

UIC Governance

General Assembly ratifies the appointment of UIC Chairman Mr K.C. Jena (Chairman Indian Railways Board) and welcomes 10 new members.

UIC Executive Board commences the work on establishing new role of UIC at global level in the field of quality assurance and global logistics business.

Chairmen of UIC Regional Assemblies present work progress in the 6 railway regions.

UIC supports "Resolution on the Launch of Inter-Korean Railway Operation".

UIC action in the field of Sustainable development approved.

The UIC Executive Board -the leading body comprising 21 CEOs reflecting the UIC's geographical makeup- followed by the General Assembly –gathering all members of the international association- met on 7th December in Paris at SNCF Headquarters at the kind invitation of Mrs. *Anne-Marie Idrac*, President of SNCF and Vice Chairperson of UIC.

General Assembly ratified the appointment of Mr. *K.C. Jena*, Chairman Indian Railways Board, for the remaining mandate of his predecessor Mr *J.P. Batra* up to 31st December 2008. In his opening speech Mr. *Jena* thanked all UIC members for their support and underlined his own commitment to successfully achieve the transformation of UIC into a truly global organisation.



Anne-Marie Idrac, President of SNCF and Vice Chairperson of UIC, host of the UIC Executive Board and General Assembly meetings at SNCF HQ.



From left to right: Vipin Sharma, UIC Deputy Chief Executive and responsible of global dimension, K. C. Jena, UIC Chairman, Luc Aliadière, UIC Chief Executive and Jean-Pierre Loubinoux, President of SNCF International.

The agenda of the meetings was dealt with under Chairmanship of Mr. *K.C Jena* and Vice Chair of Mrs *Anne-Marie Idrac*, in presence of *Luc Aliadière*, UIC Chief Executive, and *Vipin Sharma*, Deputy Chief Executive in charge of UIC's global dimension.

As a guest speaker at the General Assembly, Mr. *Clifford C. Eby*, Deputy Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration (US Department of Transportation) insisted on the main challenges currently addressed by the public transport authorities in the United States: in particular improving road safety records, reducing road congestion, developing sustainable transport solutions -by increasing rail network's capacity- with the support of public / private partnerships. Important rail projects in the US include the planning of high speed rail corridors, introduction of advanced train control technology ('Positive train control'), improving railway safety whilst addressing the Human factor issues, transport of hazardous goods, etc.

Within the fast implementation of new UIC structure of regional working, Executive Board concentrated on the key issues related to UIC's role at global level in the form of Global quality assurance certification agency, establishing rail transport as the key element in the global logistics business through international rail corridor development in partnership with major logistics providers, under the leadership of Mr. *Yakunin*, President of JSC Russian Railways. It also entrusted the leadership role to Mr. *Siyabonga Gama*, CEO of Transnet Freight, South Africa, Mr. *Paul Côté*, President and CEO of VIA Rail Canada, and *Robert VanderClute*, Executive Vice President of AAR, to strengthen the UIC's working at regional and global level.

As part of UIC's globalisation process launched in 2007, an increasing proportion of international cooperation activities are now dealt with within the UIC's



The UIC General Assembly took place at SNCF Headquarters in Paris on 7th December.



Regional Assemblies framework. Therefore Chairmen of UIC Regional Assemblies presented to General Assembly progress of the works in the various regions. Important activities consisted in finalising the "UIC Vision 2025" for the respective regions (these "regional visions" will contribute to consolidation of the Global UIC Strategy for railways development), and defining an action plan to cover specific needs of the region. Presentations of behalf of UIC Regions were made by Mr. *Siyabonga Gama*, CEO of Transnet (South Africa) for Africa, Mr. *Lee, Chul*, President of Korail (S'Korea) for Asia, Dr. *Hassan Ziari*, Deputy Minister of Transportation, President of RAI (Iran) for Middle-East, Mr. *Hartmut Mehdorn*, President of DB (Germany) for Europe, Mr. *Paul Côté*, President and Chief Executive Officer of VIA Rail (Canada) on behalf of North America, and Mr. *Lauro Ramirez Lopez*, CEO Fepasa, Paraguay, on behalf of Latin America Regional Assembly.

Following President's Lee, Chul's presentation on the re-opening of Inter-Korean railway links, UIC General Assembly decided to officially support the "The Launch of Inter-Korean Railway Operation" by a resolution (text of the resolution attached as appendix).

UIC General Assembly approved orientations proposed for a number of international cooperation projects with global dimension, in particular projects related to:

- UIC's role as global quality assurance certification agency,
- the development of intercontinental corridors and integration of rail into global logistic chains,
- the role and benefits of rail transport for Sustainable development objectives (Sustainable railways charter, EcoComparator and EcoTransit "World"),
- the development of a global communications strategy for rail promotion using internet.

