THE HIDDEN FACE OF URBAN ROADS (LOCAL AUTHORITIES SESSION, 2ND PART)

Thursday 23 October 2003 (1.30 – 5.00 p.m.)

SESSION AGENDA & INTRODUCTORY REPORT

Session Agenda

SESSION THEME: The Hidden Face of Urban Roads

1. Introduction

Ms. Brenda J. BAIRD (Chairperson of PIARC National Committee/CANADA)

2. Permanence of Urban Infrastructures

Mr. Jean LANDRY (CERIU/CANADA)

3. Management of utilities to be laid in roads in Singapore – Past, Present and Future

Mr. William KWANG (Singapore Land Transport Authority/SINGAPORE)

4. Canadian tools for good management of infrastructure

Ms. Nancy SCHEPERS (InfraGuide/CANADA)

- 5. Discussion
- 6. Conclusion and Closure

Ms. Brenda J. BAIRD (Chairperson of PIARC National Committee/CANADA)

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The programme of this session, organised jointly by South Africa and the PIARC Canadian National Committee, has been defined and will be chaired by the Mayor of eThekwini Municipality, Councillor Obed Mlaba.

1. PROGRAMME

Part 2 of the Local Authorities session will take place in the afternoon of 23 October 2003.

2. THEME

The theme for this session is "the Hidden Face of Urban Roads". It gives an opportunity for technical experts and programme managers to share and exchange views of these distinct but related infrastructure deliverables. It explores ways of doing things and ways of making it work within limits of resources.

3. OBJECTIVES

This session will first present the problem and issues of such coordination and the tools for measuring its impact. Examples of integrated management by some cities will also be presented. Lastly, a design model for urban utility systems applicable in developing countries, countries in transition as well as developed countries will be presented for discussion.

4. BACKGROUND

Most urban organisations traditionally deal with surface phenomena such as traffic and safety. However, the presence of urban public utility systems under the streets of the vast majority of cities around the world has a significant impact on the quality and durability of the urban road system. While it is still very common to deal with components of urban infrastructure individually, the current state of the systems and the actions required in built-up areas in support of the vitality of urban life are causing managers to review their ways of doing things.

Effective rehabilitation actions for increasing requirements of joint infrastructure take account of the presence of other systems and at the very least include checks of their condition. For example, a road surface rehabilitation project will involve actions for assessing and inspecting water pipes and sewers to determine whether actions are required and planning with public utility companies (gas, telecommunications, electricity, etc.) to ensure that all actions are carried out before the surface layer is completed.