



FIA NEWSLETTER FOR CLUBS AND ASN
NOVEMBER 2014 - ISSUE 10

AUTO+ NEWS

HELPING HANDS

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with training programmes **PG 8**

LOWERING THE TOLL

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NZAA OFFERS LEARNER DRIVERS FREE LESSONS

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AUTO+ MEET THE FAMILY



Welcome to issue 10 of AUTO+, featuring the latest news and views from FIA family members all across the world.

Road Safety is an issue that affects every nation around the world but nowhere is the crisis being more keenly felt than in Iran, which according to the United Nations has the highest road accident fatality rate in the world. In this issue's Meet the Family section we find out how the Touring and Automobile Club of Iran, under its President Abolghasem Iraji (left), is working with a range of stakeholders to tackle the scourge.

In other road safety news we look at how clubs embraced World First Aid Day, we report on a hard-hitting new safety initiative from Paraguay to mark the club's 90th anniversary and we look at ACI new campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of drowsy driving.

In motor sport, the FIA's new Formula 4 junior category is going from strength to strength, with the announces of two new compliant championships, in Australia and the UK.

We hope you enjoy this latest edition of AUTO+ and look forward to seeing you in Doha next week for the FIA Annual General Assembly and Prize-Giving ceremony.

Your AUTO+ team

Automóvil Club Dominicano

FIA American Congress comes to Dominican Republic

The FIA XVI American Congress was held in Santo Domingo, from 6-8 August 2014. Building on the success of previous years, the congress offered three days of meetings, networking and social events for FIA clubs across the American continent.

Central to the organisation of the event was Alvaro Oliver Venere, President of the Automóvil Club Dominicano; Henry Krausz, President of the Federacion Dominicana de Automovilismo; Tim Shearman, President of FIA Region III; Jorge Tomasi Crisci, President of FIA Region IV; José Abed, FIA Vice-President for Sport, and many more.

The congress was a wonderful opportunity to bring together both sport and mobility clubs from across the region in order to exchange new ideas, strategies, and visions for the future.

The event concluded with the now annual joint meeting of the FIA and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) on road safety with the participation of FIA President Jean Todt, IDB President Luis Alberto Moreno, the Dominican Republic's Minister for the Economy Temístocles Montás, Senior Transport Specialist at the World Bank, Veronica Raffo, and President of the Ibero-American Road Safety Observatory (OISEVI), Felipe Rodriguez.

Partners welcomed steps taken by the Dominican Republic Government to work on the development and implementation of a National Road Safety Plan together with the IDB.

The Automóvil Club Dominicano has been a strong supporter of the UN Decade of Road Safety, carrying out many awareness raising and education projects in the Dominican Republic.



An FIA and IDB delegation including FIA President Jean Todt and IDB President Luis Alberto Moreno met with Dominican Republic President Danilo Medina after the joint event on road safety.

National Roads and Motorists' Association

Patrols David Scott and Bill Zammit (NRMA's longest serving active Patrol) with MC Col Endacott.



NRMA celebrates 90th anniversary

Australia's National Roads and Motorists' Association (NRMA) celebrated 90 years of roadside assistance in October.

What began with two patrols in 1924 has grown into a tradition of trusted and dependable help and as such, celebrations fittingly focused on the NRMA's DNA: people helping people.

The NRMA celebrated with thousands of members across 12 regional centres in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory before stopping for a history showcase in Sydney's Darling Harbour. Over 3,500 people enjoyed displays of historic memorabilia and vehicles, watched safety demonstrations and got their hands dirty in tyre changing challenges.

Patrols swapped their toolkits for tuxedos at a gala dinner celebrating all who've worn the famous uniform. Among those honoured were the NRMA's oldest ex-patrol Jack Wilson (aged 92), its oldest active patrol Carl Foster (aged 84) and its longest serving active patrol Bill Zammit (37 years' service). The NRMA was delighted to host key state government officials at the gala, with Premier of NSW, the Honourable Mike Baird sharing his own story of when the NRMA came to his aid in his keynote speech.

These events were a wonderful reminder of the NRMA's long history and the role it plays for its 2.4 million members today.



Automobil Clubul Roman

Romania makes use of seatbelt sexy

The seatbelt has become cool and sexy, thanks to a viral campaign on Instagram, launched by the Romanian Automobile Club (ACR).

