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4th International Public Policy Conference The World-wide Motorcycling Community focuses on Road Safety



The fourth International Public Policy Conference (IPPC), organised by the FIM (Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme) in conjunction with the FEMA, was held on 16-18 April 2004 in Prague (CZ). Its theme logically focussed on Road Safety, a crucial topic on the agenda of the European Union. The event intended to show the initiatives and approach of the motorcycling community in this area. The eighty participants, coming from 17 European countries and the USA, included representatives of rider organisations, the motorcycle industry, safety & research institutes. The European Commission, unable to attend, supported

the event by making available a presentation of their Road Safety Action Programme. The weekend programme put the focus on three separate areas: the human, vehicle and infrastructure factors. Altogether, fifteen presentations were made to illustrate the work, research, findings and experience of the participating organisations. ACEM, the European Motorcycle Indus-

try Association, showed the preliminary results of the most comprehensive study looking into the causes of motorcycle accidents called MAIDS (Motorcycle Accidents In Depth Study). The final report of this EU co-funded survey will be presented to the European Commission towards the end of the year.

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Initial Rider Training Developing a European Model for best practices

Starting from September, this EU co-funded project will be undertaken jointly by FEMA (European motorcyclists' Federation), ACEM (European motorcycle manufacturers) and FIM (Fédération Internationale de Motocyclisme).

The aim is to develop a European model for best practices to be included in national training programmes, and make sure that candidate motorcyclists acquire the relevant skills and necessary knowledge to enable them to safely ride on today's roads.

MEP MOTORCYCLE RIDE

Due to the elections to the European Parliament held last June, this year's MEP Motorcycle Ride has been postponed to September, and will take place in Brussels.

This gives FEMA the opportunity to invite the freshly elected Members of the European Parliament from the 25 EU Member States, and officials from EU institutions to take part in this unique event! Detailed report in the next issue!

FEDERATION of EUROPEAN
MOTORCYCLISTS' ASSOCIATIONS

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FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN MOTORCYCLISTS' ASSOCIATIONS

CAMPAIGNS OFFICER (m/f)

FEMA is the Brussels-based NGO representing riders' interests within the European Union institutions and the United Nations agencies.

We are looking for a dynamic individual to join the Secretariat.

See full details of the position on www.fema.ridersrights.org and send CV with application letter before 6th August 2004 to:

Mr Antonio Perlot, FEMA, Rue des Champs 62, B-1040 Brussels
E-mail: recruitment@fema.kaalium.com

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4th International Public Policy Conference

The European Motorcyclists' Federation FEMA, raised the issue presented earlier this year at the United Nations' road safety body related to the unintended hazards for riders provoked by road signs and markings. FEMA was also pleased to introduce the EU co-funded project that the Federation is undertaking jointly with FIM and ACEM starting in September. The objective is to develop a European model including best practices for training schools to efficiently prepare candidate motorcyclists before they first get their bike license.

Very interesting presentations were also made by national road riding organisations on pro-active initiatives they put in place, such as the screening sessions organised by the Belgian Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) to assess riders' skills. The



The IPPC 2004 was attended by representatives of the motorcycling community worldwide (Photo G. Pospisilova)



L. to R.: Achilles Damen (FIM-CMT President) and Antonio Perlot (FEMA General Secretary).



Bob Tomlins (FEMA Assistant General Secretary), presenting the EU co-funded project on Initial Rider Training, undertaken jointly with ACEM and FIM



Jacques Compagne (ACEM General Secretary). Presentation on MAIDS (Motorcycle Accidents In Depth Study)



Morten Hansen (Representative of NMCU Norway), with a copy of the National Road Safety Agenda. Morten is co-ordinating the works on the FEMA's European Motorcycle Safety Agenda.

American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) and the Norwegian Public Roads Administration with FEMA's Norwegian member NMCU presented respectively their National Agenda for Motorcycle Safety and Handbook for Motorcycle Safety. As sometimes a reactive approach is also necessary, the new FEMA's Swiss affiliate presented a demonstration organised in their country forcing the authorities to withdraw a discriminatory speed limit for motorcyclists recently implemented.

Altogether, fifteen presentations covered different areas other than the

above ones, and focussing on:

- Long-term strategy aiming at reducing accident figures,
 - Rider education & training system in the United States,
 - "Ride Straight" impaired riding awareness campaign,
 - Rider safety and education - Harley Davidson's rider training programme,
 - Braking systems,
 - Conspicuity of Powered Two-Wheels,
 - Transport integration and motorcycle safety - Planning for sustainable casualty reduction,
 - Infrastructure "Motorcycling and road safety: an everlasting conflict?",
 - Intelligent Transport Systems - e-Safety, new scientific applications.
- The 2004 conference was marked by the stamp of continuity. The strengthening of relations within the motorcycling community worldwide is a continuous and common effort, confirmed by the success of the three previous IPPCs, in Luxembourg (1997), Mulhouse - France (1999) and Columbus, Ohio USA (2001)... And most importantly by the efficient co-operation within the International Coalition regrouping riders' organisations worldwide.

FEMA Thanks for FH-DCE's support



Left Ulf Jensen (FH-DCE Secretary) and Kees Meijer (FEMA President)

Taking advantage of his visit to the 2004 SuperRally held in Sweden end of May, FEMA President and Harley-Davidson enthusiast rider Kees Meijer officially thanked the Federation of Harley-Davidson Clubs of Europe (FH-DCE) for their long term support to FEMA as Club Supporter.



Photos FEMA, Wim Taal

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