



**XXIV<sup>th</sup> World  
Road Congress  
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## **PIARC TC D.3 ROAD BRIDGES**

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# Conclusion

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- 1. Bridges whose age is more than 40 - 50 years, require increased maintenance. The number of such bridges is increasing worldwide.**

**It is therefore necessary that jurisdictions secure sufficient budget funding for the inspection and maintenance of bridges.**



# Conclusion

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**2. To maintain bridges efficiently, it is recommended that jurisdictions adopt a Bridge Management System (BMS), adapted to their specific road network condition and requirements.**

**The effective use of BMS is dependent on the quality of the inspection method used and the quality and extent of the data collected.**



# Conclusion

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**3. Experience and training of inspectors is important for the successful application of BMS. It is recommended that bridge inspector training include practical and theoretical components.**

**Non Destructive Testing (NDT) is a useful tool in the evaluation of bridges. Examples of NDT was presented by representatives from Mexico and Finland.**



# Conclusion

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**4. Condition assessment of bridges is an essential component of an overall bridge evaluation. It is recommended that countries use, at most, a five point rating system.**

**“An overall rating system”, calculated using the weighted sums of the individual rated elements, is considered to be the best approach.**



# Conclusion

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**5. The definition of “large road bridges” varies from country to country.**

**A dedicated team is normally in charge of the management of large road bridges.**

**Monitoring, adapted to large bridges, is a useful tool for preventive maintenance.**

**This was presented today by a Japanese representative through the example of the Akashi Kaikyo Bridge.**



# Conclusion

**6. Innovative maintenance techniques were presented today through two examples: the replacement of main cables in France and non-destructive testing to detect the condition of prestressed concrete grouts in Finland.**



# Conclusion

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**7. Climate change is a long term effect. The relationship between the deterioration and damage of existing bridges and climate change is inconclusive at this time.**

**There is therefore a need for deeper understanding of the various effects of climate change. Climate change is one of four issues to be examined during the next PIARC cycle.**





**Thank you!**

