BUILDING A DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE WORLD OF MOBILITY
Yesterday’s meeting of the World Council for Automobile Mobility and Tourism (WCAMT) was presented with developments across a range of key initiatives, all designed to increase access and improve services for road users worldwide.

The meeting began with a welcome being extended to the new Presidents from the FIA Regions, following the re-election of Thomas Møller Thomsen as President of FIA Region I, and election of Greig Craft as President of FIA Region II, Frank Fotia as President of FIA Region III, and Ricardo Morales Rubio as President of FIA Region IV.

FIA President Jean Todt then addressed the WCAMT for the final time and thanked all of the past and present FIA Regions’ Presidents for their commitment.

“On Friday my third mandate will end but this is an opportunity to thank my former Deputy President Brian Gibbons and to thank my good friend Thierry Willemarck for his strong leadership in a difficult situation as half of our third mandate has taken place during the pandemic. The crisis is far from over but this is an opportunity to congratulate you all for your strong handling of this hard time.

“I also want to thank and congratulate all the Regional Presidents. All of you have been part of allowing the FIA to go to the next level as have the World Council members who have had strong input and made a great contribution, not only during these meetings but throughout the years.”

President Todt then presented this year’s FIA Road Safety Award for ‘Most Effective Road Safety Intervention’ to the Canadian Automobile Association with Frank Fotia on hand to accept the honour.

FIA Deputy President Thierry Willemerack paid tribute to the work completed by the World Council over the past four years.

“As Deputy President, I must say that it is not without some emotion that I address the meeting today,” he declared. “We all have very similar activities worldwide. We have common goals and yet we are so different and that is the richness of the FIA. It has been an eye opener and I have learned a lot from all of you,” he said.

Turning towards the meeting agenda, the World Council heard about a broad range of initiatives aimed at providing a secure future for the FIA and its Member Clubs.

Prince Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein, former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, presented the WCAMT with the Diversity, Inclusion and Human Rights Strategic Framework, entitled ‘On the Road Toward Respect for People in Practice’ begun at the end of 2020.

As part of the process, Prince Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein and Rachel Davis, Vice President of the non-profit organisation Shift, were asked to provide the Federation with expert advice to take the authoritative international framework – the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights – and apply it to the FIA’s reality in order to ensure that the FIA’s PurposeDriven commitments lead to meaningful and sustained change, and enable the FIA to take account of all relevant human rights issues in its work.

Working with Anna Triponel, Senior Associate with Shift, they were asked for recommendations on creating a more diverse and inclusive culture across Motor Sport and Mobility and advancing the Federation’s broader approach to managing human rights risks in line with international human rights standards.

Three main spheres of activity were considered in analysing the FIA’s approach to preventing and addressing discrimination and broader human rights risks: as an employer and procurer of goods and services; as the regulator of world motor sport, and as a major player in mobility.
Presenting the recommendations developed from these considerations, Prince Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein said: “The overall conclusion we came away with, the reflection we had is that the FIA has already begun and taken a fundamental step forward in anchoring its work on non-discrimination in both the Statutes and Code of Ethics. It’s absolutely clear that everyone shall refrain from discriminating against others, that the dignity of each human being needs to be respected and this coincides with the profusion of activity coming out of the PurposeDriven movement.”

He added that the team had defined a set of 10 Golden Rules to govern the FIA’s approach to Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) as well as human rights. The rules outlined are: 1 - Focus on risks to people; 2 - Identify who is most vulnerable; 3 - Tackled the most severe risks to people first; 4 - Use creative leverage; 5 - Follow the higher standard; 6 - Speak to the people who know; 7 - Put things right; 8 - Ask whether the response is working; 9 - Be transparent; 10 - Make it stick.

In the specific realm of Mobility, Prince Zeid Ra’ad Al Hussein said the FIA should support D&I initiatives within Clubs, leverage the FIA University in support of D&I, make available financial support, encourage good Club governance and supply chain management, further promote smart cities, and engage in responsible lobbying.

