

PIARC - Permanent International Association of Road Congresses  
(Also known as the "World Road Association")  
SICOP Update for July 13, 2019

### **Working Group Progress/Update**

Each work task of the Technical Committee B.2, Winer Service, has been completed.

The work tasks of our Technical Committee has been:

- Issue B.2.1, Transportation management during winter events
- Issue B.2.2, De-icing salt and brines treatments, interventions and best practices
- Issue B.2.3, Updates to the Snow and Ice Data Book
- Issue B.2.4, Preparation of the 2018 Winter Road Congress

Issues B.2.1 and B.2.2: Technical reports have been written and publication is expected soon for Issues B.2.1 and B.2.2.

Issue B.2.1: The objective of this effort is to identify and document best practices of integrating road network operators (those operating the system) with those delivering winter maintenance services that mitigate the effects of winter events on performance of the system and add to network resiliency. The strategy was expanded to include best practices through case studies of exceptional cooperation of transportation agencies across borders that enhance winter services received by the road user.

Issue B.2.2: This effort utilized an international survey to identify de-icing salt and brine treatments, interventions and best practices.

Issue B.2.3: Update to the Snow and Ice Data Book. The update for the current PIARC cycle (2016-2019) has been completed. The Data Book compiles in a homogeneous and consistent format, descriptions of practices for managing winter road conditions from nearly 30 countries. The four country-specific headings consist of: description based on geography, demographics and road network characteristics; potential climatological and meteorological phenomena; road management methods; and recent developments and current research addressing winter service conditions. The Snow and Ice Data Book is perfectly suited to handle such pressure. The objective here is to upload contributions benefiting both user safety, across all travel modes (automobile, walking, bicycle, public transit trips), and economic imperatives often relying on just-in-time management and dependent on the road network. The ultimate challenge is to accommodate environmental concerns and, more broadly, implement sustainable development approaches.

Issue B.2.4: The 15th International Road Winter World Congress was held in Gdansk, Poland on February 20 - 23, 2018. There were approximately 1000 conference attendees from 42 countries. There were eight themes covering the conference scope: Extreme Situations, Disasters; Climate Change and the Environment; Road Weather Information; Road Users and the Road Safety; Winter Maintenance Management and Planning; Equipment and Products; Winter Service in Urban Areas, and Tunnel and Bridges.

## **PIARC Background**

PIARC was established in 1909 and is comprised of 122 member governments from all over the world (2014). PIARC is a global forum for the exchange of knowledge and experience on roads and road transport policies and practices.

PIARC's efforts are completed through Technical Committees and Task Forces that gather skilled professional that are nominated by member countries. These individuals are to share experience draw lessons from the field and promote best practices on a broad range of areas of interest to the road sector.

Two of the more important global conferences that PIARC conducts:

World Road Congresses held every 4 years - October 2019, United Arab Emirates, and  
International Winter Road Congress held every 4 years - February 2018, Gdansk, Poland

The PIARC work effort revolves around a 4-year cycle. The previous cycle (dated 2012 – 15) culminated with a wrap up meeting at the World Road Congresses in Soul, Korea in November of 2015.

## **Current PIARC Cycle (2016-2019)**

The current PIARC 4-year cycle (2016 - 2019) has been launched. The five focus areas of PIARC are:

Strategic Theme A: Management and Finance

Strategic Theme B: Access and Mobility

Strategic Theme C: Safety

Strategic Theme D: Infrastructure

Strategic Theme E: Climate Change, Environment and Disasters

Strategic Theme B: Access and Mobility is further broken down to the following Technical Committees and one Task Force:

B.1, Road Network Operations/Intelligent Transportation Systems

**B.2, Winter Service**

B.3, Sustainable Multimodality in Urban Areas

B.4, Freight

Task Force: TF B.1, Road Design and Infrastructure for Innovative Transport Solutions