



X HUMANISA

connecting delegates

AIPCR 2003 PIARC Durban • Connecting the World
XXII WORLD ROAD CONGRESS
 XXII^e Congrès mondial de la Route

Weather  Partly cloudy - evening thunderstorms (20%) Minimum 16°C / 61°F Maximum 27°C/ 81°F Sunrise @ 05:11 Sunset @ 18:10

Exchange Rates US\$ R7.205; £ = R12.05; Euro= R8.38; CAD\$ = R5.48; MX Peso = R0.64; Yen= R0.07

MINISTERS' SESSION FOCUSES ON BUILDING BRIDGES

At yesterday's Ministers' Session, hosted by South Africa's Transport Minister Dr Abdulah M Omar, ministers focused on the role of road infrastructure in sustainable development.

Against a backdrop of economic, social and environmental factors and the dynamics between all three, roads infrastructure must take into account economic growth, social equity and environmental management, prerequisites agreed on at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. The role of roads in achieving this was discussed at the session.

The first of three topics under discussion was "Mobilising partnerships for sustainable development" and looked at the crucial role those partnerships - across a broad spectrum - play in achieving sustainable development - partnerships between nations, between diverse organisations and between the public and private sectors.

Each partnership has its own merit: developing countries may benefit from foreign investment; commercial partnerships bring private sector skills and market-based incentives into infrastructure investment and services; and NGOs are concerned more with social issues - like poverty alleviation - and safe environmental practices.

The relationship between state and private enterprise is important to promote growth, social mobility, trade and broad-based development and it has been proven that this is most successfully achieved through partnerships. What must be taken into account though, is a balance between economic and social demands, between public and private financing and between meeting the specific needs of transport users.

Ministers also discussed how to promote partnerships, the role of the public sector in partnerships, new approaches and initiatives in partnering, and effective partnering.

The second topic, "Harnessing private investment in support of public infrastructure development", discussed the role of private capital in achieving sustainable development. Developing countries are likely to attract significant foreign direct investment, essential for economic and social development, as a source of income.

There has to be synergy between taxation and investment policies, which must be conducive to an enabling environment. To what extent it is the responsibility of the public and private sectors and development agencies to create these synergies, remains a moot point.

To successfully harness private investment, the state is ultimately accountable to its citizens through the management of information around monitoring service delivery; appropriate reporting and accounting standards; and regulating quality, access and costs.

Ministers also discussed what improvements are required from government to facilitate private investment towards sustainable development and the role of civil society in ensuring an adequate monitoring process.

The third and final topic was "Good governance a prerequisite for sustainable development".

Government systems must promote, support and sustain development; moreover they must engender confidence. Effective democracies rely on public participation, transparency and accountability as far as public and political expectations are concerned. Where public resources are at stake, governments, not surprisingly, face scrutiny in the arena of financial accountability. It is here that practical solutions are required if transparency and responsible governance are to be taken seriously.

This topic also looked at the relationship between good governance and sustainable development with regard to civil society, accountability, transparency, responsiveness, effectiveness and efficiency, equity and fairness, and the rule of law.

In the course of their deliberations on the overall theme, Ministers debated other issues, which included promoting growth through competition, social development as a necessity and not just a spin-off, and the role of science and technology.



An image from the publication, *The Nelson Mandela Bridge*, which was presented to Ministers yesterday by SA Minister of Transport, Dr Abdulah Omar.



Caesar Molebatsi, facilitator of yesterday's Ministers' Session



Steve Mahoney, Canadian Secretary of State, addressing Ministers and delegates



Minister Rrael Soler Deschapells (Cuba) and Asst-Vice Minister Shigeru Komae (Japan) at yesterday's Ministers Session



Ministers attending yesterday's Ministers' Session hosted by Abdulah Omar

Essential Contact Numbers

EMERGENCY - URGENCES - EMERGÊNCIA - EMERGENCIA: 10111



MINISTERS OUT AND ABOUT

Foreign government ministers in Durban for the PIARC World Road Congress were taken on a tour of the harbour yesterday and given a glimpse of the future role planned for it as centerpiece in developing a Singapore of Southern Africa.