The General Assembly also agreed on the creation of "UIC Events", a UIC subsidiary dedicated to conference organisation.

UIC General Assembly was informed on Executive Board's decision -taken on Chief Executive's proposal- to appoint Mr. *Joachim Mayer* from DB AG, as the Chairman of UIC Technology and Research Platform, and the successor of *Philippe Renard*, SNCF who was warmly thanked at the meeting. Thanks were also expressed to Mr. *Philippe Salaun*, SNCF, who was ending his mandate as Chairman for the launching of the UIC Security Platform.



Clifford C. Eby, Deputy Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration (US Department of Transportation).



Paul Côté, President and CEO of VIA Rail Canada, Regional Assembly North America.



Lee, Chul, President of Korail, Regional Assembly Asia.



Lauro Ramirez Lopez, CEO Fepasa, (Paraguay), Regional Assembly Latin America.



Hartmut Mehdorn, President of DB (Germany), Regional Assembly Europe.



Dr. Hassan Ziari, Deputy Minister of Transportation, President of RAI (Iran), Regional Assembly Middle East.



Siyabonga Gama, CEO Transnet (South Africa), Regional Assembly Africa.

10 new UIC members have been welcomed in the World railway association that now groups 190 *Anne-Marie Idrac*, President of SNCF and Vice Chairperson members.

As active members:

- Macedonian Railway Transport JSC-Skopje,
- Macedonian Railway Infrastructure,
- MAV-Start (Hungary),

as associate members:

- CFL Cargo (Luxemburg),
- Bratislava Regional Company (BRKS-Slovak Republic),
- Eurocom CO. Plc.(Hungary),
- Regio Trans S.R.L Brasov (Rumania)

as affiliate members:

- Thalys,
- Port Autonome du Havre,
- AD Trem (urban transport, Brasil).



Vladimir Yakunin, President of JSC Russian Railways.

By closing the meeting on behalf of the Host railway, Mrs *Anne-Marie Idrac* welcomed the global positive evolution in rail transport, in the passenger as well as the freight sectors. Two main trends are in favour of an increased role for rail transport: globalisation of economies and the need for efficient integrated logistic systems on one hand, and the demographic growth and the need for high capacity links between cities on the other hand. The world-wide fight against CO2 emissions and global warming represents another major asset for railways' development today and in the near future.



Michèle Druinaud was warmly thanked for the time spent at the UIC. She was in charge of the organisation of UIC statutory meetings for many years



Philippe Renard, SNCF, was warmly thanked for the work done as Chairman of the UIC Technology and Research Platform.

For more information please contact Paul Véron, UIC Communications Director: veron@uic.asso.fr

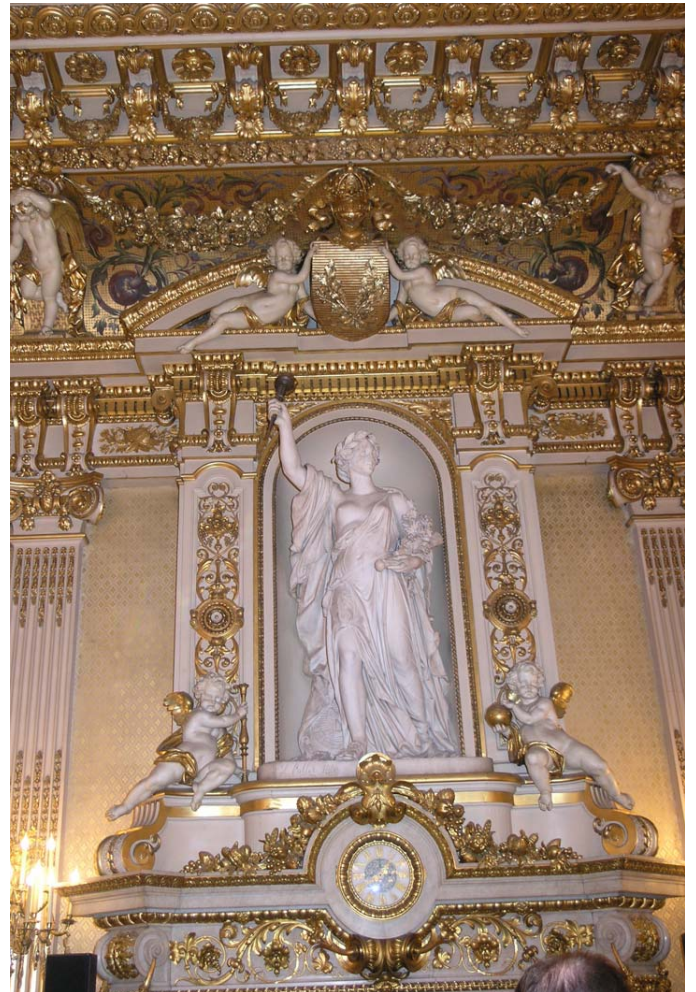
The UIC Executive Board, the leading body grouping together 21 CEOs reflecting the UIC's geographical makeup, met on 7th December in Paris at SNCF Headquarters.

