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**Signature of CICA-FIDIC Joint Statement on Fighting Corruption
by CICA and FIDIC Presidents at MDBs HoPs-CICA-FIDIC Meeting (Thessaloniki, Nov. 2-3, 2009)**

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From left to right:

Front row: Enrico VINK, FIDIC Director General; Gregs G. THOMOPULOS, FIDIC President; Manuel R. VALLARINO Q., CICA President; Jacques BENATAR, CICA Director General.
Back row: Fernando LAGO, CICA PPP WG Member & FIIC Representative; Frank KEHLENBACH, EIC Director; Vassilis CHRISTAKIS, BSTDB HoP; Roger FISZELSON, FNTP Delegate General;
Michel DEMARRE, EIC President; Philippe LACOSTE, CICA Assistant to the Director General.

Let's keep in touch...

❖ **An important Event: MDBs* HoPs** - CICA-FIDIC Meetings
(Thessaloniki, November 2-3, 2009)**

*MDBs: Multilateral Development Banks – ** HoPs: Heads of Procurement.

In Thessaloniki, a Strong MDBs' high level Procurement Representation ~20 people, an important top level CICA Delegation ~ 10 people and a Management level FIDIC delegation met in Thessaloniki, with the following main results:

- ✓ **HoPs- CICA Meeting (Nov. 2): finalization of the new MPD**, presentation of the works of **CICA PPP WG** and **Well Prepared Project (WPP) Think Tank**, positive feedback on **CICA Civil Law WG's updated proposals of the WB Standard Bidding Document for Works – Civil Law**. As a consequence, involved MDBs decided to set up an ad hoc WG in order to be able to update the related documents and get into a dialog with CICA.
- ✓ **HoPs- CICA-FIDIC Meeting (Nov. 3):** tackled issues of common interest such as the **Selection of Consultants, Eligibility and Qualification of Contractors, Use of Country System and Capacity Building, Integrity**.
- ✓ **Official Signature of CICA-FIDIC Joint Statement on Fighting Corruption** by CICA President Manuel R. VALLARINO and New FIDIC President Gregs G. THOMOPULOS on November 3, 2009.
- ✓ In a separate meeting, **FIDIC** took the opportunity of starting **"re-building up bridges"** with MDBs' HoPs.

❖ **African Development Bank (AfDB): Meeting in tunis at AfDB Premises (Jan. 14-15, 2010):**

- ✓ **short term objective:** to delegate AfDB Senior Executives for **participating in CICA-IFI 2010 Conference**
- ✓ **medium term objective:** Organization of a **ONE DAY Conference** at AfDB Premises on **"Construction in Africa"**.
- ✓ **long term objective:** **direct and sustainable link with AfDB** (entry point of contact)

Confederation of International Contractors' Associations

10, rue Washington, F-75008 Paris, France - Tél. : +33.1.44.13.32.15, +33.1.44.13.32.03 - Fax : +33.1.44.13.32.98
cica@cica.net

❖ *African Federation for Construction Contractors' Associations* (AFCCA) invited  to AFCCA Executive Committee (Rabat – Jan. 21, 2010).

- ✓ PPT presentation of CICA in plenary session by CICA DG.
- ✓ Attendance at **AFCCA Executive Committee. Agenda main issues:** Harmonization of Contractors' Qualification in Africa; Budget & Membership; starting African Regional Offices; African Countries not yet AFCCA Members; next AFCCA General Assembly; CICA Membership.

❖  *External Relations and Meetings*

- ✓ **Presentation of the WB "DOING BUSINESS 2010 Report"** by Ms. Sabine HERTVELDT, Senior Private Sector Development Specialist, International Finance Corporation (IFC) (Paris, October 2, 2009)
- ✓ **Meeting with M. Michele MIARI FULCIS, ADB Executive Director for Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland** (Paris, October 27, 2009)
- ✓ **ICC Task Force on Public Procurement Meeting** (Brussels, November 24, 2009)
- ✓ **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Team of Specialists on PPPs N°2 Meeting** (Geneva, December 3-4, 2009)



Launching of Well Prepared Project Working Group (WPP WG):

In February we will ask for designation of **EXPERTS**. *Get ready!!*



News from the Regional Federations



FAC- Federation of Arab Contractors (FAC) for their **Yearly Conference** planned to be convened during the second week of December 2009. Workshop on the effect of the Financial Crisis on the contracting and construction sectors in the region was to be proposed.

<http://www.arabcont.com/>



FIEC-EFBWW press kit - Launching of the "**POSTING IN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**" web site

On September 25, 2009, FIEC and EFBWW (the social partners in the construction industry) organized in Brussels a press conference for the official presentation of the FIEC-EFBWW "Posting" Website, which is freely accessible at the following address : www.posting-workers.eu

<http://www.fiec.eu/>



Save the Dates! FIIC 50th Anniversary: May 11-15, 2010 – Santiago (Chile)

FIIC - On August 30 and September 1, was held the LXI Meeting of the Board of the Interamerican Federation of Construction Industry (FIIC) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in order to inform on and monitor the projects undertaken by this institution. Also, was elected during the meeting the new FIIC Executive Committee for the period 2009-2011, being composed as follows:

President: Ing. Martín Carriquiry (Uruguay)
Vice President: Ing. William Hall (Honduras)
Vice President: Ing. José Centeno (Ecuador)
Secretary General: Ing. Ricardo Platt (Mexico)

The inauguration of FIIC Executive Committee was held on October 17 in Mexico City during the XXI International Exhibition of Building and Housing (EXPOCIHAC), with the presence of the Head of Government of Mexico City, Lic. Marcelo Ebrard, CIHAC President Ing. Pablo Alvarez Treviño, CICA President Ing. Manuel Vallarino, and others leading figures from the industry.

On October 16, FIIC Executive Committee met with Ms. Violeta Velazquez, Senior Investment Officer, International Finance Corporation (IFC) of World Bank Group, to follow up on projects of interest for FIIC.

<http://www.fiic.org.mx/>



AGC - The Associated General Contractors of America unveiled a new plan designed to revive the hardest hit sector of the economy, the nation's construction industry. The plan, "Build Now for the Future: A Blueprint for Economic Growth," is designed to reverse predictions that construction activity will continue to shrink through 2010, crippling broader economic growth.

The "Blueprint" is a mix of new incentives, tax cuts, policy revisions and infrastructure investments outlined in the plan are needed to stem the dramatic decline in construction activity and employment taking place nationwide. AGC's analysis of federal employment data found construction employment declined in 324 of 337 metropolitan areas between August 2008 and 2009.

The AGC plan's primary focus is to stimulate new private-sector construction activity, which accounts for 70 percent of the market. The plan calls for repealing the alternative minimum tax and increasing and extending a series of tax credits and cuts - including the net operating loss carry back and the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts - to boost investments in real estate development. Additional incentives for global investment in real estate are also needed to make it easier for international investors to put Americans back to work. And he said Congress should restore the President's "Fast Track" trade promotion authority and remove trade barriers to boost demand for new domestic manufacturing and shipping facilities.

<http://blueprint.agc.org/>

<http://www.agc.org/>