The Ministers were taken on the Portnet harbour vessel, Isiponono, to get a close look from the water at the port – which is Africa's largest and busiest – and to be told of major upgrading projects over the next few years.

These include widening the harbour mouth and dredging it deeper so that the new generation of container vessels can be handled – a massive engineering project which will involve a shifting further northward of the present northern breakwater; dredging the wharves deeper; expanding container handling capacity, coupled with concessioning to the private sector; building new wharves; and building a new passenger terminal at the edge of a R2 billion public sector/private sector waterfront tourism/business development which is already underway.

At the Catalina Theatre, Wilson's Wharf, the ministers were given a presentation on plans for the Dube Tradeport, which is expected to be in operation in 2006. Dube will be a combined passenger/airfreight, industrial and information technology node located at La Mercy, about 50km north of Durban.

King Shaka International Airport will be designed to handle the new generation airliners and freight aircraft, with the competitive cost advantage of operations at sea level and with a high safety factor in terms of prevailing winds, surrounding topography and avionics.

Included in the node will be an industrial development zone and a cyber village, linked into the world's e-commerce. Dube will be linked by road and rail to Durban harbour and to Richards Bay, a second seaport on the KwaZulu-Natal north coast which handles significant container and general cargo and massive bulk exports of coal, iron, aluminium, phosphates, heavy metals and timber products.

The Tradeport is planned to become a major transport hub on the Indian Ocean Rim, drawing together Africa's two major seaports, a cost-effective air freight capacity and advanced road and rail infrastructure.

Its planners envisage its becoming the African equivalent of Singapore or Rotterdam, serving the whole of southern Africa and beyond.

The commissioning of Dube Tradeport will give extra capacity to Durban harbour. The present Durban International Airport, which adjoins the harbour, will close, making available a significant area of land, either for industrial use right at the harbour's edge – making it the most valuable industrial real estate in Africa – or for extending the harbour by dredging.

The Dube project is supported by national government, the KwaZulu-Natal provincial government and eThekweni Municipality (Durban). The project is currently going through a routine procedure of verification by national Treasury.



Deputy Minister Jean-Pierre Soucy from Quebec, Canada, seen with Ms Yvonne de Kock of National Ports Authority Corporate Affairs.



Mr Nazir Alli, CEO of the South African National Roads Agency Ltd and Dr. Abdulah Omar, SA Minister of Transport.



The ministers come ashore after an informative and enjoyable trip around Durban's scenic harbour.



Durban's Catalina Theatre was the venue for the Ministers' briefing on the Dube Tradeport. The orange structure in the foreground was once the control tower for the flying boats that used Durban as a stop-over.

The Millennium Tower not only adds a stylish touch to the harbour's skyline, but is also an engineering marvel.

ST1 SESSION: ROAD TECHNOLOGY

The purpose of road authorities is to provide the best possible service to all road users. In order to do so effectively, it is necessary to have quality indicators to assess users' requirements in road works, maintenance and operation and to assess how best to meet these objectives.

In addition, it is essential to find ways to optimise the capacity of existing road infrastructures to avoid degradation in the quality of the level of service.

The Road Technology session focused on:

- Procedures to identify users' expectations concerning road conditions and quality of service.
- Road quality indicators that can be used to measure the degree of compliance with those expectations.
- Road technology innovations that have been developed during the last four years to improve the quality of service.

Presentations addressed the existing situation, as well as the need for major improvements, in both developed and developing countries.

From this session it is apparent that many countries are evolving from purely technical approaches to road management towards a process in which objectives are set to comply with users' expectations.

MEDIA MOMENTS

Journalists attending the Congress took a break from filing stories yesterday to visit Durban's flagship projects. First stop was a presentation on the Dube TradePort. Then it was on to Durban Point where they watched ongoing construction of uShaka Marine World, which will become a world-class entertainment and tourism destination. Last stop was a relaxing cruise around Durban's busy harbour.



