

*Let's keep in touch...***❖ Main conclusions of RWG08 Meeting (Paris, April 16)**

- ⇒ **HoPs' Proposal to hold next RWG Meetings during HoPs' Meetings** which are being organized every nine months and which gather all HoPs of all MDBs:
- ✓ HoPs invited **CICA**, in parallel with FIDIC, to participate to their **next HoPs' Meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece**, which will be held in the **last quarter of 2009**. A common meeting HoPs/CICA/FIDIC will be organized as well.
- ⇒ **Main results on PPPs:**
- ✓ A **CICA PPP WG** has been organized in order to **avoid work overlapping with other PPP WGs** and to be able to elaborate **Positions Papers/Proposals** reflecting the various components.
 - ✓ **CICA PPP WG** established a **Preliminary Proposal including a work programme** close to priorities expressed by WB HoP.
 - ✓ It was agreed that **WB and MDBs HoPs' PPP WG's main counterpart** will be **CICA PPP WG** for PPP matters. HoPs and CICA will discuss later on how to coordinate with the other WB and MDBs' Dpts involved in PPPs.
- ⇒ **Main result on Civil Law:**
- ✓ It was agreed that **CICA Civil Law WG** provides to WB HoP **updating proposals of the WB Standard Bidding Document for Procurement of Works – Civil Law (2007)**. The starting document will be in French language, based on the existing version.

❖ Main conclusions of CICA Board Meeting (Paris, April 17)

- ✓ It was agreed that **CICA** participates to the Thessaloniki HoPs' Meeting.
- ✓ **CICA** DG will participate to the **African Development Bank Round Table Meeting on Procurement** which will be held in **Dakar, Senegal, on May 11, 2009**.
- ✓ **"Friends of CICA": Name, Rules for New Membership and a Promotion Action Plan have been decided and approved.**
- ✓ **In place of CICA-IFI Meeting**, CICA will organize a specific **WB- CICA Meeting which would gather all relevant WB Dpts.**
- ✓ CICA will request its **ICC Membership** with the objective to become Member of the ICC Executive Board.
- ✓ Regional Federations will provide **Statistics and Indexes** in their region that CICA will gather into a single document outlining key figures of the worldwide Construction Industry.
- ✓ A **CICA Reception** will be organized in **Washington on December 2009** for the **Transfer of CICA Presidency.**
- ✓ The issue of organizing **CICA International Conferences** will be discussed at the next Board and Council Meetings in Washington in December 2009.
- ✓ It was proposed that the **next mid-term Board Meeting** takes place in **May 2010 in Chile during FIIC 50th Anniversary** (*tbc* at the next Washington Board/Council Meetings).

News from the Regional Federations



FAC reported that Eng. Ahmad El Saied has been elected President of the African Federation for Construction Contractors' Association (AFCCA), which has been recently established at the Headquarters of the Egyptian Federation for Construction and Building Contractors (Cairo, Egypt). FAC Secretary General will make arrangements so that CICA coordinates directly with AFCCA.

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



A new guide on social considerations in public procurement to be published by the European Commission

The European Commission is currently preparing a new guide on socially-responsible public procurement (SRPP). In the framework of the European Directives on public procurement (2004/17/EC and 2004/18/EC), the aim of this guide is on the one hand to raise contracting authorities' awareness about the potential benefits of SRPP and, on the other hand, to explain in a practical way the possibilities for public authorities to take into account social considerations in their public procurement, thus paying attention not only to price, but also to quality and best value.

In its position paper, FIEC indicated amongst others that social considerations cannot be included anyhow and anywhere in the procedure, that they must be linked to the object of the contract and that the specificities of each sector should adequately be taken into consideration.

The publication of this guide, which will not be binding, is expected for this summer.

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



The Executive Committee of the Interamerican Federation of Construction Industry (FIIC) went on mission to Washington DC on April 27-28, 2009 to meet with International Financial Institutions monitoring FIIC projects.

Meetings took place with Dr. Luis Alberto Moreno, President of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and Officials from the International Finance Corporation (IFC/World Bank Group) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

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



AGC Economist Ken Simonson Analyzes Surprising New Construction Spending Data

May 5, 2009

The chief economist for the Associated General Contractors of America, Ken Simonson, responded to new data released by the U.S. Census Bureau showing a surprise uptick in nonresidential construction spending this past March. Ken explained that construction can be a lagging indicator and that much of the uptick was from a series of mega energy and manufacturing projects begun before the economic downturn. He added that while the stimulus will help a great deal, conditions in the private construction market are likely to further deteriorate this year. To read about Ken's analysis, click here for the Business Journals' story:

<http://www.bizjournals.com/dallas/stories/2009/05/04/daily8.html>, or click here for the story in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch: <http://www.stltoday.com/blogzone/building-blocks/uncategorized/2009/05/economist-construction-industry-in-for-rough-year/>

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

Canada's 2007 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

As part of its Kyoto commitments, Canada is required to report annually on its human-induced greenhouse gas emissions. This year's report finds that while emissions between 2004 and 2006 actually declined from 741 million tonnes to 718 million, emissions in 2007 are up again by more than 4 percent over 2006 levels. Bucking the trend, Canada's construction industry actually decreased its aggregate emissions from 1.3 million tonnes in 2006 to 1.29 in 2007 or a drop of more than 0.9 percent. When measured against the Kyoto baseline, the industry's emissions have decreased more than 31.1 percent from the 1.87 million tonnes reported in 1990. See

http://www.ec.gc.ca/pdb/ghg/inventory_report/2007/som-sum_eng.cfm.

<http://www.cca-acc.com/>