The World Council then heard about the findings of the latest FIA Membership Survey. The survey was divided into seven sections: ‘Club Information and Membership Model’; ‘Advocacy and Public Policy’; ‘Membership Services’; ‘Communications’; ‘Relationship with the FIA’; ‘Strategic Overview/Health Crisis’; ‘Other Comments’. The survey was sent out at the end of September to 172 Mobility Clubs and ACNs and 73 Clubs participated. It was made available in English, Spanish and French. The full results will be finalised in January but the WCAMT was presented with outline details.

Measuring the impact of the global pandemic, the survey found that 41% of Clubs felt the crisis had a very high impact on their activities. Clubs in Region III felt most affected by the crisis, with 80% reporting very high impact. Just 33% in Region I felt the same.

In the area of Advocacy and Public Policy, 46% of Clubs surveyed ranked the issue of the cost of motoring as being of very high interest, with congestion, at 33%, ranking as the next most pressing issue, followed by road pricing, Mobility as a Service, accessibility, and autonomous vehicles.

Commenting on Member Services and the topic of youth engagement, the Survey found that 44% of Clubs have specific programmes or membership models aimed at young people, with Region III featuring the most with 75% of their Clubs targeting youth.

Finally, in terms of business management, the key areas identified as being of relevance to Clubs participating in the survey were: project management, digital marketing, knowledge management, and strategic lobbying.

World Council members were given a status report on the work of the Youth Mobility Working Group.

At its July meeting, the World Council had agreed on a proposal to establish a Mobility Working Group to support the development of the Mobility component of the FIA Youth Strategy.

The Working Group met twice, on 14 September and 13 October 2021, and is working towards defining an FIA Youth Mobility Strategy.

In Q1 of 2022, the project will move towards understanding the needs of young people through market research, the identification of youth organisations with which the FIA can collaborate, and consultation sessions. In Q3 and Q4 of 2022, Clubs will collaborate with youth through the involvement of youth organisations in FIA-led events, youth-led projects in road safety and sustainable mobility, and the identification of global programmes where the FIA can engage with youth.

Finally, the projects will look at methods of attraction and retention by assessing loyalty programmes, exploring opportunities with motor sport and tourism, and through the creation of toolkits for Clubs interested in piloting the strategy.

World Council members also heard of various reports about projects led by the FIA Mobility Policy and Services Commissions and from joint Sport and Mobility Commissions. The 2021 activity reports and 2022 work plans of these Commissions were approved. The WCAMT also validated the FIA Mobility Annual Report that will be available to all on FIA Networks after the Annual General Assembly. The World Council noted the reports from the four FIA Mobility Regions which were included in the business papers.
NEW STRATEGY TO FACE NEW CHALLENGES

The FIA Region I Extraordinary Plenary Assembly was held on Tuesday with a key element of the meeting devoted to the presentation and adoption of a new strategy plan for the Region for the period from 2022 to 2025.

FIA Region I President Thomas Møller Thomsen started the gathering by welcoming the participants and highlighting one of the main challenges ahead for Members of FIA Region I, which covers Europe, Middle East and Africa.

“We are all pleased with the collaboration inside Region I but now, it’s time for a renewed effort in collaboration and all the challenges we face are truly great,” he said. “Number one is climate change. It’s time to stop talking about climate change and call it what it is: it is a climate crisis for the whole world. Demands for change are not just coming from policy makers, they are now coming from our Members and the citizens in most countries. Therefore, today we will have a session in this meeting giving the floor to Clubs to share examples of what they are doing or plan to do to adapt to the climate crisis.”

Møller Thomsen also thanked Jean Todt for his work over the last 12 years as FIA President and his achievements in positioning the FIA as an international leader in both Sport and Mobility and in promoting road safety within the FIA Community and globally. He then invited President Todt to receive a gift from FIA Region I that was presented to him by Touring Club Suisse President Peter Goetschi.

The meeting focused next on the presentation of the new strategy for FIA Region I centred around the determination that exists to help Clubs become experts in technologies of the future. Indeed, topics that matter most to Mobility Clubs are becoming increasingly complex and the FIA Region I Office will dedicate resources to providing continuous knowledge and training to Clubs on new technologies such as alternative propulsion technologies and fuels, and their implications for consumers.