The unconventional campaign aims to make the wearing of seatbelts hard to ignore for everyone, especially men, who are traditionally hard to reach with these types of educational messages.

In Romania, 6 out of 10 drivers forego the use of a seatbelt when they're in a car. Men have a 77 per cent greater chance of losing being killed in a car accident, and annually, three times more men die in car crashes than women.

The campaign aims to make the seat belt the most attractive accessory of the moment, a cool and sexy item in Romania.

"Ladies, let's use selfies for a good cause!" invites the ACR's campaign. They have been asked to upload pictures of themselves to Instagram while wearing seatbelts. "I was immediately on board with this daring idea and I'm pleased we are already seeing the positive impact of this campaign at both national and international levels" said ACR President, Constantin Niculescu.

More details on: <http://www.seatbeltb00bing.com>



The ACR's novel campaign involves getting women drivers in Romania to take 'selfies' of themselves.

New Zealand Automobile Association

NZAA Driving School cars on the Auckland waterfront.



NZAA offers learner drivers free lessons

There's an old saying in many English-speaking countries – there's no such thing as a free lunch – meaning that everything has a price, but the New Zealand Automobile Association is turning that concept on its head.

In October, the AA's Driving School launched the second phase of a project designed to provide new learner drivers with the right skills and knowledge to ensure they become confident and responsible motorists.

AA Ignition provides new learner drivers with three completely free professional driving lessons to set them on the right path towards getting their full driver licence.

"We're calling it Learn to Drive the AA Way, which is a complete A-Z of information and advice for drivers. And, at the beginning of that process, we're offering up three free lessons to get them started, with plenty of advice about how to practice in between each of them," AA Driving School General Manager Nigel Clark says.

The AA has invested about \$2 million (NZD) towards AA Ignition which is an extension of a programme offering a single free driving lesson initially launched in July 2013. Between 10-15 per cent of new learner drivers took up the offer, which was gradually rolled out across the country. Up until the beginning of October this year, about 5,000 single free lessons were provided.



Turkiye Turing ve Otomobil Kurumu

TTOK traffic safety symposium and exhibition

For the past four years, the Touring and Automobile Club of Turkey (Turing), has organised a 'Road Traffic Safety Symposium and Exhibition'. The event has been an opportunity to raise awareness of key road safety issues concerning the Turkish public, and each year has generated more interest and participation, not only among the public but also from government ministers and institutions.

Approximately 5,000 visitors attended this year's event, as well as nearly 50 companies from a wide-range of sectors (education, information, communication, infrastructure and automotive related companies).

This year, Turing became the main sponsor of the event, which included a number of panel discussions and presentations by attendees from 14 countries. The main topic for discussion was 'Local Governments and Traffic'.

The event was also an opportunity to distribute road safety literature and information dedicated to children and young people.



Part of Turing's annual symposium focused on road safety literature aimed at children.

Sveriges Motorcyklister

The SMC is calling for road barriers to be motorcyclist-friendly.



Adapting crash barriers to protect motorcyclists

The Swedish Motorcyclists Association, SMC, is calling for more to be done to improve crash barrier safety for motorcyclists in the country after it was revealed that six out of the 22 accidents that killed motorcyclists on Swedish roads this year involved collisions with a crash barrier.

At 27 per cent of all accidents, the number of fatalities involving crash barriers is the highest number seen in Sweden, and is also high compared with international figures.

According to the club there are several reasons for this. Crash barriers are being installed in the middle or side of more and more roads, which increases the injury risk for motorcyclists, as safety requirements for such barriers are focused on a collision involving a car. In addition, the barriers are often installed very close to the roadside and side barriers are used more often than forgiving road sides.

SMC is calling for a new way of thinking, saying that smoother median and side barriers, without unprotected poles, are needed. The barriers must be installed further away from the road than currently allowed. It said that it is clear that a forgiving roadside slipway or run-off should be used where it is possible, instead of side barriers.



Sveriges Motorcyklister

Touring y Automovil Club Paraguayo

TACPy marks 90th Anniversary with new 'Stop the Accident' campaign

This year the Touring y Automóvil Club Paraguayo celebrates its 90th anniversary, and to mark the historic occasion, the club has launched a new 'Stop the Accident' campaign with the support of the FIA's Road Safety Grant Programme.

