

Session held on September 30 2011 At the XXIV World Road Congress in Mexico City

INTRODUTION

On September 30, 2011 the CLOSING SESSION was held, with the participation of Mr. Fausto Barajas Cummings, Vice Minister of Communication and Transport of Mexico and President of the Organizing Committee of the XXIV World Road Congress.

During the session, where speakers included Anne-Marie LeClerc, Jean-François Corté and Clement Hung Poon, besides the technical and operational review conference, the posts were filled with the emotion that meant reaching the end of a highly productive day personally and professionally for most of the attendees.

Time has come to return home, each and everyone to his own country to continue the work with new expectations, new knowledge and great experiences that certainly apply to the construction of the roads that each country is seeking.

With the speech of Mr. Barajas Cummings closed the work of an event that has left a deep mark on the professional road in Mexico.





Mr FAUSTO BARAJAS CUMMINGS President of the Organizing Committee

Vice Minister of Ministry of Communications and Transport Mexico

Good afternoon everyone and welcome again to this closing session, Anne-Marie LeClerc, president of the World Road Association, Jean-François Corté, Secretary General of the World Road Association, Hee-Guk Kim, Vice Minister of Transportation of Korea; Clement Hung Poon, president of the Mexican Road Association, the former Presidents of the World Road Association present, engineers Victor Mahbub and Olivier Michaud. Dear Congress participants, engineers and entrepreneurs, international distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

After five days of intense activity, discussing important issues to address the most important problems in the road sector and to exchange experiences and knowledge with experts from around the world, the **World Road Congress** in **Mexico**, is coming to an end.

The World Road Congress in Mexico has been a success and I'm sure it has also been a landmark event for the country, for the region and for the World Road Association itself, not only for the quantity and quality of papers and participants but because it has helped to strengthen the innovation and technology in the country and worldwide.

It has fueled interest and relevance of the issue of roads and undoubtedly it has strengthened the practice of the disciplines related to all aspects of the road system, particularly in developing countries in Latin America and Mexico.

Las cifras de Congreso Mundial de Carreteras no dejan lugar a dudas, el evento que la Secretará de Comunicaciones y Transportes organizó en conjunto con la Asociación Mundial de Carreteras y la Asociación Mexicana de Ingeniería de Vías Terrestres, será sin duda, un referente en el futuro. Figures from the World Road Congress leave no doubt, the event that the Ministry of Communications and Transport organized in conjunction with the World Road Association and the Mexican Road Engineering Association, is certainly a benchmark for the future.

In the XXIV World Road Congress attended by more than seven thousand people, including legislators, ministers and their staff, media, supporters, exhibitors and students, in regard to the specific number of congress participants nearly four thousand people from 107 countries attended the Congress, with 33 minister from five continents, over 250 papers and two thousand 200 exhibitors and guests to exposure to 22 national pavilions and 165 from the private sector.

Among those attending the conference, about 70 percent of them were Spanish speaking and from Latin American countries, which will undoubtedly have a positive effect for the region and represents another milestone for the World Road Association, long

desired, to strengthen its presence in Latin America and the momentum in the use of Spanish in the activities of our Association.

In regards to the thematic content, the Congress undoubtedly has also been a success, because as mentioned before Mr Poon, have addressed such important issues as **sustainability**, customer service, technology on the roads, **road safety** the inter-modality, good governance in government road funding, proper planning of infrastructure, transport perspective, the rural network of roads, bridges and pavements, among others.

Each of these issues and in each of the sessions relevant knowledge and experience have been discussed, the state of the art and best practices worldwide, conclusions and public policy, which will certainly be relevant in each of our countries, to streamline our road systems, to do more with less, plan better, more sustainable and safer our projects to implement technology and in short, to provide better service to users of our roads.

As discussed in this World Congress, regarding the relevance of its proposals and conclusions, the government of Mexico considers it necessary to strengthen the conclusions of this forum to materialize a vision of the industry, common policies and actions and commitments, according to the characteristics of each of the countries.

The World Road Association has the ability to convene every four years with the highest authorities in the road, so we find that this high level forum, transcends and becomes an opportunity to unify the voices of us all and raise the most relevant issues, proposals and commitments to address them.

The Association may be the catalyst to spur action and commitments assumed in these high-level forums, we explore together the governing bodies of the Association, how to strengthen their work so that this is consistent with the modern times. The World Road Association as a leading forum for exchange, knowledge, experience and technology worldwide, should must continue help as it has since its foundation, by being

at the forefront of the tools and means to be more efficient in its work and the World Road Congress should not be an exception.

La Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes agradece nuevamente a la Asociación Mundial de Carreteras y a todos los presentes aquí, la confianza depositada en nuestro país, para la organización de este XXIV Mundial de Carreteras, de forma especial a Anne-Marie Lecrerc y Jean-François Corté, presidente y secretario general de la Asociación y renueva y fortalece su compromiso con las actividades y retos de la asociación. The Ministry of Communications and Transport thanks again the World Road Association and all those present here, the confidence in our country for the organization of the XXIV World Road Congress, the ministry especially thanks Anne-Marie LeClerc and Jean-François Corté President and Secretary general of the Association and renews and strengthens its commitment to the activities and challenges of the World Road Association.

