

# AUTO+ ASSENDENT +

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## RACING TO RUSSIA

Saint Petersburg prepares for a motor sport symphony



## THE INCREASING PACE OF DEVELOPMENT

Taking in the presentation of Environmental Accreditation certificates, activities within the Sport Club Development Programme, future plans for the Women in Motorsport initiative and the new FIA GT Nations Cup, as well as details of the 2019 Regional Sport Congress calendar, the Race Directors Seminar and Stewards Programme, today's ASN Forum presented a wide-ranging overview of the Federation's support of its Sporting Member Clubs.



Following opening remarks from FIA President Jean Todt, FIA Deputy President for Sport Graham Stoker, and ASN Task Force President Andrew Papadopoulos, the meeting agenda was begun with a presentation on the FIA Environment and Sustainability Commission by its President, Felipe Calderón.

After detailing the impact global warming is having around the world and the resulting and increasing stringency of legislation designed to protect the environment, the former President of Mexico highlighted the role motor sport organisations can play in leading the way on sustainability.

"Eighty-one per cent of young people believe that firms, organisations and governments have the responsibility to act on climate issues, and that is defining new behaviour for consumer everywhere," he said. "We therefore have tighter regulations. There are new regulatory frameworks and pressure for everyone.

"We believe that the FIA can take the lead and actually strengthen its leadership in sustainable affairs. This is important because there is a reputational factor involved. Reputation associated with the environment is becoming either one of the most important assets or liabilities in any single organisation.

"Our mission is to improve public perception of our respect for the environment and to drive that change through widespread innovation, such as the Track to Road programme of the FIA, and to show that the FIA is absolutely committed to the environment." FIA Environmental Delegate Garry Connelly then provided delegates with an update on progress in the area, first highlighting Track to Road successes such as Formula E's Season 5 advances in battery technology, the efforts of Rally Argentina to incentivise fans to clean up after events via a competition to win a trip to another WRC event, and AKK Motorsport and Rally Finland altering their organisational structure to have their most senior executive take on the role of 'environmental champion'.

Connelly then highlighted successes in the FIA Environmental Accreditation Programme. Clubs in Syria, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Singapore, Ireland, Jordan, New Zealand and Germany all reached accreditation landmarks this year and representatives of each Club were presented with certificates by President Todt, Commission President Calderón and Deputy President for Sport Graham Stoker.





FIA Secretary General for Sport Peter Bayer then took the stage to report on the Federation's presence at the Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires in October 2018.

He explained how the FIA, through its ties to the International Olympic Committee staged a Road Safety Exhibition and an e-Karting Demonstration during this year's Games.

"This project was done to serve as a catalyst for future development," he said. "We felt that combining the two pillars of Mobility and Sport could be a unique way forward for us: to showcase motor sport for the first time in an Olympic environment, and at the same time serve the purpose of helping to make the road safer in Buenos Aires and South America.

"We had around 180,000 contacts [at the exhibition] during the Games and the e-Karting activity was a highlight. We had 20 electric karts in Buenos Aires and people were racing all day long. On top of that, we did a demonstration at a local kart track to show the power of these e-karts to the IOC members, because obviously the long-term plan was not only to do a local demonstration. The plan is to make e-Karting a discipline at the next Youth Olympic Games in 2022 in Senegal, and I strongly believe that after this initial successful demonstration, with your help, we can achieve this dream."

To that end, FIA Deputy President for Sport Graham Stoker said the event was a catalyst for Clubs to engage with government and local national Olympic Committees in pursuit of the 2022 goal.

"The situation of motor sport has never been better with the IOC," he said. "I would ask you all to reach out to your national Olympic Committee and get involved. If we start to get this community together, then the aspiration of having motor sport at the Youth Olympics in Africa might well be there."

ASN Task Force President Andrew Papadopoulos then reported on FIA Sport Club Development Programme activities, presenting details of a pilot project undertaken in Georgia to assist a Club in need of capacity-building knowhow.

"It was a highly successful projects and this year we will help two Clubs – Bangladesh and Mauretania – to establish themselves in the best way possible," he said.

Them, outlining the \$7.2 billion industry contribution made to the Australian economy by motor sport, Mr Papadopoulos also brought to the attention of delegates the concept of Clubs commissioning their own motor sport industry economic impact assessments as a tool for gaining government funding and private sector sponsorship.

Agreeing, Deputy President Stoker suggested that a Working Group be established around the concept: "I would like us to involve any organisation that has had such an impact study done – and I know there are some here – to get involved," he said. "Let's see if we can develop a best practice approach to the sourcing of assessments as I think it is something that could be of benefit to us all." Next on the agenda was a report on developments within the Women in Motorsport programme.