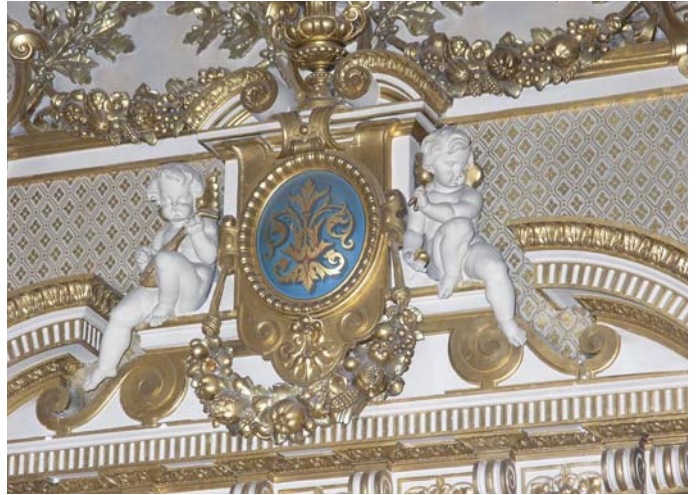


Gala dinner

The gala dinner was organised as a joint event for UIC General Assembly and SNCF / UIC Next Station Conference, on the evening of 6th December at the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs (“Quai d’Orsay”) with over 750 participants.







Korea:

Cross-border rail freight service restarts after 57 years.

UIC publishes 'Supporting Resolution' on start of Inter-Korean operation.

On 11th December, North and South Korea (Korail) began a regular rail freight service across the border for the first time after 57 years, in a new act of reconciliation between the two countries. A 12-car train carried construction materials to the North, and returned carrying clothes produced in North Korea.

"Though we start with a cargo train, it will lead to a passenger train and will soon be linked to the continental trains", Mr. Lee Chul, President of Korea Railroad Korail (and Chairman of UIC Regional Assembly for Asia), said.



UIC, the world-wide international railway organisation, published at its 71st General Assembly held in Paris on 7th

December a "Supporting Resolution on the Launch of Inter-Korean Railway Operation".

Today, all UIC members take special note of the historic agreements reached between the two Korean leaders at the Inter-Korean Summit Talks held on 4th October 2007, in relation to railway operations between both Koreas. As a follow-up measure, a freight train will operate between South and North Korea, from December 11th and a passenger train will operate through both Koreas carrying the participants of the two Korea's to the Olympic Games, which will be held in Beijing in 2008. The agreements are a momentous achievement after over half a century of railway closure, following the end of the Korean War in 1953. We pay our sincere respect to the two Korean leaders and the Korean people. We are especially pleased for Korean Railway, who will host the 72nd UIC General Assembly in May 2008 and who played a significant part to realize this historic achievement. The connection of the Trans-Korean railway, in the Korean Peninsula, will be a powerful driving force to develop the broader international rail corridors, a project of major global interest to UIC, and is expected to bring the true realization of a Trans Asian Railway Network closer, which will connect Korea and Russia (TSR), Korea and China (TCR), Korea and India, and Asia and Europe. Therefore, all UIC members are pleased to adopt this resolution to actively promote the Trans-Korean Railway project. We are certain that the connection of the Trans-Korean railway is a new signal to announce the true peace and prosperity of, not only the North-Eastern Asian region, but also that of Europe and the whole Asian continent. Accordingly, all UIC members will give their fullest support to realize this ambitious Trans-Korean' connection project and will actively' join in development of the international corridor to bring the new Logistics Revolution through the Korean peninsula.

The 71st UIC General Assembly December 7th Paris, France

Next meetings scheduled

December

14 December 2007: EUROPAC Séminaire d'information

17 December 2007: Polluted sites network meeting (Paris)

19 December 2007: Groupe de pilotage Technique & Recherche (Paris)

19 December 2007: Quality Working Group (Paris)

20 December 2007: CER Speakers Meeting (Brussels)

20 December 2007: 10th meeting - WP10-2 &10-3 CER Speakers meeting (Brussels)

20 December 2007: SSMG - System Safety Management Group (Brussels)

A Complete schedule of UIC meetings (as well as statutory meetings, events, conferences) is available through the UIC website: <http://www.uic.asso.fr/baseinfo/reunion/> or from the Home page : "Schedule of meetings".

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Communications Department, 14th December 2007

Thank you for your comments and suggestions.

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