Aimed to increase awareness among the public and decision-makers of the devastating impact of road accidents and fatalities, the campaign encourages people to vote for Better roads and Transport in the UN's MY World 2015 survey.

As discussions get underway on new post-2015 UN Sustainable Development Goals, to replace the existing Millennium Development Goals, the My World 2015 survey results will be shared with world leaders when setting the

next global development agenda and its implementation by the UN. You can cast your vote at: <http://walksafe.myworld2015.org>.

The survey results will be used in Paraguay to bring to the attention of government officials the importance of taking action on road safety. The club is calling for a prioritisation of improved road structure, traffic laws and public transport services in order to ensure safer and more sustainable mobility for Paraguayans.



FIA / ROAD SAFETY GRANT PROGRAMME

The new 'Stop the Accident' campaign from TACPy aims to increase awareness of the devastating impact of road accidents.



FIA, IFRC promote first aid awareness

FIA-IFRC projects – mid-September / November 2014

CLUB	COUNTRY	PROJECT
HAK	Croatia	Giving everyone the chance to be a life-saver
UAMK	Czech Republic	First Aid and Road Safety training campaign
ANETA	Ecuador	Training and Socialisation of First Aid
MAK	Hungary	World First Aid Day 2014
MEMSI	Israel	Co-operation with MDA on post-crash care
FSAM	Madagascar	Giving a chance to be a life-saver
TACPy	Paraguay	First Aid Courses
PZM	Poland	"We do care!"
AMZS	Slovenia	AMZS and the Slovenian Red Cross Event
AAC	Sri Lanka	First Aid
ATCS	Syria	First Aids on Roads Awareness
JAF	Japan	First Aid Training at the Fuji 6-hours
TOSFED	Turkey	First Aid Training at Rallycross of Turkey
AAM	Malaysia	First Aid Training at FE race
AAT	Tanzania	First Aid Awareness Programme

The Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) have strengthened their co-operation on post-crash care.

From mid-September until November 2014 they have been promoting joint initiatives with their member clubs and national partners worldwide aimed at:

- raising awareness of the importance of first aid knowledge in order that victims of road accidents receive immediate care;
- organising first aid 'snack' training courses in public areas to increase the knowledge among all drivers;
- creating first aid materials and documentation to be used in FIA clubs' driving schools.

For more information on the FIA:IFRC projects supported by the FIA Road Safety Grant Programme, please contact: lpascotto@fia.com and ipapanikolau@fia.com

FIA / ROAD SAFETY
GRANT PROGRAMME

+ International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Global First Aid Reference Centre

Avto-Moto Žveza Slovenije

AMZS supports World First Aid Day

Each year more than 100 Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies around the world organise events and ceremonies on the second Saturday of September to mark World First Aid Day and to raise public awareness of how first aid can save lives in everyday and crisis situations.

A new partnership with an initial focus on strengthening co-operation on post-crash care was agreed on 8 May, 2014 between the FIA and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

This year World First Aid Day fell on Saturday 13 September 2014 and to mark the occasion, AMZS and the Slovenian Red Cross organised a joint event calling on people to refresh and update their first aid knowledge and skills. On the

same day, the club also organised an event to mark the tragic loss of two of their colleagues – Miha Baloh, a 30-year-old instructor at AMZS's Save Driving Centre, and 17-year-old Lara Safran – who were killed earlier this year in a tragic accident while working to promote road safety.

AMZS **FIA** / ROAD SAFETY
GRANT PROGRAMME



The MOS- International Fair in Celje was one of the events organised to promote World First Aid Day in Slovenia

Japan Automobile Federation

More than 100 people experienced the first aid training programme organised by the JAF and the JRC at the 6 Hours of Fuji race. Among the participants were JAF Executive Vice President Takayoshi Yashiro and Shuichi Nishijima, Director General for Disaster Management and Social Welfare at JRC.



JAF and Japanese Red Cross offer first aid training at Fuji Speedway

On 12 October, the Japanese Automobile Federation held a first aid training event in collaboration with the Japanese Red Cross Society (JRC). The event took place in the exhibition area of Fuji Speedway during the weekend of the World Endurance Championship's 6 Hours of Fuji race.

This event was carried out as part of the FIA's new partnership with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and was financially supported by the FIA Road Safety Grant Program. Over 100 people participated in the First Aid training day.

