

The General assembly of IRF GPC gathers in the margins of TRA

IRF held its general assembly in Ljubljana on Monday 21st April prior to the official opening of TRA2008.

The General Assembly applauded the positive financial statement 2007 presented by the outgoing treasurer, Jérôme Munro Lafon. Alexander Swarovski was welcomed by the General Assembly as new treasurer.

As agreed during the last General Assembly, an IRF Ambassador programme has been set up. The General Assembly approved the nominated ambassadors (see separate info for more details).

The secretariat reported on the overall 2007 activities and presented in more details the work on Road safety, Environment and PPPs. Members were informed in particular on:



1. The former Permanent Technical Committee on Road Safety was renamed Working Group 'Safer Roads'. The Working Group will develop training for emerging economies, as well as recommendations and best practices.



2. The Working Group Environment will compile a best industry practice publication in which members can present eco-friendly products and services. Particularly mentioned was the next conference on Roads and Environment to be held in Geneva from 10-11 November 2008.



3. The Working Group PPP will start to address the topic of "PPPs and Urban mobility". More over, Michel Démarre, chairman of the Working Group, thanked the secretariat staff for the successful IRF seminar on Hybrid PPPs, held in Bucharest, Romania, in February this year. He also reminded that the discussion paper on Long Term Performance Based Contracts will be published end of June.

Ljubljana meeting was also an occasion to celebrate the IRF's 60 year anniversary. The slide show recalling these 60 years of activities was shown for the first time to the great appreciation of the members. The slide show will be soon available on CD Rom for the members to purchase.

Looking at future perspective for our federation, the members expressed their will to see a growing alignment among the three programme centres (Geneva, Brussels, Washington). The preparation of the IRF World Meeting scheduled in Lisbon on 2-6 June

2009 will be an excellent opportunity to tighten the cooperation.

The minutes of the GA can be accessed on the members section of IRF website. Please contact Andy Bastienne (abastienne@irfnet.org) to get your personal login and password.