-4 software) and the activities of PIARC National Committees, with presentation sessions held throughout the Congress.



Lastly, the Congress provided an opportunity to strengthen the actions undertaken in cooperation with other organizations. In conjunction with the Congress, the World Bank Global Road Safety Facility (GRSF) held its first consultative meeting. Also at this occasion, the Memorandum of Understanding between PIARC and TRB was signed (*Transportation Research Board, United States*).

³ These documents are available at the following address (PIARC website): <http://private.piarc.org/en/CNAT/>



4.4.2 XIIIth International Winter Road Congress (Quebec City, 8-11 February 2010)

The Protocol of Agreement between PIARC and the Organizing Committee was jointly signed by Denys Jean, Quebec Deputy Minister of Transport, and by Colin Jordan, PIARC President, during the Executive Committee meeting held in Quebec City, in February 2008.



The first announcement of the Congress was released in September 2008. The overall theme of the Congress is « Sustainable Winter Service for Road Users ». ⁴

4.4.3 XXIVth World Road Congress (Mexico, 25-30 September 2011)

The local Organizing Committee is now established. An event for the official launch of the Congress preparation was held in Mexico City in February 2008, with the participation of the PIARC General Secretariat.



The Protocol of Agreement and the outline of the Congress programme have been prepared and are submitted to the Council for approval.

4.5 Technical Committees

4.5.1 Final implementation of Strategic Plan 2004-2007

Over the past year, the activities of Technical Committees for the 2004-2007 work cycle were finalized in regard to the production of reports and publications.

In total, 57 reports are in the process of being published or are already released (see Annex 1).

In the area of Terminology, the PIARC Technical Dictionary of Road Terms is currently available online on the PIARC website in 21 languages ⁵. The PIARC Lexicon is also available on line and exists in 3 languages: English, French and Dutch.

4.5.2 Implementation of Strategic Plan 2008-2011

During the first quarter of 2008, the members of the new Technical Committees were designated by the First Delegates who also submitted their nominations for the Chairs and Secretaries of the Committees.

The list of Chairs and Secretaries of Technical Committees was finalized at the Executive Committee meeting in Quebec City. The first meetings took place in Paris in March and April 2008, gathering 400 participants from 43 member countries.

⁴ For more information, please visit the website of the XIIIth International Winter Road Congress in Quebec City: www.aipcrquebec2010.org

⁵ The Technical Dictionary of Road Terms is available in 21 languages: Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovene, Spanish, Swedish, Ukrainian and Vietnamese.

4.5.3 Seminars in developing countries and countries in transition

Twenty-five PIARC international seminars were organized during the 2004-2007 period, including three jointly organized by several Technical Committees (see in Annex 2).

Strategic Plan 2008-2011 has retained the objective to organize two seminars per Technical Committee. For these seminars, the opportunities to cooperate with regional and international organizations will be encouraged.



Ouagadougou

In that connection, a questionnaire was prepared by the Commission on Technological Exchanges and Development (TED) and circulated to the First Delegates to find out about their intention and resources to host a PIARC international seminar. The responses to the questionnaires were processed at the time of the first Committee meetings and a draft program of seminars is being developed.⁶

4.6 Redesign of the PIARC website www.piarc.org

Since its creation in 1996, the PIARC website has experienced many changes and recently new functionalities have been added such as workspaces administered by individual committees/commissions, the Terminology application, the World Interchange Network, the Virtual Library, and a tool to assist the review of papers submitted to the Congresses. During the Paris Congress, the Directory of Professional Training Organizations was introduced on the website.



The number of upgrades made and the introduction of the new logo of PIARC necessitated a redesign of the public area of the website. The new website was launched in January 2008. The new features are mainly a new structure of the headings on the home

page and a new graphic design in order to highlight the services available and make the navigation more simple and intuitive.

The number of visitors to the website (public area) has continued to grow steadily. As at the end of June 2008, the statistics were as follows:

- 10,000 – 11,000 different visitors (4,000 to 5,000 in 2005),
- 15,000 visits (7,500 in 2005),
- 50,000 pages visited (30,000 in 2005).