A LAST CHANCE TO GO ON A TECHNICAL TOUR!

There are 250 Technical Tour tickets available due to a number of bookings not being confirmed.

These will be available on a first-come-first-served basis at the Technical Tours Desk from 8h00 today.

For those going on the technical tours, please remember to bring your voucher and confirmation letter with you. Please ensure you catch a shuttle bus to arrive 15 minutes before the departure time of your tour.



THE WORLD INTERCHANGE NETWORK THE IDEAL COMMUNICATIONS TOOL FOR ROAD PRACTITIONERS

The World Interchange Network (WIN) is an electronic communication and information sharing system created in 1995, particularly for the benefit of developing countries. WIN aims to promote technology transfer in the road transportation industry using the full potential offered by modern technology.



Yesterday afternoon PIARC President, Olivier Michaud, officially inaugurated the new World Interchange Network (WIN), in the company of WIN President Claire Monette; Anne-Marie Leclerc, member and WIN representative on the Executive Committee; and PIARC Secretary General Jean-François Corté. Mr. Michaud unveiled the new WIN logo and introduced the first WIN relays.

Thanks to its relays and its Web site, the new World Interchange Network links road practitioners free of charge with experts on every continent.

The large number of people in attendance contributed to the session's success. The discussion workshop showed the participants' great interest in this new means of knowledge transfer in the transportation field and the enthusiasm of the representatives of the relays already designated.

The conclusion of this session was to:

- continue improving the functioning of the new WIN to make it the best technology in the world;
- promote the creation of WIN relays and their networks of experts; and
- perfect the administrative conditions of the new WIN within PIARC.

WIN now belongs to you! It offers:

- a modern, user-friendly site, integrated with the PIARC site;
- relays and experts on every continent, in a growing number of PIARC member countries; and
- free services in French, English, Spanish and other languages.

The WIN web site (www.piarc.org/en/rme) is online and you can access it today. Computers are available in the PIARC Pavilion (Coast of Dreams). To find out more, see the schedule of presentations below.

The World Interchange Network throughout the Congress		
WIN Presentations	Tuesday, 11h00 – 12h00	PIARC Pavilion (Coast of Dreams)
	Thursday, 09h15 – 09h45	PIARC Pavilion (Coast of Dreams)
	Friday, 09h00 – 09h30	PIARC Pavilion (Coast of Dreams)

MINISTERS' BUSY DAY ENDS WITH RELAXED DINNER

South Africa's Minister of Transport, Dr Abdulah Omar, last night hosted a dinner for more than 48 ministers and distinguished guests attending the XXIInd PIARC World Road Congress.



Addressing the guests, Minister Omar said that the day's deliberations had been fruitful.

"Hopefully, through the meeting of minds at this congress, we will be able to keep abreast of, even anticipate and meet, those inevitable but essential changes in the future."

He added that South Africa was facing many challenges, but that delegates had the opportunity to experience some of this country's achievements during the Ministers' Tour yesterday afternoon.

Some of these projects were excellent examples of the importance of co-operation between the public and private sector, he said.



Minister Omar closed off by expressing the wish that the Congress would be a platform for dynamic interaction between countries and would provide the foundation for future co-operation.

Seen at last night's Ministers' Dinner

MAGNIFICENT KWAZULU-NATAL

KwaZulu-Natal offers visitors a diversity of attractions which ranges from high mountains to tropical coral reefs – all only a few hours' drive from the International Convention Centre.

For the historically-minded, the battlefields of the Anglo/Zulu War and the Anglo/Boer War are similarly close at hand.

For those who seek the ethnic experience, traditional Zulu homesteads can be visited just 20 minutes out of Durban or further afield in Zululand itself, where it is also possible to stay overnight in traditional Zulu villages, in absolute luxury.

Wildlife enthusiasts are able to find pristine wilderness where they can view, and photograph, the Big Five – lion, leopard, elephant, rhino and buffalo.

The Drakensberg mountain range, which is the western border of KwaZulu-Natal, offers resort hotels as well as lodges and bed-and-breakfast establishments set in breathtaking scenery.

