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# AUTO+ ASSEMBLY

## Clear path to progress

FIA President Jean Todt tells AGA how the federation is becoming more transparent, efficient and effective in every sphere



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## ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

# AGA puts focus on transparency and continued growth

FIA pursues highest standards of governance as it commissions external review. Mobility and sport going from strength to strength

FIA President Jean Todt today told the FIA Annual General Assembly, that the federation heads toward 2016 having made significant progress across all its arms, from mobility to motor sport and in governance.

President Todt opened his address to delegates by thanking them for their presence in Paris at time of great difficulty, saying that in uncertain times “the FIA is an example of international cooperation between peoples from all cultures, all religions and all races, which makes me proud of you and of our great organisation”.

Turning to the federation’s activities he said: “Half way through our second term there is much to report in regard to the progress we have made and the challenges that lie ahead.”

Referring to recent troubles at other sports federations, President Todt said that thanks to the reforms made in governance of the FIA, the federation should have no fear of the kind of checks being applied to other organisations.

“Following what has happened at FIFA and the IAAC, there will be increasing scrutiny of all global sporting federations but we should not fear this,” he said. “Because of the reforms we have undertaken over the past six years, on the contrary, we welcome it.”

He added that in order to maintain the FIA’s pursuit of the highest standard of governance an external firm has been contracted to review procedures, starting in the new year.

“We have put in place the necessary checks and balances to ensure that our organisation is transparent, democratic and ethical. This process of critical self-examination and improvement was long overdue.”

The federation’s ability to assist clubs is also much improved, he said, with over 5.5m euros in funding being provided to clubs in 2015, a record figure.

In the realm of mobility, the AGA heard how in 2015 the FIA refocused its effort around a number of key areas, including improved servicing of clubs’ needs and strengthening the FIA’s position as a global advocate in the critical areas of road safety and sustainability.

The year was marked by the launch of the FIA High Level Panel for Road Safety, a unique initiative that brings together eminent individuals from the global business community, international institutions and non-government organisations to raise awareness of the global road safety crisis and to lead a coordinated response.

The United Nations' 2nd Global Conference on Road Safety, held in Brasilia recently, reinforced the need for the FIA and its members to take a strong lead to achieve the goals of the Decade of Action for Road Safety.

Moving on to sport, President Todt said that as with Mobility, the federation's Sport arm continues to focus on three main goals. "The first is to ensure the future of our championships, which represent a vital asset for the FIA and all its members," he said. "The second target is to develop increased expertise in the areas of safety, development and technical support. The third is to ensure environmental sustainability through the adoption of innovative technology, and particularly engine development.

"There can be no compromise," he said. "We must deliver the highest standard of safety possible in motor sport for all of those involved – be they drivers, officials or spectators. We are creating and implementing new regulations and developing the equipment necessary to ensure we achieve this goal.

"Much of the technology we develop

flows directly to the vehicles we drive every day on normal roads."

Also highlighted was the success of the FIA's efforts in the single-seater categories to redefine the pathway from the entry level of karting all the way to the top level, Formula One.

"For so many leading drivers, the journey to Formula One began with karting and this will continue as the first step in our pyramid," he said. "The second is F4. There are now more than 10 national F4 championships in place and our third step, F3, has been consolidated at continental level. Next year should bring with it the advent of F2, which will complete the pyramid by providing the final step to Formula One," he added.

The FIA President thanked the FIA Foundation for its assistance in funding motor sport development. He paid tribute to outgoing Foundation Chairman Tim Keown and welcomed the election of the body's new Chairman, Lord Robertson of Port Ellen.

"Lord Robertson brings a wealth of experience to the position," he said. "I look forward to continuing to strengthen

the relationship and cooperation between our two bodies so that together we can achieve so much more."

Elsewhere, the AGA approved the affiliation of three new member clubs: Antigua Pro Racing LTD (ATG) in sport; Azerbaijan Milli Avtomobil Klubu (AZE), in mobility and tourism, and the Federation of Auto Sport of Kosovo (XKX) in sport.

President Todt also made mention of a number of clubs that celebrated milestones in 2015, including the Automobile Club de Monaco (125 years), the Ministry of Tourism of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Touring and Automobile Club of the Islamic Republic of Iran (80 years), Touring y Automovil Club de Colombia (75 years), and 50 years for Club the Automobile du Burundi, the Federacion Chilena de Automovilismo Deportivo, the Kuwait International Automobile Club (KIAC), the Federazione Auto Motoristica Sammarinese, the Automobile and Touring Club for United Arab Emirates (ATC UAE) and the Zambia Motor Sport Association (ZMSA).



The AGA gives delegates a final chance to meet with colleagues, while (bottom right) Nick Crow, Jean Todt, Graham Stoker and Brian Gibbon prepare for the meeting.



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