

World Road Association (PIARC)

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



Seville, Spain, 30-31 January 2018

Executive Summary

The third in person meeting for PIARC Task Force B.1 (Road Design and Infrastructure for Innovative Transport Solutions) was held in Seville, Spain on Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st January 2018. The meeting included 11 members of the Task Force from France, Spain, Austria, South Africa, South Korea, Australia, Canada, Italy and Sweden. The meeting was hosted by Ana Luz Jimenez Ortega at DGT (Directorate General of Traffic for Spain) at the Jefatura Provincial de Tráfico de Sevilla (TMC).

The Task Force will *“Identify major considerations in the development and deployment of Vehicles-to-Infrastructure (V2I) and Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V) communication in road design and operations.”* The Task Force has previously determined that all members will work together to contribute to a single report addressing the topic and as such there are no separate work groups within the Task Force.

The January 2018 meeting was primarily dedicated to reviewing the draft chapters that have been prepared by Task Force members. Members were previously assigned to produce draft chapters at the in-person meeting held in July 2017. Content was to be based on data collected through pilot project surveys and technical information made available from member countries.

The focus of the Task Force through to the end of their tenure (in mid-2018) will be collation and refinement of the final task force report and translation into two additional languages (French and Spanish).

Background

The goal of Strategic Theme B is to encourage the improvement of access and mobility provided to the travelling public and industry through efficient road network operation and integration with other transport modes.

The formation of Task Forces, within the strategic plan, allows the investigation of critical issues. The smaller size and 2-year tenure of a task force enables a focused response to an issue as well as some flexibility to explore the topic. The aim is to produce targeted outcomes directly relevant to the topic being explored. The tenure of the TF B.1 will be through to mid-2018.

Work Program

Task Force B.1 held their initial kick-off meeting in July 2016, during which the work program for the activities was determined. Having only a two-year tenure, it was determined that collection of supporting information was best achieved through the development and completion of a survey, to be filled out by Task Force members based on identified case studies. Various technical publications from member countries were also identified as being relevant for the Task Force, in particular including well regarded Austroroads publications:

- Concept of Operations for C-ITS Core Functions (AP-R479-15)
- Cooperative Intelligent Transport Systems (C-ITS) Standards Assessment (AP-R474-15)

A second in-person meeting was held in June 2017, where the work of the Task Force switched from data collection and collation to drafting the output report. Following the June 2017 meeting, members undertook to prepare initial draft versions of their nominated chapters.

In September 2017, an online Webex meeting was held to review the progress of the draft chapter preparations. At this stage, most members had submitted their nominated chapters with all chapters submitted within two weeks after the Webex discussion. The availability of all chapters enabled members to review all draft chapters in preparation for the January 2018 discussions. In the period leading up to January 2018 meeting, most of the collated information (project surveys etc.) was combined to enable it to be readily available at the end of the Task Force activities.

Meeting outputs

The primary purpose of the meeting was for the attending members to collectively review each draft chapter and discuss comments from Task Force members for consideration and incorporation into the report text. This major review task was successfully completed in the allotted meeting time, allowing members to undertake follow-up revisions of their chapters to enable them to be submitted and collated into a first complete draft of the Task Force output report.

The remaining schedule for Task Force B.1 (in line with the initial work program) involves the following activities:

- From 21 February – Collation of the complete report and final review by members
- 7 March to 21 March – Complete first draft sent to for review to the General Secretariat of PIARC
- 21 March – End the PIARC pre-review. TF members' remarks and updates completed by the end of March
- 4 April – Begin translation into French and Spanish
- 30 June – Report completed in 3 languages

The major dissemination process of the report and Task Force findings will be through a dedicated session at the PIARC World Road Congress in Abu Dhabi in October 2019. During the meeting, the attending members discussed the options available for presenting the findings. The Task Force is currently proposing, to the PIARC General Secretariat, that a 3-hour session can be facilitated to present summaries of the major sections of the final report, a summary of the surveys undertaken for the report and also a case study for a country facing C-ITS development challenges (South Africa). Although the congress will occur after the completion of the work by Task Force B.1, members will be required to attend the conference to present the TF outcomes.

The Task Force will also develop a Task Force Activity Report, required by the PIARC General Secretariat, in the lead up to the congress. This will summarise the work and outcomes by the Task Force B.1.

Emerging issues

During the previous in-person meeting (June 2017) the current TF members determined it would be a logical option that a follow-on Task Force be set up to consider vehicle automation (not part of the initial scope of the Task Force) with regard to the aspects relevant to road agencies. (Refer to previous meeting report for Task Force B.1.)

Since the June 2017 meeting, the Chair of Task Force B.1 prepared and submitted a proposal to the PIARC executive to consider the formation of a follow-up Task Force to investigate the topic: *Automated vehicles: challenges and opportunities for road operators and road authorities*. At the January 2018 meeting, the Task Force Chair advised that the PIARC General Secretariat had approved the proposal to form the follow-on task force, to be designated Task Force B.2. It is noted that a significant contributor to the formation of the Task Force B.2 was the current Task Force's demonstration to successfully deliver on the work program outlined at the start of the cycle.

The proposal to form Task Force B.2 was based on the general understanding, and strong desire from the Task Force Chair, that the attending members from Task Force B.1 would carry over to the related topic. This would enable the new Task Force to immediately transition across to the new task force activities with minimal disruption and avoid the loss of valuable time that would usually be involved in mobilising a new group of members. The subject of continuing involvement in the follow-up task force will be discussed in separate correspondence with the First Delegate.

It is noted that the kick-off meeting for Task Force B.2 has already been tentatively scheduled for July 2018 to enable the work to commence as soon as possible after the conclusion of Task Force B.1 in June 2018.

Learnings for Australia and/or New Zealand

In addition to the production of the final report, the completed surveys for the case studies will be made available in conjunction with the report providing a collated source of many C-ITS projects from around the world.

Dissemination

Dissemination of the Task Force outcomes will occur once the final report and associated translations have been produced. The Task force will also present a session at the PIARC World Road Congress in Abu Dhabi in October 2019 (discussed above).

Additional dissemination opportunities were also discussed, should Task Force members be in attendance, which may include:

- ITS World Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark
- TRB annual meeting 2019 in Washington, D.C. USA
- Cape Town Seminar, 5-8th of November 2018

Conclusions and recommendations

The Task Force will continue with the next steps as outlined in the meeting outcomes.

Further communication will be made with the Australian First Delegate to discuss the formation of Task Force B.2.

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