Takayoshi Yashiro, JAF Executive Vice President said: "We very much welcome the partnership between the FIA and IFRC. The collaborative initiative between JAF and JRC can lead to improved post-crash responses and

contribute towards a significant reduction of fatalities on roads in Japan, by giving people improved knowledge of how to provide first aid at the scene of an accident."

Improving post-crash care is the fifth pillar of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020.

Increased responsiveness to post-crash emergencies and the ability of health and other systems to provide appropriate emergency treatment and longer term rehabilitation for crash victims, is an essential part of the road safety strategy outlined for the decade.

JAF **FIA** / ROAD SAFETY
GRANT PROGRAMME

Automobile Club d'Italia

ACI President Angelo Sticchi Damiani and FIA President Jean Todt speak at the launch of the Italian club's 'Sleep Stop' campaign at the Italian Grand Prix in September.



ACI urges drivers to take a 'Sleep Stop'

"A pit stop allows drivers to continue their race but a stop for sleep allows ordinary drivers to safely continue their trip," said ACI President Angelo Sticchi Damiani, effectively summing up the issue of drowsy driving, as ACI and the FIA presented the 'Sleep Stop' campaign at the Grand Prix of Italy in Monza.

The campaign aims at making motorists aware of drowsy driving risks on long car trips. This includes how to recognise signs of fatigue and how to prevent the danger of sleep with just a short 15-20 minute break.

Drowsy driving causes over 20 per cent of all road crashes in Europe and in total there are almost 240,000

such accidents annually in the EU, with over 40,000 taking place in Italy.

FIA President Jean Todt, meanwhile, noted that at EU level there is a requirement for European citizens to undergo evaluation tests when getting or renewing their driving licence in order to identify any possible disease that could affect their sleep.



Bosnia and Herzegovina Automobile Club

Training for race officials in Bosnia-Herzegovina together with ATCUAE

Over 50 delegates from all parts of Bosnia-Herzegovina and neighbouring countries attended safety training for race officials in Sarajevo on the weekend of 20-21 September. The event was supported by the FIA Institute and FIA Motor Sport Safety Development Fund.

The training was hosted by BIHAMK and performed by a team of expert trainers from the Automobile and Touring Club of the United Arab Emirates (ATCUAE) in its capacity as an accredited Regional Training Provider of the FIA Institute.

Opening the training, Rasim Kadi, President of BIHAMK, stressed the importance of putting in place recognised FIA standards for race procedures throughout the South-East European region:

"We do hope that the success of this training will help to form a core unit of educated and certified sport officials in Bosnia-Herzegovina that will be able to increase and further upgrade their knowledge with regard to motor sport. This can help raise the overall quality and safety level of motor sport events in this part of Europe."

Through a series of lectures and practical exercises, the trainers from the UAE explained the basic concepts of marshalling, timekeeping and safety aspects in rally and other grassroot motor sport events. After the training was completed, participants undertook a written examination before being awarded their certifications.

BIHAMK



Over 50 delegates from all parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina and neighbouring countries attended Race Officials Safety Training hosted by BIHAMK and undertaken by the ATCUAE.



HALTING IRAN'S ACCIDENT EPIDEMIC

As part of a concerted effort by state and non-governmental bodies, the Touring and Automobile Club of Iran is helping to tackle the country's road safety issues



At the inauguration, earlier this year, of the 'Nowruz Scheme 2014' road safety initiative involving a variety of Iranian road use stakeholders were: Reza Ghaseminia (Manager of Roadside Assistance Services, TACI), Brigadier General Moosa Amiri (Deputy Commander of the Iranian Traffic Police), Dr Mahmood Mozaffar (Head of the Relief and Rescue Organisation of the Iranian Red Crescent Society).



Iran, known internationally as Persia until 1935, is home to one of the world's oldest continuous major civilisations, with historical and urban settlements dating back to 3200BC.

The 18th largest country in the world in terms of area at 1,648,195 km square, Iran has a population of 78 million and has long been called the 'Land of Seven Climates', and it still seems the best description for Iran's varied climate conditions. The country boasts 17 UNESCO's World Heritage sites and its National Monuments List feature over 30,000 structures.