FIA Region I will also continue to share intelligence on consumer-focused innovation, notably through harnessing the potential of connectivity (car-based and beyond). Finally, FIA Region I plans to continue to foster Club partnerships as illustrated by the ambition to scale its mentoring programme, for instance.

As outlined in Møller Thomsen’s introduction, the later part of the meeting was dedicated to the climate crisis after a year marked by extreme weather, which has served as a stark reminder of the extent of the crisis we are facing.

Such events also run the risk of disrupting Clubs’ operations. Speakers from five FIA Region I Mobility Clubs made statements from the floor on how their Clubs are addressing the crisis.

Presentations included explanations on how Clubs are decarbonising their operations and infrastructure, as well as overviews of sustainable products and services they will offer to their members. Speakers included Oliver Schmerold (OAMTC, Austria), Jure Kostanjšek (AMZS, Slovenia), Josep Mateu (RACC, Spain), Jinaro Kibet (AA Kenya) and Willem Groenwald (AA South Africa).
Region II Plenary Meeting

MAKING TRAVEL EASIER AND SAFER

Yesterday’s FIA Region II Plenary, the first chaired by its new President, Greig Craft, dealt with increasing revenue and raising awareness of road safety.

Finally, Turki detailed recent developments on electronic Carnets de Passages en Douane (CPDs), explaining that Egypt and Jordan are willing to participate on e-CPD pilots.

The meeting then heard of two exciting new road safety programmes being rolled out in Region II countries.

Initiated by the AIP Foundation in Vietnam, the ‘Heads Up’ campaign, was presented by the Foundation’s Programme Manager, Giang Trinh. She explained that the campaign targets university students with messaging designed to raise awareness of helmet use. She pointed out that this demographic cares about strong issues and has been identified as being social, opinionated, expressive, community-oriented and tech savvy. At its core, the campaign stresses the slogan of ‘Helmets Save Lives’. Trinh added that it would work on two subcampaigns, focused on quality through the tagline ‘Don’t settle for less. Wear a good helmet’, and on generating additional regional messaging through a PSA competition among students, under the slogan: ‘We need more heads like yours, to inspire others’. ‘Heads Up’ will be rolled out across four ASEAN countries. Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand and the Philippines starting this month. A dedicated website, www.headsupproject.org, will go live from 16 December 2021. There are dedicated pages for both parts of the campaign as the website serves as a one stop for all information regarding “Heads Up!”.

Meanwhile, AA Vietnam is launching the ‘Power of No’ campaign and this was presented by the organisation’s Strategic Impact and Communications Advisor Molly Stoneman. She explained that road crashes are the number one killer of young adults, that alcohol is a factor in one in three fatal collisions, and that young drivers aged 20-24 are the highest risk group. To combat this, the Club, in partnership with the FIA and the Asia Pacific International Spirits and Wines Alliance (APISWA), representing 11 global spirits and wine producers operating across the Asia-Pacific region, is launching ‘Power of No’ in six Region II countries: Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, and the Philippines. The campaign targets the relevant demographic with high quality videos featuring key messages, engaging social media content in localised languages, a dedicated landing page to learn more about local laws and guidance, surveys and ongoing metrics collection to measure impact and professional support, as well as advice from experts in road safety. Set to run for two years, the project will, in its first year, aim to reach 14 million of the 47 million young adults active on Facebook across the six countries and, in year two, would measure the impact of the campaign messages.
INNOVATION AT THE CENTRE OF MOBILITY IN NORTH AMERICA

The FIA Region III, which is formed of Mobility Clubs in North America, gathered yesterday and heard from a number of FIA Representatives and Club Delegates.

Newly elected FIA Region III President Frank Fotia began the session by thanking previous President Tim Shearman for his work and welcomed the Region’s two new World Council representatives, Alvaro Oliver and Selwyn Persad.

FIA Head of Road Safety and Global Advocacy Luca Pascotto then gave an update on the FIA Policy Commission on both sustainable mobility and road safety.

Pascotto detailed how the FIA Policy Commission is being used to monitor the implementation of the FIA Mobility Safety Strategy for 2021-23, which sets out the strategic framework for the FIA to work with and support its Member Clubs and Regions in promoting and pursuing a global culture of safe mobility.

