The European Economic and Social Committee, the Italian Association of Road safety Professionals and the European Transport Safety Council are delighted to invite you to the restricted workshop:

Road infrastructure safety management in Europe: stakeholder initiative to harmonise Directives 2004/54/EC (on road tunnels) and 2008/96/EC (on road safety audits and inspections)

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC and SOCIAL COMMITTEE, Rue Belliard 99, Bruxelles- ROOM JDE 61- TUESDAY 26 February 2013 – h 14.30

The Sierre tunnel tragedy from Switzerland which caused more than 28 fatal casualties, amongst which 22 children, has left Europe mourning and many more asking what went wrong. Discussions among practioners and academics have led to a petition to the European Commissioner on Transport, Vice President Mr. Kallas, asking for a harmonisation of the directives on road tunnels and road safety audits and inspections.

This workshop is the follow up of the petition and the first step towards an initiative aiming to fill the gap between the two Directives; The aim is to generate a constructive informal discussion between all the selected participants and set up concrete steps of achieving this. The European Commission is invited as observer.

Agenda

14h30 Welcome by EESC and tour de table
14h45 Introduction: background and objectives of the Workshop
15h00 Round table on the following themes:
   - Suggestion: Timeframe and interim solutions: developing guidelines and recommendations on an informal basis. Suggested topics: additional checklists for RSA/RSI for tunnels
16h30 Round table on the following theme:
   - Preliminary discussion on the creation of a working group for the guidelines
   - Next steps towards filling the gap between the 2 Directives: possibilities of financial support from the EU?
17,30 Closing remarks
List of participants

Jan Simons  European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
Carlo Polidori  Italian Association of Road safety professionals (AIPSS)
Antonio Avenoso  European Transport Safety Council (ETSC)
Luana Bidasca  European Transport Safety Council (ETSC)
Adewole Adesiyun  Forum of European National Highway Research Laboratories (FEHRL)
Xavier Cocu  Belgian Road Research Centre (BRRC)
Dirk Lauwers  Ghent University
Martin HEATH  MHA Planning & Transport
Christophe Nicodème  European Road Federation (ERF)
Kallistratos Dionelis  European Association with tolled motorways, bridges and tunnels (ASECAP)
Marc Tesson  Centre d'Etudes des Tunnels (CETU), as member of the PIARC Committee on “Road tunnels operations”
Friedrich Wiesholzer  PIARC Committee on “Road tunnels operations”
Guillermo Llopis Serrano  PIARC Committee on “Road tunnels operations”
Kristin van der Auwera  Flemish Road Agency
Dries Keunen  Flemish Road Agency
Stefano Campagnolo  European Commission (DG Move) as observer

1 Possible substitution by Stephane Verwilghen