The origins of the organisation now known as the Touring and Automobile Club of Iran stretch right back to the days before World War II, with the foundation of the Royal Touring and Automobile Club of Iran (RTACI) in 1935 and its formal recognition by authorities in 1939.

In 1963, the club's original aim of facilitating the safe passage of Iranians wishing to travel abroad and helping tourists travelling to Iran was boosted by Iran's accession to the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic, and the national government authorised the club to issue International Driving Permits (IDPs) and International Registration Certificate for Iranian citizens.

The club continues to provide tourism information services for Iranians and foreign tourists and to facilitate this the TACI has formed the Comprehensive Tourism Information System which helps every one throughout the country.

From March 2013 to March 2014, the number of tourists traveling to Iran was 4,801,000, and the number of Iranian tourists traveling abroad was 6,959,000. The figure for Iranians touring their own country during the same period has been estimated at approximately 40 million.

The TACI also historically looked after motor sport in the country and the club's Sport Commission of TACI began its activities in 1960 headed by an American of French origin, with its early activities centering on the provision of special

“ROAD SAFETY HAS BEEN THE MAIN CONCERN FOR THE PAST DECADE”

ABOLGHASEM IRAJI, PRESIDENT TACI



courses to train drivers for different automobile events and short-distance rallies. From 1974 onwards Iranian members of the TACI directed the Sport Commission and a broad calendar of events was held every year. From 1979 to 1982, due to the Islamic Revolution and war with Iraq, the activities of the Sport Commission were limited to two or three rallies per year. Following the establishment of the Motorcycle & Automobile Federation of IR Iran (MAFIRI) in 1995, the TACI's sporting activities ceased.

The club maintains a strong focus on historic vehicles, however, and as a part of the country's national heritage, the TACI began working with government authorities on the preservation of such vehicles. These activities resulted in the adoption of a specific code on 29 June, 2010. The code provided for the establishment of a national ad hoc working group dedicated to the Identification and Preservation of Historical Vehicles (IPHV). This featured representatives from Iran's Cultural Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism Organisation (as Chair), Iran's Department of Environment, its Ministry of Industry, Mine & Trade, the Islamic Republic of Iran Police, the Ministry of Sport & Youth, and the TACI. The secretariat of the working group is based at the TACI's headquarter in Tehran. To date two important activities of the working group have been the commissioning of a national Historical Vehicle License Plate and also the establishment of a national Historical Vehicle Registration Certificate.

Elsewhere, the club's Roadside Assistance Service (RAS) was established in 1968 with the aim of providing relief services (towing and repair) for Iranian and foreign tourists and by last year, the TACI – the royal appellation was dispensed with following 1979's Islamic revolution – had a total of 12,000 subscribers to the different types of the club's roadside assistance membership programmes. In total the club has a membership of approximately 200,000.

The assistance service put in place by the clubs has led to the establishment of branches in most provinces of the 1.6 million square kilometre country and according to current club president, Abolghasem Iraji, the TACI has "developed a progressive and constructive co-operation with the relevant organisations including the Traffic Police, the Road Maintenance & Transportation Organisation, the Relief and Rescue Organisation of the Iranian Red Crescent Society, the Disaster and Emergency Medical Management Center, and other relevant organizations to provide safety on the Iranian roads."

It is this factor, road safety, which lies at the heart of Iranian motoring life at present.

According to a report by Iran's Majles Research Center (MRC) in the year March 2011–March 2012 there were 117,256 accidents, leading to 20,068 deaths and 297,257 injuries. Over the past 10 years it has been estimated that some 2.2 million people have been injured on Iran's roads.

Naturally, the road safety situation in Iran is an issue that the TACI is keenly aware of.

"Road safety has been the main issue of concern for the club over the past decade," says Iraji. "There are three factors – human, vehicle and the road conditions – which form the vertices of a triangle at the root of crashes in the country.

"Apart from the economic situation and many poor quality automobiles on the roads, in fact, driver error plays a more significant role in the occurrence of the road crashes," he adds. "Hence, more effort on the issue of teaching the traffic laws and regulations and developing the safe driving culture are essential elements in overcoming the problem. On the other hand,

“OVER EIGHT YEARS THE DEATH RATE DECLINED BY 36 PER CENT”

ABOLGHASEM IRAJI, PRESIDENT TACI



Roadside assistance vehicles on show at the inauguration of the 'Nowruz Scheme 2014'.