In addition, the workspaces of the Commissions and Technical Committees have been upgraded in order to become the nodal point of the way they operate. The workspaces now offer new functionalities that enable more interactivity: sharing of documents, discussion forums, etc.

Lastly, the editorial content of the pages is currently being reviewed and the various applications available (Virtual Library, Terminology) will be redesigned according to the new graphic charter.

⁶ The first seminar of the 2008-2011 cycle will take place in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) in December 2008. It will be jointly organized by Technical Committee A.2, AGEPAR and ARMFA.



4.7 Publications

4.7.1 Reports

The list of all reports produced by the Technical Committees for the 2004-2007 cycle is included in Annex 1. The majority of reports, with a few exceptions, are now published in electronic format and are available free of charge to all visitors on the Virtual Library of the Association.

The necessary editorial work before publication and some backlog in the production of the reports in the two language versions (English and French) explain why a certain number of reports are still under preparation.

4.7.2 Routes/Roads Magazine

The quarterly magazine *Routes/Roads* is published in English and French. The number of copies printed is 5700 copies and it is circulated in 142 countries. Among the issues published in 2008, it is worth highlighting:

- a special double issue (October 2007-January 2008) devoted to the Paris Congress, featuring the Congress general report, a synthesis of the addresses given at the Ministers' session, the winning essays for the 2007 PIARC Prize competition, and an overview of the history of the PIARC World Road Congresses on the occasion of the centenary of the Association;
- a theme focused issue (July 2008) prepared jointly with the Council of Iberian and Ibero-American Road Directors (DIRCAIBEA), on the financing of road infrastructure in Latin-American countries.



4.8 Cooperation with other associations/organizations

Cooperation actions with our partners have further developed. The main events were:

- AGEPAR (Association of African Road Managers and Partners) and ARMFA (African Road Maintenance Funds Association): joint preparation of a PIARC international seminar (TC A.2 Financing, Managing and Contracting Road System Investments) on road maintenance technical management and financing, which will take place in December 2008 in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso);
- the World Bank has nominated associate members to most Technical Committees;
- CEDR (Conference of European Directors of Roads): the General Secretariat was present at the CEDR Council meeting held in Ljubljana (Slovenia);
- DIRCAIBEA (Council of Iberian and Ibero-American Road Directors): a special issue of *Routes/Roads* (RR339) has been jointly published;
- OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development): regular contacts are maintained; participation of OECD in PIARC TC C1-Safer Road Infrastructure;
- REAAA (Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia): participation in the REAAA annual meeting and HORA (Heads of Road Authorities) meeting in Tokyo (Japan);
- TRB (*Transportation Research Board*): participation in the TRB Annual Meeting in January 2008 in Washington, D.C. (meeting of the TRB Committee on International Activities, participation in the exhibition).



Actions have also been undertaken with other associations, especially through PIARC National Committees:

- AASHTO - *American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials*,
- ITA - *International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association*
- Cembureau - *European cement industry association*,
- Eurobitume - *European Bitumen Association*,
- FIA - *International Road Federation*,
- FISITA - *International Federation of Automotive Engineering Societies*,
- GRSP - *Global Road Safety Partnership*
- IRF - *International Road Federation*,
- ITE - *Institute of Transportation Engineers*,
- ILO – *International Labour Organization*,
- WHO – *World Health Organization*,
- SATTC - *Southern African Transport and Communications Communication*,
- ...

In London, on the 3rd and 4th July 2008, President Colin Jordan chaired the International Conference on Road Infrastructure Safety organized by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Global Road Safety Facility (*GRSF*), the Commission for Global Road Safety and the FIA Foundation.

The PIARC General Secretariat sponsored or participated in various international events, such as the International Conference on Heavy Vehicles in Paris (2008), the 3rd European Pavement and Asset Management Conference EPAM3 2008 (Portugal) and the 6th International Symposium on Road Surface Characteristics SURF 2008 (Slovenia).

Lastly, PIARC was present at the Via Nordica Congress in Helsinki in June 2008 where the PIARC President made a keynote address. On that occasion, the General Secretariat organized a joint stand with the promotion team of the 13th Winter Road Congress in Quebec City 2010.