Delegates learned that the results of a survey gave a better understanding of existing activities of FIA Member Clubs and helped to determine gaps that might exist in the allocation of grants for 2022.

Pascotto explained that the Commission provided feedback and discussed the direction of the Sustainable Mobility roadmap. As well as highlighting Member Clubs’ case studies, the roadmap provides a framework for the FIA Sustainable Mobility Grant Programme, which will allow FIA Clubs to submit new funding applications for 2022.

FIA Secretary General for Automobile Mobility and Tourism ad interim Onika Miller then gave an update on the FIA Innovation Fund (FIF) activities, with a specific focus on the FIA Mobility Worldwide programme and its new Business Diversification Casebook.

Miller reported that €36 million had been committed by the FIF to support 39 projects, of which nine are Mobility projects and two are cross-pillar. Assisting new mobility projects, improving safety and building capacity are among the FIF’s objectives.

A presentation from FIA Director of Tourism Services Habib Turki and team members, FIA Policy Officer Timothy Stuart and FIA Tourism Communication Officer Zein Al Fayez followed.

The meeting heard how the FIA is working to build an International Driving Permit (IDP) Repository to be available on the UNECE website, where stakeholders can quickly establish if an IDP is accepted in a particular country and what specific regulations might be in place.

An initial document has been prepared and a second version will be submitted to the UNECE in March 2022. Delegates underlined the need to look at the value of IDPs, especially as far as the insurance sector is concerned.

Delegates also heard about the VIAFIA platform project, which delivers the most up-to-date international travel and motor-related information to FIA Member Clubs.

As part of the presentation, Turki said: “Our goal is to build capacity within our Clubs, diversify business activities and engage with the younger generation.”

Cross-border touring initiatives and details of a 12-part panel discussion entitled ‘Let’s Talk Tourism’ from different tourism experts were provided.

Automóvil Club Dominicano President Andrea Oliver gave an update on the FIA Services Commission and highlighted the need for new projects to be submitted to the Commission for consideration.

Plans for an FIA Region III dedicated website were also revealed.
Region IV Extraordinary Assembly

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Yesterday’s Region IV meeting saw its new President Ricardo Morales Rubio present his vision for mobility across South America.

The Region IV Extraordinary Assembly meeting began with newly elected President Ricardo Morales Rubio greeting participants and presenting the new work plan of the Region.

Entitled ‘Bienvenidos al Futuro’ (‘Welcome to the Future’), the plan seeks to implement an organised structure that generates tangible and measurable benefits for all Clubs, no matter their size, in terms of image, credibility, leadership and revenues, both in Sport and Mobility.

The scheme is built around a number of themes, principally mobility, digital transformation, and growth.

In the area of Mobility, the new work plan is designed to address the changes in the current mobility landscape with the promotion of more sustainable mobility and the closer involvement of young people. In order to do this, Region IV will provide support and help its Clubs build capacity in these fields. It also focuses on the adoption of electric vehicles, the promotion of safe vehicles through work with Latin NCAP and advocacy for safer roads through work with iRap.

The new Region IV plan stresses that the FIA name is synonymous with expertise in the field of mobility and road safety and that Clubs have an opportunity to build a strong and profitable business working as advisors in the Mobility sphere. To leverage this, training will be provided to Club Presidents, Mobility Managers and Commercial Managers.

In the field of digital transformation, the plan provides for the development of a regional platform and for training opportunities in social media management for Clubs’ staff, teaching them to make the most of the digital revolution. FIA Region IV will also look to improve understanding of big data and its impact on Club business across the region.

Preparing Clubs to succeed in the changing mobility landscape is also high on the list of priorities and the work plan will attempt to identify and develop new sources of revenue for Member Clubs. This will be achieved through the implementation of ‘Clubes para Clubes’ initiatives to improve collaboration and foster experience sharing among Clubs in the Region to help them grow together.

FIA Region IV will promote and support projects that are scalable at regional level and will encourage regional alliances to increase revenues and to limit risk. The Region will also seek to reinforce its position at the heart of FIA decision-making processes.

