



## IRF ON THE ROAD

### UN Road Safety Collaboration

Sibylle Rupprecht represented the IRF at the 4<sup>th</sup> United Nations Road Safety Collaboration hosted by UNESCAP in Bangkok on 10-11 May.

The meeting was attended by international bodies and organisations with an interest in road safety, as well as UN agencies, WHO and the World Bank.

The various activities of the UN bodies in the field of road safety were presented, including the Global Road Safety Facility, which funds projects in developing countries, preparations for the first UN Global Road Safety Week, the first which will take place 23-29 April 2007 and the development of a number of 'how to' manuals on different road safety issues.

A 'how to' manual on data systems will provide good practice on road accident data collection, the IRF should participate in the development of such a manual.



Rupprecht gave an overview of the IRF's activities in the field of road safety and presented the new IRF publication, *Maintenance of Road Signs, markings and Other Safety Assets: A Cost Effective Means of Optimising Road Safety.*

### 1<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Freeway Operations

IRF Director of Policy and Programmes, Ansgar Kauf, participated in the [1st International Symposium on Freeway Operations](#), organised by the TRB Freeway Operations Committee held in Athens, Greece on 4-7 June.

The major local hosts were Attiki Odos and IRF member Attikes Diadromes, operating company of Attiki Odos (Attica Tollway) and the 1st Prize recipient of IRF's 2005 European Road Safety Award, both of which played a vital role for the success of the meeting, which exceeded expectations attracting some 500 delegates from 25 countries around the globe.

Bringing together freeway and tollway operators, practitioners and researchers the symposium sought to:

- capture the state of practice in freeway and tollway operations;
- identify innovative strategies and techniques to improve the proactive management and control of traffic; and
- explore the potential benefits of using managed lane, tolling/pricing, and other strategies to improve traffic operations on congested freeways.

The Official Opening of the Symposium was dynamized by Bill Halkias, CEO of Attikes Diadromes. Ms. Dora Bakoyanni, the Greek Foreign Minister officially opened the Symposium and Mr. Leonidas Bobolas, CEO of the Concessionaire Attiki Odos delivered the keynote speech.

During the plenary session, with presentations delivered by distinguished presenters, Halkias and his colleagues set up the stage and the discussion that followed in such a way as to show the interest in discussing toll road development from a total project and even societal perspective.

Kauf made a presentation in the session on priorities in Europe, focusing on Road Safety and Enlargement of Toll Motorway networks to Central and Eastern European Countries (CEECs). He included new research on co-financing PPPs and toll motorways in CEECs thanks to EU grant funds (structural, cohesion, ISAPA and TEN-T). Co-financing will be a most needed approach for helping toll developments to take off that were blocked and only slowly moving in the region for over a decade.

#### INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **IRF opens 2006 European Road Safety Award**

The IRF is pleased to announce the launch of the 2006 European Road Safety Award. Hoping to build on the success of the inaugural 2005 award, which was presented during and IRF Traffic Safety Conference in Amsterdam in April, the IRF welcomes all its member to submit their projects, research and innovations in the field of road safety, carried out in Europe.

Submissions should be sent to the IRF Geneva office by 8 September 2006. Full information can be found on the IRF website



The award forms part of the IRF's commitments as a signatory of the European Road Safety Charter.

### **French Transport Statistics**

IRF member, Union Routière de France (URF) is pleased to announce that the latest version of its landmark statistical publication, *Key Facts & Figures: French Transport Statistics*, is now available in English.

This URF publication comprises comprehensive statistical information on road and other transport modes, tracking trends and evolutions and highlighting the importance of road in the transport system and the

contribution of the road and automobile sector to the French economy.

The English version of *Key Facts & Figures* can be downloaded from the URF website at the following link:

<http://www.urf.asso.fr/index.php?id=1039>.

For further information, contact Capucine Garban at [Capucine.garban@urf.asso.fr](mailto:Capucine.garban@urf.asso.fr).

## FORTHCOMING IRF EVENTS

### **IRF/SARF Regional Conference for Africa – *The contribution of the road industry to social and economic growth in Africa***

Durban, South Africa – 11-13 September 2006

- Contact: [confplan@iafrica.com](mailto:confplan@iafrica.com)

### **IRF Executive Seminar on Contract Maintenance**

Orlando, Florida – 15-25 October 2006

- Contact: [barbara.samsell@royjorgensen.com](mailto:barbara.samsell@royjorgensen.com)

### **IRF Road and Environment Conference**

Geneva, Switzerland – 5-6 February 2007

Contact: [abastiene@irfnet.org](mailto:abastiene@irfnet.org)

**For details of IRF events see [www.irfnet.org](http://www.irfnet.org)**

#### **INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION**

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