

CALL FOR PAPERS



PRESERVING AFRICA'S ROAD NETWORK

4th SARF/IRF Regional Conference for Africa

11th – 13th October 2010

The Lord Charles, Somerset West, Cape Town, South Africa

Organised by the



SOUTH AFRICAN ROAD FEDERATION (SARF)

in co-operation with the



INTERNATIONAL ROAD FEDERATION (IRF)

Geneva, Switzerland

DATE AND VENUE

The conference will be held from Monday, 11th to Wednesday, 13th October 2010 at The Lord Charles Hotel, Somerset West, Cape Town, South Africa.

BACKGROUND

As the leading global organisation devoted to the promotion of roads and the roads sector worldwide the International Road Federation (IRF) is represented in more than 80 countries. On a regular basis (every four years), the IRF holds conferences to address the most pertinent regional road issues on particular continents, in association with its leading members in the continent concerned. In this way the IRF, in association with the South African Road Federation (SARF) will be organizing this regional conference for Africa to address and debate important road issues of relevance to the African continent. This conference follows on the 3rd IRF/SARF Regional Conference held in Durban in September 2006.

OBJECTIVES

Road networks throughout Sub-Saharan Africa are, in general, in a parlous state. A World Bank study in 1998 has shown that tens of billions of US dollars had been eroded from the capital investment in road networks because of inadequate maintenance, and it is suggested that the position has not improved during recent times. A recent study in South Africa has revealed a similar position in respect of its road network.

This situation has led to vastly increased road user costs and arguably, an increased death rate from crashes caused by poor road conditions.

There is thus compelling evidence to indicate that with a few exceptions, for the past ten to fifteen years, and longer for some countries, the management of road networks in the region has been poor.

This conference seeks to bring together political and executive decision-makers as well as researchers and other professionals in the roads field to examine the state of the African road network and what can be done in terms of sound delivery, management and operations. The ability of the road industry to deliver the safe and efficient conveyance of freight and people, so that the necessary economic and social growth sought in terms of the Millennium Development Goals for Africa - and particularly the alleviation of poverty - will be explored.

TOPICS

In order to structure discussions on the conference objective, certain themes within the overall conference objective have been identified:

- The importance of road asset preservation and asset management systems for the effective management of road networks.
- Institutional and financial arrangements, including private sector involvement, for effective road maintenance.
- Maintenance programme implementation issues, including constraints to effective implementation.
- Sustainable standards and construction techniques for road maintenance, including Expanded Public Works Programmes (EPWP).
- The impact of freight operations on road conditions and the influence of environmental criteria on road maintenance. The influence of road conditions on road safety

AWARDS

The following awards will be made at the conference:

- Best Paper
- Best Paper by a Young Professional (under the age of 35)
- Best presentation (decided by delegate vote)
- Best poster

EXHIBITION

An exhibition will be held concurrently with the conference in the Grand Ballroom at the Lord Charles Hotel. The venue limits the exhibition to 20 stands of 3m x 3m. Stands can be booked on a first-come-first-served basis. Organizations wishing to exhibit are requested to contact the Secretariat for further information.

REGISTRATION FEES

It is expected that the registration fee will be between R4 000 and R5 000 for the three-day conference. With the assistance of sponsorship, it is hoped that a Welcome Reception and a Cocktail Party will be included in the registration fee. There will be a reduced fee for presenting authors and for members of SARF and IRF. Fees will be confirmed nearer the date of the conference.

INTERPRETING

Whilst the organizers do not envisage offering a full simultaneous interpretation facility, informal interpreters will be on hand throughout the conference to assist French- and Portuguese-speaking delegates to formulate their questions and assist with general discussion.

CALL FOR PAPERS

High calibre oral and poster papers that are relevant to the conference theme are invited. (Prospective authors are requested to type their details and abstract on the "ABSTRACT TEMPLATE" available from the conference website: www.sarf.co.za or on request from: confplan@iafrica.com - and e-mail it to the Secretariat by 30 November 2009 at the latest).

Papers will be accepted on the understanding that the main author (or a co-author) will personally attend the conference as a fee-paying delegate and present the paper; and that the deadlines indicated below will be strictly adhered to. Please note that papers submitted in response to this Call for Papers will be subject to a full review process. Deadline dates will be as follows:

30th November 2009:

Closing date for electronic submission of abstracts.

1st February 2010:

Provisional acceptance. Authors advised to start preparation of full papers and issued with format guidelines.

1st April 2010:

Submission of full papers (8 - 10 pages) in the required format.

1st May 2010:

Reviewed papers returned to authors for possible amendment.

1st August 2010:

Submission of finalized (amended) papers for inclusion on CD-ROM.

11th - 13th October 2010:

CONFERENCE

THE FINAL ANNOUNCEMENT

The final announcement will be emailed out by 1st June 2010 to all who indicate their interest to: confplan@iafrica.com. It will also be posted onto the SA Road Federation's website: www.sarf.co.za. It will include the provisional programme, special tariffs for accommodation, fees and social functions, as well as all final details on arrangements and on the conference and exhibition.

**Please complete and return as soon as possible (before 30 November 2009) to:
Cilla Taylor Conferences, PO Box 82, Irene 0062 South Africa.
Fax: +27 (0) 12 667 3680, e-mail: confplan@iafrica.com**

By returning this form or e-mailing the details to confplan@iafrica.com you are indicating your interest in the conference without any obligation. You will automatically receive the final announcement and registration form.

Surname _____

Initials _____ Title (Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms) _____

Organisation _____

Postal Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Cellphone _____

E-mail _____

If you wish to offer a paper for consideration please download the abstract template from the website: www.sarf.co.za

Please advise the Secretariat at: confplan@iafrica.com to add your name to the database to ensure that you receive further conference communications.

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Attn: Ms Cilla Taylor

P O Box 82 (66 Queen Street)

IRENE

0062

South Africa

Tel: +27 (0)12 667-3681

Fax: +27 (0)12 667-3680

E-mail: confplan@iafrica.com