Outlining the plan, President Morales Rubio said that to succeed, the Region will rely on three principles: transparency, fostering an open community, and maintaining constant and constructive dialogue with the FIA. It also plans to organise regional virtual meetings every two months.

FIA Region IV Road Safety and Environment Manager Pablo Azorin presented how the new work plan will be implemented in 2022 through a wide range of projects. These include training and auditing programmes in the area of mobility and road safety, as well as training of trainers and eLearning programmes to build capacity within Clubs in the Region.

The programme for next year will also feature the development of a regional digital platform and implementation of a CRM for commercial management, the development of an eCommerce app and work towards creating a logistical centre in Latin America that builds on the lessons learned from the success of the ANETA Express delivery service developed by the Ecuadorian Club during the pandemic.

Delegates also heard a report about the last edition of the FIA University Latin American Leaders Programme that took place in December in Quito, Ecuador, and was hosted by ANETA. The programme, taught in Spanish, gathered 30 Delegates from Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru and Paraguay and was a great success.

The meeting concluded with discussions about the need to promote the importance of the International Driving Permit, which is a big source of revenues for FIA Region IV Clubs.
GAME-CHANGING INITIATIVES

The meeting of the FIA Innovation Fund (FIF) Steering Committee was held yesterday in the presence of FIA President Jean Todt, who thanked the Committee for its engagement and singled out one project as a potential boon for society as a whole.

The meeting opened with Jean Todt thanking the FIF Steering Committee members for the work undertaken since the establishment of the Fund in December 2017.

“The intention, when we negotiated with Formula 1 for a strong financial contribution, which started at around €50 million, was to address how we could leave a legacy to the FIA. I have been following progress very carefully and globally, we can say that we leave a substantial legacy to the FIA and additionally, we leave it in a good financial position. It is my hope that this continues and the Fund is optimised with the same intention: to leave a legacy.”

The FIA President pointed to one project that he believes could bring a substantial societal improvement: “I would highlight one project that I feel is a game changer for mobility – the FIA Safe and Affordable Helmet Programme,” he said.

“During our discussions on road safety with Clubs, NGOs, banks and the United Nations, we realised that in the developing world, where there is poor public transportation, two-wheelers and pedestrians are among the most vulnerable,” he continued. “If we pursue the development of this project, it could be a global game changer.”

The meeting then heard of financial developments with FIA Chief Administrative Officer Jean-Baptiste Pinton explaining that the FIF has so far allocated €36 million to fund the 39 ongoing or completed projects. Thanks to investments made and good market performance, the total value of the Fund grew to €64 million, thus leaving €28 million in the Fund today to support future projects.

An overview of the projects approved in 2021 was then presented by Head of the FIF and FIA Secretary General for Automobile Mobility and Tourism ad interim Onika Miller. These include the FIA Road Safety Index, which aims to measure the road safety performance of an organisation from
a value chain perspective, and the FIA Digital Formula 4 Toolkit, which seeks to advance the FIA’s Esports involvement.

Head of the FIF Miller then updated the Steering Committee members on the communication strategy launched earlier this year to give greater visibility to the Fund and the variety of projects it is backing.

“We felt it was necessary to put an emphasis on communication with a view to increasing engagement with the FIA Innovation Fund to ensure we have a strong pipeline of projects, and sharing what has been achieved so far,” she explained. “In July, we launched a new and improved FIF web page within FIA.com which is constantly updated to reflect the project developments. On this page, you can view and download the new FIF brochure, there is video content that tells the story of the FIF through the lens of selected projects, and we provide snapshots of each of the 39 projects funded by the FIF so far.

“The latest addition to the FIF communications package”, Miller added, “is a newsletter called ‘Fund in Focus’, which will present, on a monthly basis, the latest news and updates on exciting projects of the FIF. The first edition went live just a few days ago and was distributed to all FIA Sport and Mobility Clubs as well as to the FIA staff.”