Annex 1 - List of Technical Committee publications for the 2004-2007 cycle

available in editing process

Committee on Terminology

Technical Dictionary of Road Terms – 8th edition, 5 languages (2007), printed format (English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese)

Total: 1 publication

ST1 GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ROAD SYSTEM – TECHNICAL REPORTS

C1.1 Road System Economics

Recommendations for users in the application of multimodal appraisal systems

Pricing as a tool for funding and regulation incorporates equity in mind

The use of monetary values for socio-environmental impacts of road projects

C1.2 Financing Road System Investment

Transportation infrastructure financing for sustainable development

C1.3 Performance of Road Administrations

Good governance and integrity

The application of performance indicators

Development of human resource skills

C1.4 Management of Network Operations

ITS Handbook 2nd edition (available in English, French, Chinese, Spanish) (2006)

Introduction to road network operations and its component activities (CD ROM) (2007)

Total: 9 reports (including 1 CD ROM and 1 Handbook). Seven documents are in editing process (as at 31 August 2008).

ST2 SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY – TECHNICAL REPORTS

C2.1 Sustainable Development and Road Transport

How to apply the concepts of sustainable development to transport? (2007)

Survey of focused funding of environmental mitigation (2007)

Social and environmental approaches to sustainable transport infrastructures (2007)

C2.2 Interurban Roads and Integrated Interurban Transport

Sustainable interurban roads for tomorrow

C2.3 Urban Areas and Integrated Urban Transport

Human powered transport (2008)

Sustainable transport in megacities (2008)

Congestion in urban areas

C2.4 Freight Transport and Intermodality

Measures promoting alternatives to the road and intermodal terminals (2008)

Mitigation of negative impacts of increased movement of freight (2008)

Total: 9 reports, including 2 in editing process (as 31 August 2008).

ST3 SAFETY AND ROAD OPERATIONS – TECHNICAL REPORTS
C3.1 Road Safety
Road safety audit guidelines for safety checks of new road projects
Human factors guidelines for safer road infrastructure
Taking advantage of infrastructure technologies and intelligent vehicles to improve road safety
Road accident investigation guidelines for road engineers
Road safety inspection guidelines
Catalogue of design safety problems and potential countermeasures
C3.2 Risk Management for Roads
Towards development of a risk management approach
C3.3 Road Tunnel Operations
Integrated approach to road tunnel safety (2007)
Guide for organizing, recruiting and training road tunnel operating staff (2007)
Human factors and tunnel safety regarding users of road tunnels (2008)
Risk analysis for road tunnels (2008)
Guide to road tunnels air quality Impact (2008)
Road tunnels: an assessment of fixed fire fighting system (2008)
Human factors and road tunnel safety regarding users
Recommendations to owners and operators of urban road tunnels
Tools for road tunnel safety management
Direction signing on a route incorporating tunnels
Road tunnels: operational strategies for emergency ventilation
C3.4 Winter Maintenance
Snow and Ice Databook (2006)
Increasing customer orientation in the winter maintenance of roads (2008)
Roadway maintenance support systems and information exchange
Overview of winter maintenance contracts

Total: 22 reports, including 14 in editing process (as at 31 August 2008).

ST4 QUALITY OF ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE – TECHNICAL REPORTS
C4.1 Management of Road Infrastructure Assets
Asset management practice (2008)
Integration of performance indicators (2008)
C4.2 Road/Vehicle Interaction
Evaluating the performance of automated pavement cracking equipment (2008)
Managing surface condition to limit loss of skid resistance
Managing road evenness
Inventory of the techniques and monitoring of the road and road databases
C4.3 Road Pavements
Impact of road construction and maintenance activities on road users and the adjacent land use (2007)
Review of the growth and development of recycling in pavement construction (2008)
Long life pavements and success stories
C4.4 Bridges and Related Structures
Improvement of durability in design and construction
Increasing the durability and lifetime of existing bridges
Priorisation of bridges rehabilitation work
C4.5 Earthworks, Drainage and Subgrade
Promoting optimal use of local materials (2008)
Geotechnical Asset Management – A case study of practice in the Highways Agency (UK) (2008)
Anticipating the impact of climate change on road earthworks (2008)

Total: 15 reports, including 7 in editing process (as at 31 August 2008).