The Historical Vehicles Exhibition which was held by TACI in Sa'dabad Cultural Historical Complex, Tehran, August 2014.

TACI President Abolghasem Iraji, who says that "It is expected that by the end of Iran's Sixth Development Plan, the number of victims of the road accidents will decline from 20,000 per year to 10,000."



“DURING THE COMING YEARS, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO REACH A RECORD OF 50 PER CENT REDUCTION IN CRASH MORTALITY”

ABOLGHASEM IRAJI, TACI PRESIDENT

employing tougher penalty policies also seems to be necessary."

Iraji's assertions are born out by the MRC report, which pointed out that road fatality figures do not bear relation to the explosion in motorisation in the country. The TACI has taken and continues to take, action on all of these issues.

"From 1999 to 2004, annual traffic fatalities increased by 11.3 per cent," says Iraji. "That was a very large figure, and if that trend continued, the death toll in crashes could soon reach to more than 60,000. By the collective efforts of the relevant organisations since 2006, the trend of control over crashes and a decrease in fatality rates was put onto the agenda, and over the eight years the death rate declined by 36 per cent. However, the amount of travel, number of vehicles and fuel consumption have had a remarkable rise, which raises the toll."

"The TACI's consultant on road safety issues participated at the First Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety held in Moscow in 2009, and now, with a proper lobbying process, each of the relevant organisations and NGOs are playing their part, and are trying to prioritise road safety issues on their agenda."

"The TACI also formed the Committee of Developing Safe Driving Culture to promote road safety issues. This committee is planning some different cultural and artistic events, especially for children, adolescents and youths of different age groups, in co-operation with organisations and institutions active in this field. This committee recently organised the 'Hello Childhood' festival to teach kids about road safety. The committee will expand its activities in order to improve the culture-building on safe driving in the near future."

The TACI president adds that there is more to come, via collaboration with educational institutions and a concerted effort in the area of driver training.

"The Miras e Iranian Educational Research Institute which is

affiliated to the TACI, is establishing three long-term and short-term academic courses on the fields of Roadside Assistance, Traffic Safety, and Rally Racing Safety using some experts and well known university professors who are engaged in the Iranian road safety issues. "Also, the TACI has also announced its willingness to work on the implementation of the pilot project of the new FIA Driver Training Certification Programme."

Iraji continues by saying that the battle to improve road safety in Iran is being fought at many levels, with the government recently allocating 60m euros to the Road Maintenance & Transportation Organisation to reconstruct the infrastructures and transportation for promotion of the road safety in Iran.

"Fortunately, the transport and road safety issue is one of the main priorities of the country," he says. "The TACI has recently sent a proposal to the government to designate a day as the national 'Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims' and following that the Ministry of Roads & Urban Development designated 7-16 November each year as national 'Decade of Road Safety' days. The purpose of this action is to attract more attention and increase the public awareness about the need for promoting traffic safety and creation of a national willingness to reduce road traffic fatalities. Also, the 10th day was named the national 'Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims'.

"Of course, the most important factor that is neglected many times in the area of road crashes is the culture of safe driving," he says. "In the long term, our goal will be achieved through progressive cultural practices. Meanwhile, there should be a legal deterrent and its severity should be increased. It is expected that by the end of Iran's Sixth Development Plan, the number of victims of the road accidents will decline from 20,000 per year to 10,000."

The TACI club president says that the remaining years of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety present an opportunity.

"We are midway through the Decade of Action for Road Safety and during the coming years, until the end of Iran's Fifth Development Plan, by the special efforts of all relevant organisations we should be able to reach a record of 50 per cent reduction in crash mortality. Hence, the overall objectives of TACI's programmes to improve the road safety situation and enhance a safe driving culture on Iranian roads can be summarised as: helping to develop public culture in order to improve the quality of driving skills; attracting public attention to learn about and respect the laws and regulations of transportation; promoting and encouraging the public to use the latest technological developments in the field of transportation safety; collaborating with local and international organisations and associations active in transportation safety and informing the population about the importance of safe traffic through audiovisual media, publications, the distribution of leaflets and the staging of specialised workshops."

Iraji also mentions the problem of poor infrastructure in the country as a significant risk factor, with a number of areas, such as Road 59, which connects Tehran to the northern city of Chalus, being particularly busy and dangerous.