Commission Manager and Sport Clubs Relations and Development Programmes Director Frédérique Trouvé detailed the success of two major 2018 projects – the FIA Women Drivers' Assessment, organised in association with the FIA Drivers' Commission and The Girls on Track initiative, an educational talent search that in 2018 saw 1,200 girls aged from 13-18 years participate in karting events in 17 national selection events in nine countries.

Such was the success of the event, with 27 of the best girls now invited to attend the European Final at Le Mans next March, that the projects is set to be rolled out beyond Europe.

"Thanks to the FIA Innovation Fund we will extend the concept further," she said. "It will evolve to include girls from 8 to 18 years of age and we will take it to the Regions."

FIA Director of Circuit Championships then reported on the development of the FIA GT Nations Cup.

A competition for amateur GT3 class drivers of bronze and silver status, the inaugural Cup event, held last weekend in Bahrain, was won by Turkey.

Highlighting the success of the race with competitors and, more widely, in the media, Mr Bertrand added that the event will next year be expanded, with Formula 4 almost certain to be added to the programme, the presence of other disciplines being involved at the November 2019 event at Italy's Vallelunga circuit is also being explored.

Finally, the meeting was also told about the calendar of events for 2019, including the FIA Conference – jointly featuring Sport and Mobility – in Sun City, South Africa on 29 April-3 May. FIA Sport Regional Congresses will also be held in the MENA Region on 9-10 February in Kuwait City, Kuwait, the Asia-Pacific Region, in Bangkok, Thailand on 20-22 March, Africa in Sun City, South Africa on 2-3 May, the Americas in the week of 29 July in Quito, Ecuador, Europe's NEZ on 28 October-1 November and the CEZ on 12-14 December, with locations of the final pair still to be decided.

FIA Safety Director Adam Baker later provided details of the second FIA Race Directors Seminar and the FIA Stewards Programme events, which will take place from 7-10 February next year.





## MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT

The FIA Foundation Annual General Meeting, held in Saint Petersburg, Russia, on the invitation of the Russian Automobile Federation, today heard reports on the charity's work across the fields of road safety, environmental improvement and motor sport safety.



FIA President and United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Road Safety Jean Todt was presented with the 2018 Decade of Action Award for road safety by Britain's HRH Prince Michael of Kent.

In a special presentation by video, Prince Michael said: "This year my award recognises someone whose vision and energy is making an outstanding contribution. Using both his FIA and UN offices, Jean successfully campaigned for the first ever UN Road Safety Trust Fund, which has now been established and will support strategic investment in low- and middle-income countries. This is a highly significant achievement. I am therefore delighted that Jean Todt is the winner of my 2018 Decade of Action Award."

Earlier, launching the Foundation Annual Report, 'Global Action for Healthy Streets', Foundation's Chairman Lord Robertson of Port Ellen described the challenges facing the international community: "Eight years into the Decade of Action, road traffic deaths are still increasing. Almost 1.4 million lives lost, so many maimed, so much misery. We are a million miles away from achieving the global targets that have been set. So we need to raise our level of ambition, to demand greater action from governments and institutions, and from ourselves." He described some of the achievements supported by the Foundation during 2018, including the launch of the new UN Road Safety Trust Fund, with a \$10 million commitment from the Foundation; \$3 billion dollars of road infrastructure investment influenced by iRAP; supporting the development of the HALO head protection device for Formula 1, Formula 2, Formula 3 and Formula E; more than 30 national workshops organised by the Global Fuel Economy Initiative; the decision by the Vietnamese government to provide every school firstgrader with a motorcycle helmet, and the launch of the new Real Urban Emissions, or TRUE, initiative. He also highlighted how the Foundation's blend of research, funding and advocacy are innovating in policy arenas.

"Our research and advocacy are having real impact, complementing the work of the FIA High Level Panel for Road Safety by building alliances beyond the traditional road safety community", Lord Robertson said. "During 2018 we have taken the road safety message out to the World Urban Forum, the World Health Assembly and the UN heads of government Summit on non-communicable diseases. Through our strong emphasis on adolescent health, we are urging policymakers and donors to respond to the utterly compelling data. We are asking them difficult questions: if the leading cause of adolescent death is road



traffic injury, why are there no mainstream international action programmes in response?"

Saul Billingsley, the FIA Foundation's Executive Director, provided an update on the charity's 'This Is My Street' advocacy campaign to build traffic injury and air quality into the international child health agenda, and described the vital role iRAP's Star Rating for Schools initiative can play in delivering 'healthy streets', with a key role for FIA Member Clubs.