Daily 4X4 trips are offered from Underberg and Himeville up the Sani Pass into Lesotho (visitors need their passports), with the option of staying overnight in chalets at the top of the pass, which is sometimes snowbound.

Between Durban and the mountains are the Midlands, a picturesque, rolling landscape of farms and timber which offers several tourist meander routes featuring craft shops, pubs, restaurants and accommodation, as well as some splendid examples of colonial architecture.

Also in the Midlands is Pietermaritzburg, the provincial legislative capital, a charming red-brick Victorian city which was an important military centre during the Anglo/Zulu War and the Anglo/Boer War.

Traditional Zulu homesteads can be visited in the Valley Of A Thousand Hills, only about 20 minutes away from the International Convention Centre, where another meander route has been established, including a crocodile park.

Ethnic experiences are also to be had at Shakaland and Dumazulu, further north in traditional Zululand. Shakaland is a favourite overnight stopover for tourists.

In the same region are Big Five game reserves such as Hluhluwe/Umfolozo, Phinda and Tembe (which has Africa's largest elephants), as well as a profusion of smaller parks, most with upmarket lodge or chalet-style accommodation.



An impi's view of the Valley of 1000 Hills in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands

Lake St Lucia (part of a World Heritage Site) is Africa's greatest estuarine system and has a wealth of bird life as well as crocodiles and hippo, all of which can be viewed on boat tours.



A sangoma, traditional healer



A traditional Zulu setting found in the heart of Shakaland

... CONNECTING ...



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Overseas delegates are eligible to win a PIARC commemorative coin in nine-carat gold - if they flew to the Congress via South African Airways.

The competition will be a lucky draw, with consolation prizes of top South African wines.

Entrants need to hand in a photocopy of their intercontinental airline ticket - showing the Flight Number - at the Accommodation Desk in the registration area or at the Information Desk in the main foyer, plus enter their names for the competition on the Conference Evaluation Form. The draw will be held during the closing ceremony on Saturday, October 25. The commemorative coins will also be on sale for R700 in the PIARC Souvenir Shop on the First Floor. Congress T-shirts are on sale in the shop, at R200, and caps at R40.

Demonstrations of the Heavy Vehicle Simulator (HVS) are to run daily, from today, between 12h00 and 14h00 at the outdoor exhibition section of the Durban Exhibition Centre.

The HVS is a mobile machine that subjects road and airfield pavements to accelerated trafficking. It is a mobile laboratory taken to the road to evaluate the structural behaviour and capacity of the road under full-scale conditions. It is able to simulate the equivalent of 20 years of traffic in as little as three to six months, assisting engineers to understand the mechanisms of traffic-associated road failures.

An exciting new publication is on sale in the Souvenir Shop at R250. A glossy, illustrated hard-cover account of the building of the Nelson Mandela Bridge, which links Braamfontein and Newtown, Johannesburg, will be a sought-after collectors' item, partly for its account of an innovative engineering achievement and partly for historical value.

TOMORROW'S HIGHLIGHTS

- Tour 1 : National Road Network (Full Day)
- Tour 2 : Richards Bay
- Tour 3 : Community Access Road Programme (Full Day)
- Tour 4 : Durban Port Upgrade (Full Day Or Morning Tour)
- Tour 5 : Urban Renewal Durban (Full Day Or Morning Tour)



SCOREBOARD

Monday, 20 October 2003

Scotland 39 - USA 15

ISIZULU GREETINGS

How are you? Kunjani (singular)
Ninjani (plural)

(Please note: that using plural for one person is considered polite)

I am well ... and you? Ngiyaphila, wena unjani?

I am also well. Nami ngiyaphila

VODASHOP RENTA FONE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Vodashop and its dedicated team offers you inexpensive short-term mobile phone rental options to keep you and your business in touch around the clock while in South Africa.

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Whether you opt to take advantage of our premium mobile phone rental rates or Vodacom's Prepaid option, our expert staff are on hand in the foyer of the ICC to offer you advice on your mobile communications.

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