Among the milestones of the World Congress, which undoubtedly marked the celebration of this event and have a positive impact on the national road sector, was the participation of President of the Republic at the opening session; where he edited technical and commemorative publications, he made the first postmark of the Congress stamp, relating to major road infrastructure, attending the meeting of Ministers with a wide representation of various countries and continents, signed the agreement with the International Road Assessment Programme, to implement this methodology in Mexico, as well as a special drawing of the National Lottery of the XXIV World Road Congress.

For Mexico, we are confident that the World Road Congress will represent a part-water experience within the engineering community in the country, since one hand it is the consolidation of national infrastructure, which has been developing highway projects of high significance for the country economically and socially, but also from the engineering point of view, where the Mexican engineering has exceeded its limits. But it is the beginning of a much more challenging path, which requires further efforts and continues the process of modernizing our infrastructure and our public policies to meet the needs of our population.

The success of this World Congress, not only confirms the importance for the development of the country and countries, to continue to build more and better infrastructure, we must continue our efforts to place infrastructure as a pillar on the national development agenda of the country and in many countries, to continue investing increasing resources into planning, projects, construction, maintenance and operation. The results of this Congress are a product of work and commitment of many people in the national road sector for four years. I want to thank in a very special way Mr Oscar de Buen, who presented the candidacy of Mexico for organizing this conference and began work on planning this great event. His vision of the conference and experience in the Association were key factors for the success of the XXIV World Road Congress. Thank you very much Oscar.

I want to thank everyone who helped organize this event in our country and all those involved in organizing it. I will mention their names, although those who prepared the speech said it was not so necessary, but I would like to thank Victor Mahbub, Rodolfo Felix, Humberto Ibarrola, Oscar Ringenbach, Bernardo Ortiz and Angel Barajas, and whole Mexican team that struggled in the preparation of this event. Thank you. The results are obvious.

And obviously the Mr Aguerrebere, who was left out. The collaboration and coordination in organizing this event that the Ministry of Communications and Transport has found with the Mexican Road Engineering Association, has been instrumental in the set up of the conference, so I want to thank the presidents of the Association, which for four years have been working towards the Congress: Mr Manuel Zárate Aquino, Mr Victor Ortiz Ensástegui and Mr Clement Poon. Obviously. I also thank the national road sector for their commitment and solidarity in organizing this event in the various roles they played in it, as sponsors, exhibitors, speakers, among others.

To builders, consultants, concessionaries, universities and professional associations I thank you, sincerely, for the effort, which was critical to make a success of this conference.

And to close this event, by way of farewell, I want to connect live, if you are ready, one of the most emblematic works of Mexican

engineering being developed, so you all can witness the magnificence of this work.

We are connecting with the Durango-Mazatlan road, which is for all engineers with no doubt, one of the most complex works carried out in Mexico, a work of more than 230 miles long that stretches across the Sierra Madre and now we are seeing Hence the engineer Rubio, director of the SCT of Sinaloa, who is just by the bridge Bulwark on the border between the state of Sinaloa and Durango.

(It starts with a live link with the staff working in the construction of Bastion Bridge on the edge of the states of Durango and Sinaloa)

FAUSTO BARAJAS CUMMINGS. - How is it going?

RUBIO ALFREDO ENGINEER, DIRECTOR OF SCT in Sinaloa. Good afternoon, Vice Minister, here we are, to all staff and attendees of the World Road Congress, an affectionate greeting. We are in the Bastion Bridge, in its construction, in which the cable-stayed bridge is the largest in its center span of 520 meters, in Latin America and the world over, with also a cable-stayed road of 392 meters, this bridge is the great icon of the Durango-Mazatlan road and wish you a safe return to all participants to their home countries.

Thanks.

BARAJAS FAUSTO CUMMINGS. – with this symbolic image, which apart from being a great piece of engineering, this road is a great work of the government of Mexico, I think it has great significance for our country, this road will connect what we call the Pacific to the Gulf in a much more efficient, specifying the connection between what is East and West and paradoxically, having had a Congress in Paris, one in Mexico and one in Korea, symbolizes what this road will enable this country, to unite the Pacific and the Gulf. Finally we thank all of you at this World Congress, hope you have been pleased with the results obtained from it, from the standpoint of professional and personal.

(end of the connection)

En nombre de la Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes, del gobierno de México y del secretario de Comunicaciones y Trasportes, el Maestro Dionisio Pérez-Jácome Friscione, les deseamos lo mejor en su regreso a sus respectivos países y les deseamos mucho éxito, no sin antes reiterarles la invitación al XIV Congreso Internacional de Vialidad Invernal, que se llevará a cabo en Andorra en 2014 y al XXV Congreso Mundial de Carreteras que se llevará a cabo en Corea en 2015.

On behalf of the Ministry of Communications and Transport, the government of Mexico and the Minister of Communications and Transport, Mr Dionisio Perez-Jacome Friscione, we wish you well on your return to your country and we wish you success, but not before reiterate the invitation to the **XIV International Winter Road Congress**, which will be held in Andorra in 2014 and the **XXV World Road Congress** to be held in Korea in 2015.

Finally, to make the closing declaration, being 3:32 pm on September 30, 2011, formally declared closed the work ... sorry, stand up, sorry.

And going back, as we say here in Mexico. being 3:32 pm on September 30, 2011, I formally declare the work of the XXIV World Road Congress as closed. Thank you very much and good afternoon.





Organizing committee Mexico 2011 SCT-AMIVTAC