Delegates were then updated on a number of projects across Sport and Mobility that have seen recent significant developments or reached completion, and the work done on the Report of the Global Contribution of Motor Sport to Economy and Community Development, which was published in July, was saluted. Among the most recently approved FIF projects, it was explained that the FIA Global Rally Ranking would be launched by the end of the first quarter of 2022.
The meeting opened with a focus on the FIA Carbon Footprint and Offsetting Strategy. FIA Sustainability Project Manager Lidia Wisniewska explained the FIA’s carbon footprint had been calculated since 2019. While there was a notable reduction to 6.2 kilotonnes CO2 equivalent in 2020 due to the reduction of global travel as a result of the pandemic, it’s estimated that figures for 2021 will show a rise to 10 kilotonnes following event and business travel increasing. However, an FIA working group is developing a carbon reduction plan that aims to reduce emissions of its own operations by 20% in 2025 and 50% in 2030 (compared to 2019 figures).

There was an overview of how the FIA plans to offset its remaining emissions via investing in carbon compensation projects to an equivalent of 6,200 tonnes of CO2 in Colombia, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe.

An update on the FIA Environmental Strategy Implementation Roadmap, followed with an overview of targets set and a status of goals reached by the FIA for its administration, FIA Members, FIA Championships and FIA Network in 2021.

Commission’s members, attending in person in Paris or remotely, took part in valuable discussions with contributions from Formula E Founder Alejandro Agag, FIA Environmental Delegate and World Motor Sport Council member Garry Connelly, FIM Sustainability Director Kattia Juárez, FIA Mobility Policy Commission President and Royal Dutch Touring Club Director of Public Affairs Ferry Smith, Consultant representing Motorsport UK Dr Cristiana Pace and FIM Consultant Dr Karl-Friedrich Ziegahn.

Delegates were given an update on the FIA’s ISO 14001:2015 certification process, which Formula E Sustainability Director Julia Pallé said was a “major step for the FIA” following a successful external audit from a third-party provider.

In 2021, the FIA has worked on the application of sustainable energies in championships and developed a 2026 roadmap for World Championships that defines a timeline for transition towards fully sustainable fuels for different competition categories. From 2022, research on sustainable innovations will be expanded to other topics that are relevant for application in motor sport.

FIA Sustainable Motor Sport Programmes Coordinator Pierre Villez reported that 71 Member Organisations, including 14 ASNs, have received accreditations as part of the FIA Environment Accreditation Programme, with a record 27 new accreditations awarded this year. FIA Sustainable Mobility Programmes Coordinator Santiago Peña Gomez explained that, while only five Clubs have been accredited so far, mostly due to their focus switching to other priorities during the pandemic, over 15 accreditation processes have either started or will soon begin the application process.

Villez also presented the FIA Carbon Calculation Toolkit, while Delegates heard that the FIA Environmental Training Programme has been available to all Members free of charge since November. Over seventy participants have registered for the first level of eLearning so far, with more online modules planned for 2022.

The FIA Smart Cities Initiative included eForums in Americas, Europe and Asia-Pacific with Mobility Clubs and government representatives taking part. Out of the over 250 applications received, 18 finalists were selected and four startups were identified as winners of the Season 5 of the FIA Smart Cities Global Start-up Contest.

There was an update on the FIA Sustainable Mobility Roadmap by Sustainability Consultant Maria Mekies, an overview of how the FIA Environment and Sustainability strategy is communicated by FIA Digital Communication Manager Caroline Morard, as well as a report from Formula E, with a focus on COP26 activations by Julia Pallé.

FIA President Jean Todt thanked the FIA Environment and Sustainability Commission President Felipe Calderón and the Commission’s members for their work and for “making the FIA stronger”. He added: “Of course, it’s natural to have this Commission but most importantly, it’s something that is absolutely needed. Climate change and the environment is on top of the agenda of countries all around the world and I hope the next Presidential team will maintain this momentum.”
AGA 2021 - DAY 2
The FIA Senate and World Councils’ Dinner was held in the beautiful Grande Chancellerie de la Légion d’Honneur in Paris yesterday evening. With many Members of the FIA Family from around the world not able to meet in person for more than two years, the dinner served as opportunity for old acquaintances to be renewed. The Dinner was the last to be hosted Jean Todt in his role as FIA President and the occasion was marked by Michèle Mouton, President of the FIA Women in Motorsport Commission, who presented a stunning sculpture, crafted by Frank Stella in stainless steel, to President Todt.