



IRF Bratislava conference held at key moment



Participants of an IRF conference in Bratislava welcomed the key timing of the event. The conference, which explored the development of

electronic tolling and PPPs in Slovakia and other central and eastern European countries, came shortly before the launch of the pre-qualification process for forthcoming tenders in Slovakia.

The conference, widely attended by major industry players, was hailed a success. Representatives from host organisation the National Motorway Company outlined tenders currently being prepared in Slovakia. Officials from Poland, Serbia and Germany presented developments and experience in their countries.

Participants will receive the conference proceedings shortly. For those that did not attend, proceedings can be purchased from the IRF Geneva office.

IRF visits Vietnam

Speaking at a conference in Vietnam, Tony Pearce, IRF Director General Geneva/Brussels, outlined global issues and challenges facing the road industry and the role the IRF could play in supporting the sector in Vietnam. The conference, organised by IRF member VIBRA and supported by a number of other IRF members, focused on Integrating Vietnam's Transport Engineering with the World.

Pearce also took the opportunity to meet H.E Dr Dao Dinh Binh, Minister of Transport, who solicited the IRF's support in promoting Vietnam's road development programme.

Whilst in the region, Pearce also visited neighbouring Laos and Cambodia where he met



officials from the road authorities to discuss their current plans and concerns regarding road development.

IRF addresses Greek road safety conference



Dr Evdorides with conference chairman Prof. Matsoukis,

IRF board member, Harry Evdorides of the University of Birmingham, represented the IRF

at the 3rd Pan-Hellenic Conference on Road Safety, in Patras on 10-11 October. The conference was organised by IRF member the University of Patras, with support from TEE and the Greek Road Association. Dr Evdorides addressed the opening session of the conference and presented a paper summarising the IRF's policy on road safety.

The IRF also had a stand during the conference and Dr Evdorides discussed the organisation and its activities with various actors from the Greek road sector.

For details of IRF events see www.irfnet.org

INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION

17-19 rue de la Tourelle bte 1, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium Tel : +32 2 234 6630 Fax : +32 2 230 7907
2 chemin de Blandonnet, 1214 Vernier Geneva, Switzerland Tel : +41 22 306 02 60 Fax : +41 22 306 0270
1010 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Fourth Floor, Washington, DC 20001, USA Tel: +1 202 371 5544 Fax: +1 202 371 5565



IRF offers support following Asian Earthquake

The IRF has offered its assistance and support to Pakistan and neighbouring India and Afghanistan following the devastating earthquake which hit the region on 8 October.

The offer of assistance came following the ministerial meeting held in June on lessons learnt from the tsunami for infrastructure recovery. During the meeting, held at the UNESCAP headquarters in Bangkok, ministers adopted a declaration requesting the IRF to

set up a rapid response system to help assess and prioritise repair work to infrastructure in the wake of natural disasters.

The government of Pakistan welcomed the IRF's assistance and several members have offered to provide engineers to help in the country. Talks are now underway with the Pakistani authorities to establish how the IRF can best help the country.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New resource on the IRF website

In light of the major road development programmes currently being devised and implemented in many countries, notably in Asia, the IRF has created a new online resource for members.

A new section of the website, provides a compilation of reports and presentations with details of road development programmes, projects being funded by development banks, current business opportunities and foreign investment policy and procedures.

Currently information is available regarding India, Pakistan and Vietnam, documents regarding other countries will be added as they become available. The information can be found in the document library of the IRF website, www.irfnet.org in the section National Road Programmes.

If you do not know your login details for the members' section of the IRF website, please send a request to Emma Clarke on eclarke@irfnet.org.

FORTHCOMING IRF EVENTS

IRF Geneva/Brussels Statutory Board Meeting

Istanbul, Turkey – 29-30 November 2005

The board meeting will be preceded by a gala dinner on 29 November.

- Contact: Sylvie Gemperlé s.gemperle@irfnet.org

IRF Executive Seminar on Roadway Safety

Curacao, Netherlands Antilles – 5-9 December 2005

A safety training seminar providing education, idea-sharing and problem-solving designed to help senior road executives to reduce road deaths in their countries.

- Contact: Scott Pearce spearce@internationalroadfederation.org

Middle East Regional Conference— Roads for the Future: smart and safe

Abu Dhabi, UAE – 12-15 March 2006

This IRF conference looking at developing first class road infrastructure in the Middle East region will be held in conjunction with the major road and traffic exhibition ROADEX 2006.

- Contact: Sibylle Rupprecht srupprecht@irfnet.org or Magid Elabyad melabyad@internationalroadfederation.org

For details of IRF events see www.irfnet.org

INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION

17-19 rue de la Tourelle bte 1, B-1040 Brussels, Belgium Tel : +32 2 234 6630 Fax : +32 2 230 7907

2 chemin de Blandonnet, 1214 Vernier Geneva, Switzerland Tel : +41 22 306 02 60 Fax : +41 22 306 0270

1010 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Fourth Floor, Washington, DC 20001, USA Tel: +1 202 371 5544 Fax: +1 202 371 5565