



Photo courtesy of Ricardo Platt, FIC Secretary General: The U.S. Capitol during our stay in Washington DC.

N° 210 – February 2010

Let's keep in touch...

❖ ***CICA Board/Council Meetings (Washington DC – AGC Capitol Hill Offices, February 9, 2010)***

Due to inclement weather conditions (heavy snow), AGC Virginia Offices were closed on February 8 and 9. The Board and the Council finally took place on Feb. 9 at the AGC Capital Hill Offices.

✓ **MAIN RESOLUTIONS:**

- Election of **new CICA President** for 2010-2011 tenure: **Daniel Tardy** (proposed by FIEC); **new Senior Vice-President: Awni Saket** (proposed by FAC); **new Vice-President: Paulo Simão** (proposed by FIIC); **Treasurer: D. Tardy** re-elected.
- **First priorities for CICA in 2010: promotion tools (new CICA website & brochure) and Friends of CICA**
- It was agreed to propose the status of **CICA Observer** to the **African Federation for Construction Contractors' Associations (AFCCA)**
- New strategic Organizations to work with: WTO, OECD, UN.
- **Launching of the Well Prepared Project (WPP) WG** and the **Green Business WG** opened for designation of Experts from Regional Federations and other organizations.

- ✓ **Transfer of CICA Presidency:** Dinner gathering Board and Council Members on Feb. 9.

❖ ***CICA-IFI 2010 One Day Conference (Washington DC – Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel, February 11, 2010)***

Theme: **"Efficient Construction and Sustainable Development"**

- ✓ Due to the heavy snow, WB premises were closed several days and particularly on Feb. 10 & 11 (initial dates of the Conference). **CICA** was able to re-arrange CICA-IFI2010 Conference in a **"One Day" format on Feb. 11** at the Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel in Washington DC.
- ✓ Three interactive **ROUNDTABLES: 1/Infrastructures: MDBs' actions to counter the effect of the crisis – First Results – Next Steps; 2/ Brief on the Well Prepared Project (WPP); 3/Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)**
- ✓ **Special Thanks** to all participants and to the following **panellists** that braved the snow storm: *Jamal Saghir, WB Director for Energy Transport and Water; Marc Juhel, WB Sector Manager Transport; Jacques Benatar, CICA DG; Frank Kehlenbach, EIC Director; Larry Harris, Attorney at Law - ACCL Member; Pierre Koop, Professor - University of Paris I, Consultant; Eshien Chong, Professor in Economics, University of Paris Sud 11; Enrique Fuentes (by conference call), Market Analysis and Development Director, Gruppo Ferrovial; Miguel Amaral, Lecturer, University of Paris 1; Marc Frilet, Avocat, Chair of the PPP Task Force of the IBA; Julie de Brux, Member of the Chair on Economics of PPPs, University of Paris I.*
- ✓ **Interactive CD-ROM**, compiling Speakers & Chairmen's presentations and resumes (including also those unable to be present in Washington), to be dispatched by **CICA** shortly to all participants and contributors. Thanks to FIEC DG support.

❖ **PPP DAYS 2010 (Asian Development Bank (ADB), Manila – March 22-24, 2010)** *It is really worthwhile to attend!!*

- ✓ **PPP DAYS 2010 Conference on March 22-23, 2010:**
→ Even though the Event is organized for the Public Sector (Public Employers, Administrations, MDBs, etc.), **cica** was specially invited to attend the Conference and to participate as speaker at March 22 a.m. session on the topic **"PPPs during the last 18 months (starting of the "Crisis Period") - Lessons learned"**.
- ✓ **cica** is organizing with ADB, on **March 24th am, half a day Conference/discussions between Public and Private Sector on "PPPs in ASIA: the story so far... The private sector perspective"**.
→ ADB and CICA are inviting their counterparts (Construction Federations, Contractors and Law Firms, as far as CICA is concerned) to a fruitful exchange on PPPs.

❖ **cica External Relations and Meetings**

- ✓ **Meeting with Lars THUNELL, Executive Vice-President, International Finance Corporation (IFC, WB Group)** (Paris, February 2, 2010)



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

Regional Federations are requested to designate **EXPERTS** to participate.
Thank you for your proposals!!



Launching of Green Business Working Group:

In April, we will ask for designation of **EXPERTS**.
Think about & get ready!!



Manuel R. Vallarino and Daniel Tardy while closing CICA-IFC 2010 Conference



News from the Regional Federations



FAC- Ahmad Masadeh appointed Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean

Ahmad Masadeh, Jordan's ambassador to the EU, Belgium, Norway and Luxembourg since 2006, was appointed Secretary General of the nascent Union for the Mediterranean last Tuesday, 12 January 2010.

Masadeh, also the Jordanian Coordinator to the Union for the Mediterranean and Representative to NATO, was selected Tuesday by a unanimous decision passed by the Permanent Representatives of the union's Member States during their meeting in Brussels, according to a statement from Jordan's Embassy to the EU.

This decision was referred to the foreign Ministers of the union for a final endorsement within a period of two weeks in order to enable the new Secretary General to assume office at the union's secretariat headquarters in Barcelona, Spain, no later than the middle of next month.

In a speech following his selection, Masadeh stressed that establishing the secretariat opens a new page for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and cements the principles and values that are at the core of the union. Moreover, he added, it is a manifestation of the seriousness of all parties to this project and their belief in its objectives. Masadeh said: "We will build on the various achievements we have accomplished thus far in a manner that promises to realise more closeness between the north and south of the Mediterranean."

He reiterated Jordan's founding values and policies, as constantly voiced by His Majesty King Abdullah, which are based on attaining security, stability in addition to prosperity for the peoples of the Mediterranean. He underscored that such values and policies turned the Kingdom into a microcosm of modernity, cultural and historical heritage as well as political and economic openness with all countries of the world.

Masadeh, born in Jordan in 1969, holds a PhD from King's College London. He has several publications in the legal field. He boasts a vast commercial legal background being an attorney and a university professor specialized in international trade, investment and projects.

The Union for the Mediterranean was officially launched at the Paris summit in July 2008 and incorporates 43 European, Middle Eastern and North African countries.

According to the Embassy statement, the union aims to establish a regional cooperation structure that would contribute to achieving peace, stability and growth in the Mediterranean basin, as well as to form comprehensive economic, social and cultural partnerships between European and Mediterranean countries.

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