The AGM also heard from recipients of funding including several FIA Member Clubs from both mobility and sporting arms. FIA Safety Director Adam Baker presented the latest developments in motor sport safety research and AIP Foundation CEO Mirjam Sidik presented the 'Head First' case study of Vietnam's 20 years of advocacy, legislation, awareness raising, implementation and enforcement to improve motorcycle helmet wearing.

The AGM re-elected trustees Marilena Amoni, Alan J. Gow and José Abed to new terms of office. Japanese trustee Takayoshi Yashiro stepped down from the board, and in his place the AGM elected Actress, Producer, FIA High Level Panel for Road Safety Spokesperson and UNDP Goodwill Ambassador Michelle Yeoh.





## CONSIDERING THE CARBON FOOTPRINT

The final meeting of the first year of the FIA Environment and Sustainability Commission was held yesterday in Saint Petersburg.



The cross-pillar FIA Environment and Sustainability Commission, chaired by former President of Mexico Felipe Calderón, met yesterday to review its first full year of activities as part of the FIA governance structure.

One of the major talking points of the meeting was the subject of carbon offsetting, which relies on an accurate calculation, an organisation's environmental footprint, and a clear strategy for addressing its impact. Members were presented with a Carbon Calculation and Offsetting Portal developed by the FIA, and voted in favour of integrating it into the FIA's digital resources.

Commission President Calderón expressed the significance of such a resource, which would be free to use for the FIA Member Organisations, as an effective way to clearly demonstrate the environmental activities which are being undertaken. "One of the most pressing issues that motor sport is facing is the public opinion that it is a polluting force," he said. "Through these steps, and with the use of this tool, we can turn this around to make a positive message coming out of motor sport activities. On a non-mandatory basis, it will be great to be able to supply our stakeholders with the capacity to do this."

The Commission noted that in fact, as previous environmental audits of motor sport events suggest, the majority of the

emissions on large events comes from spectators rather than the competition vehicles, and that it should be a target to communicate effectively and address the issue of misrepresentation of motor sport's environmental impact in the public domain.

Reports on the action points from 2018 followed, with particular emphasis on the strong revitalisation of the FIA Environmental Accreditation Programme that has occurred on the sport side of the Federation.

With the total number of ASNs with FIA Environmental Accreditation set to reach 25 in the coming months, the Commission discussed ways in which the positive work of the FIA Family could be effectively communicated, and approved a plan to formally approach key stakeholders to continue to expand the reach of this programme.

Working groups on both the Sport and Mobility sides of the Commission were created this year, and reports were brought to the meeting from each.

On the Mobility side, an evaluation of the project to implement the Environmental Accreditation for Mobility, based on the principles of the Sport project was considered. A survey has been presented to over 40 Mobility Clubs in recent months, with strong positive



feedback leading to the recommendation of the Commission that the FIA should begin to implement this programme.

A Working Group on congestion was also opened earlier this year, with the aim of creating a traffic management tool. The decision has not been made to define the best option for the technical partner of this project, and a further presentation to the Commission will be undertaken at the next meeting. It was decided by the Group to broaden this aim to encompass all issues facing urban mobility.

It was noted that the key consideration for this Working Group should be how to create a position for the Clubs where they have a strong relationship with the cities, as without their collaboration, tackling urban mobility issues is considerably more difficult.

The Commission then heard the plans for the FIA Smart Cities initiative for the coming year, including information on the collaboration with start-up accelerator MassChallenge. Members of the Commission were invited to join the FIA Smart Cities Global Start-up Challenge to increase the FIA Community's capacity and involvement in this key area of developing sustainability. It was noted that many Clubs are already engaged in this ecosystem.

Following the report on FIA Smart Cities, three projects from the Working Group on the sport side of the Commission were put forward:

- To hold an FIA Motor Sport and Environmental Sustainability Conference – a high-level event taking place in a motor sport location outside of the FIA. The aim would be to showcase the numerous advanced motor sport technologies.
- To launch an Environmental Sustainability Award. Something that is done by other Federations and ASNs.
- To create a sound communication plan on the principle that the FIA is a leader in areas of environmental sustainability.

The principles of each were agreed. Where appropriate, they will be taken to the relevant World Councils and Administration for validation.

The FIA has been invited to become a signatory of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 'Sports for Climate Action', being launched at the COP24 in Poland in the coming days. The Commission will continue to evaluate its position in relation to this new movement for Sport Federations, and present its recommendation to the FIA Administration in due course.

Finally, the Commission was pleased to accept the recent decisions of the FIA World Motor Sport Council and World Council for Automobile Mobility and Tourism to approve the appointment of 'special personalities' to the Commission – with a member of the IOC Sustainability and Legacy Commission set to join the Commission in the New Year.







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