Annex 2 - List of Seminars held during the 2004-2007 Cycle

Technical Committee	Topic	Place	Date
1.1 / 1.2	Road Pricing, Financing, Regulation and Equity	Cancún (Mexico)	11-13 April 2005
1.2	Sustainable Road Financing and Investment	Arusha (Tanzania)	16-20 April 2007
1.3	Good Governance, Institutional Integrity and Human Resources Management	Warsaw (Poland)	20-22 October 2005
1.3	Performance of Road Administrations	Cotonou (Benin)	21-23 March 2007
1.4	Intelligent Transport Systems in Road Network Operations	Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)	14-16 August 2006
1.4 / 3.1	Road Network Operation Management and Road Safety	Santiago (Chile)	11-13 April 2007
2.1	Surface Water, Underground Water and Soil Protection along Roads	Krzyzowa (Poland)	November 2004
2.1 / 2.2	Sustainable Development and Integrated Interurban Transport	Monterrey (Mexico)	8-9 May 2006
2.4	Freight Transport and Intermodality	Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso)	13-15 June 2005
2.4	Freight Transport in Landlocked Developing and Transition Countries	Ulaan Baator (Mongolia)	6-8 September 2006
2.5	Sustainable Access and Local Resource Solutions	Siem Reap (Cambodia)	28-30 November 2005
2.5	Maintenance of Rural Roads – Stakes and Perspectives	Rabat (Morocco)	20-21 April 2006
3.1	Road Safety	Beijing (China)	18-20 October 2005
3.1	Improving the Safety of Road Infrastructure	Lomé (Togo)	11-13 October 2006
1.4 / 3.1	Road Network Operation Management and Road Safety	Santiago (Chile)	11-13 April 2007
3.2	Risk Management for Roads	Hanoi (Vietnam)	26-28 April 2006
3.2	Risk Management for Roads	Cartagena (Colombia)	3-4 May 2007
3.3	Safety and Operation of Road Tunnels	San Juan (Argentina)	29-31 March 2006
3.3	Road Tunnel Operations Management and Safety	Chongqing (China)	18-20 October 2006
3.4	Safe and Efficient Winter Maintenance Practices	Riga (Latvia)	22 September 2005
4.1	Road Asset Management	Chandigarh (India)	19-21 March 2008
4.2	Monitoring and Managing Paved and Unpaved Roads	Bamako (Mali)	21-22 February 2006
4.3	Urban Pavements	Krakow (Poland)	21- 22 Sept. 2005
4.3	Road Pavement Maintenance	Havana (Cuba)	18-20 April 2007
4.3	Road Pavements	Guatemala City (Guatemala)	April 2007
4.5	Adapting Road Earthworks to the Local Environment	Iasi (Romania)	31 May – 2 June 2007

Annex 3 – Status of the protocols of agreement signed by PIARC with other organizations

This table lists the Protocols signed by PIARC.

International Organizations	Date of signature	Signatory on behalf of PIARC	Comments
Nordic Road Association (NVF)	1992	President + SG	/ modified 1996 / annex 2002
Council of Iberian and Ibero-American Road Directors (DIRCAIBEA)	1996	President	Unlimited duration
Southern African Transport and Communications Commission (SATCC)	12 Dec. 1997	SG	Until 2000
Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)	2000	SG	Duration : 3 years, Renewable every year
Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia (REAAA)	12 Jan. 2001	SG	Unlimited duration
International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (AITES/ITA)	2005	SG	Duration : 2 years with automatic renewal
Conference of European Directors of Roads (CEDR)	2006	President + SG	Unlimited duration
World Bank	2007	President	Unlimited duration
FISITA	2007	SG	Extends until 2011

Other Organizations	Date of signature	Signatory on behalf of PIARC	Comments
American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO)	2006	SG	Unlimited duration
Transportation Research Board (TRB)	2007	President	Unlimited duration