"The roads of Iran consist of 2,000 kilometres of freeway, approximately 13,000km of highway, and 21,000km of main road," explains Iraji. "These are mainly constructed by the government. However the growth in the number of motor vehicles on the roads is higher than the work of government on the building of the infrastructures. The public expectation from government exceeds what they have done."

He also adds that vehicle safety is a problem, with many indigenously produced cars lacking basic safety features such as airbags and ABS, though there has been some progress in this area, with the X100 model by local manufacturer Saipa now being available with airbags.

"The TACI plays its role in the meetings of the National Committee for Road Safety which is participated in by all governmental organisations with responsibility in this area," he

says.

"However, it should be noted that the automotive industry of the country does not have an appropriate co-operation with the authorities and the responsible organisations have to create conditions such that they will not allocate a registration plate for an automobile which does not meet safety standards. This would remove the safety deficiencies of cars produced in the country. The authorities have had relatively good success, but it seems there is still a long way to go until we reach the desired level."

Away from the issue of road safety the TACI continues to strive to provide the best service possible to its members, with Iraji proud of the club's efforts in building the reach of its assistance service.

"We are proud of having the first nationwide roadside assistance services (RAS) in Iran, which covers the most of the roads and busy road axes of the provinces," he says. "We have deployed local rescuers and have created branches in most provinces," he says, again referencing its co-ordinated with the police, the Red Crescent and other agencies.

"The club uses a large network of provincial rescue call centers and a radio communication system, contracted garages, representative agents, rescuers and inspection teams throughout the country," he says. "This enables us to provide a standard roadside assistance services in the shortest possible time to members or non-members 24-hours a day."

The clubs has plans for expansion, too, and in the future is set to boost its assistance services, launch a mobile app and widen its regional reach.

"Some of the TACI's measures aimed at increasing the quality and quantity of membership are to sign contracts with insurance companies and car manufacturers to provide roadside assistance services, to work with software companies to develop a mobile application for TACI services such as roadside assistance, to issue different types of the membership cards to fulfill different interests and needs of the members and to establish provincial offices for issuance of international documents such as IDPs in some capitals, major cities and the border cities."

The TACI family, including its President Abolghasem Iraji, club directors, managers and club officers at a recent meeting with Thierry Willems, the President of FIA Region I and Jacob Bangsgaard, Director General of FIA Region I.



Confederation of Australian Motor Sport

FIA President Jean Todt with the board of the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport (CAMS) in Melbourne, Australia. From L to R: Graeme Emerton, Terry Atkinson, Andrew Papadopoulos, Laurence Svenson, Garry Connelly, Jean Todt, Eugene Arocca, Stephen Fox, Ian Gillespie, Michael Clements, Norman Gowers, Brian Gibbons.



CAMS looking forward to Formula 4

Taking time out from 2014 FIA Mobility Conference Week in Melbourne, FIA President Jean Todt visited CAMS, welcoming the launch of the CAMS Australian Formula 4 Championship which will start in 2015.

President Todt spoke passionately about the formation of the new formula and the important place the junior category now holds in the pathway from karting to the top levels of motor sport.

"It's crucial, it is new a category which was really needed," President Todt said. "Establishing a simple, affordable racing ladder is essential for the future health of motor sport."

"We have remodelled Formula 3 as an international formula and now we have F4, a nationally focused category,

as the first step, and we are working to complete the pyramid.

"We also hope to mirror this kind of ladder in rallying too. I am pleased to see CAMS among the world leaders in the implementation of F4."

CAMS welcomed President Todt to its head office in Melbourne where he heard first-hand of the latest developments that have occurred at CAMS and within Australian motor sport.

"We are very well represented on the sport side through CAMS," concluded the FIA President. "It is a very dynamic organisation with motivated and skilled people."



Motor Sports Association UK

MSA Formula, new junior category conforming to FIA F4 regulations set for 2015 launch

The UK's new-for-2015 junior single-seater championship, which conforms to the FIA's new Formula 4 regulations, will be called MSA Formula – Certified by FIA, Powered by Ford EcoBoost.

"The launch of MSA Formula is a really exciting development for UK motor racing," said Rob Jones, MSA Chief Executive.

"The affordability of the championship and alignment to global regulations will once again establish Britain as the place to come to race," he added. "I firmly believe that the MSA's adoption of the FIA's Formula 4 concept makes this the clear choice for young career drivers."

Gerhard Berger, FIA Single Seat Commission President, added: "With this agreement between the MSA, Ford and the FIA, the United Kingdom will benefit from the best possible combination to ensure the perpetuity of this

Formula. Being able to rely on the powerful platform of the BTCC is also an enormous plus."

The new championship will feature a Mygale FIA F4 carbon-fibre monocoque chassis powered by Ford's 1.6L EcoBoost engine, tuned to deliver the FIA's maximum permitted 160PS power output. The championship will use Hankook tyres.

MSA Formula – Certified by FIA, Powered by Ford EcoBoost will feature on the Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship package, with extensive live television coverage.



FIA Institute

Young Driver Excellence Academy chooses its six of the best

Drivers from 76 FIA National Sporting Authorities competed for a place at the FIA Institute 2015 Young Driver Excellence Academy and following a series of regional qualifying events hosted by ASN's across the world, six drivers have been chosen as the latest academy members.

The first qualifier was for the Sub-Saharan Africa region and took place at the Gerotek vehicle testing centre near Pretoria, South Africa on 21-24 September.

The event was won by Jordan Pepper, representing Motorsport South Africa. The 18-year old saw off stiff competition from nations such as Zimbabwe, Namibia and Kenya to eventually claim his spot at the Academy after three days of intensive testing and evaluation on fitness, driving technique and off-track skills. Pepper follows in the footsteps of fellow South African Kelvin van der Linde who was named Academy driver of the year in 2014.

Selection then moved to South-Western Europe for the first of two qualifiers on the continent. Rally driver

Tim Novak, representing the Auto Sport Federation Of Slovenia, won the event held at the ORYX Centre for Safe Driving in Croatia on 22-25 September. The 20-year old performed to a consistently high level, both on and off the track, during the three days of assessment.

Speaking after being announced as the winner, Novak said: "I am really pleased to be given this opportunity and the selection process was an amazing experience. The Academy is a great opportunity to learn new things and a chance to make some new connections. I am really excited to be a part of it."

Panikos Polykarpou, representing Cyprus Automobile Association, won the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia selection event at the Yas Marina Circuit in Abu Dhabi.

Polykarpou took his place on the fully-funded Academy programme after proving himself ahead of 12 other competitors from across the region. The 23-year old, who is currently competing in the Junior World Rally



FIA Institute

From left to right: Jordan Pepper, Tim Novak, Panikos Polykarpou, Kenton Koch, Jordan King, Macauley Jones.



Championship, impressed throughout the event. Each participant, however, gained valuable knowledge and experience through structured seminars and practical lessons.

Held in Mexico on 13-16 October, the Americas selection event saw Kenton Koch, representing the Automobile Competition Committee of the US, chosen as the winner. The 20-year-old saw off drivers from 11 other countries to take victory.

Jose Abed, President of Mexican ASN OMDAI, which hosted the event said the standard at this year's Americas selection event had been particularly high.

"I have to recognise that the candidates were extraordinary, showing a world-class competition level," said the FIA Vice President. "I want to congratulate Kenton for his outstanding performance and for his tenacity, which led to him landing the coveted spot at the Academy."

The penultimate qualifier saw a return to Europe where 20-year old driver Jordan King, representing the UK's Motor Sport Association, won the North Eastern Europe event.

In a highly competitive field, the 20-year old rose above 15 other rivals and will represent the region at the 2015 Academy. Held at the ANWB Test and Training Centre

in Lelystad, Holland on 28-31 October, drivers were put through their paces by expert instructors before King was named the winner after the final day shoot-out.

The final selection event took place in Beijing, China where Macauley Jones, representing the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport, became the sixth driver to join the 2015 Academy.

The 20-year-old beat competitors from nine other countries in the region. Jones, who competed in the Dunlop Development Series in Australia this year, said: "I am really excited that I have been able to come out on top and I am going to the Academy. I am going to take every opportunity that I can and learn as much as possible from the experiences."

All six selection event winners will now take part in the 2015 Academy, which actively promotes the principles of safety, fairness and responsibility on and off the track while helping drivers develop their motor sport careers. They will be joined by a number of wildcard selections to be announced at a later date.

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