Guidelines about Session Operation for Session Chairs
of the
17th World Congress on Road Winter Service, Resilience and Decarbonisation
Chambéry (France), 10-13 March 2026

First version 1st December, 2025
Updated on February 26, 2026

Thank you for agreeing to chair an oral session of the 17th World Congress on Road Winter Service, Resilience and Decarbonisation, which will take place in Chambery from 10 to 13 March 2026. Your contribution and support are highly appreciated.

> **These guidelines are intended to help Session Chairs prepare for their session. In particular, they discuss how to operate their sessions.**

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1 General aspects

Please refer to the guidelines dated 10 October 2025, titled "**Guidelines - Organising a Session**" as well as "**Guidelines - Finalising the programme**". It is essential that session chairs actively coordinate their sessions to prepare for them.

In particular:
- Each technical session lasts 90 minutes. This is quite short. It leaves time for a short introduction, about 4 presentations of 15 minutes each, questions and answers, engagement with the audience, and conclusions.
- You need to assign roles: session chair, session moderator, session secretary.
- The session programme should include time for engagement with the audience, e.g., questions and answers.

2 Liaison with your session's speakers

It is essential that session chairs contact all speakers directly. Session chairs also act as a go-between between the Congress organisers and the session speakers.

3   Speakers' registration

All attendees must register for the Congress via the official website. Please make sure your speakers have already registered.

https://www.piarc-chambery2026.com/registrations

4   Programme and Pre-Proceeding Website

Your session details are described on the Chambery Pre-Proceedings Website:

https://pre-proceedings-chambery2026.piarc.org/en/program/Program-at-a-glance

In the appendix of this document, you will find the direct link to the details of your oral session.

If you have any requests to update your details, such as titles, speakers or affiliations, please contact the PIARC General Secretariat by email to Tomohiro Matsubara tomohiro.matsubara@piarc.org and Go Hirochi go.hirochi@piarc.org, and please inform your session chair as well.

5   Preparing and Sharing Presentations

If you have not yet done, please share the PowerPoint templates and speaker guidelines with your speakers, which are available from the link below.

https://pre-proceedings-chambery2026.piarc.org/en/documents/Introduction

Please make sure to use the latest templates, which replace the French Ministry Logo:

We recommend that you ask your speakers to share their presentations with you and with all other speakers before the session.

This will help you check that they are coherent with expectations as regards quality, topic, and also duration. The presentations will also help all speakers coordinate their own presentations.

6   PREPARING THE CONTENT OF THE SESSION

6.1   Mini bios

You probably want to ask each of your speakers for short bio elements so that you can introduce them during the session.

6.2   Prepare some questions in advance

Interaction with the audience is always a key moment in all sessions. We recommend that session chairs prepare the first few questions as ice-breakers, if needed.

6.3   Prepare an introductory slide for your session

Session chairs may want to prepare an introductory slide, on which the session's title, programme, and all speakers would be presented. **All presentation files have to be submitted at a Speakers' Room at the Congress venue.** Please note that there is no online submission platform.

6.4   Speakers' Room

A dedicated Speakers' Room will be available for speakers to hand over their presentation files and verify that everything works correctly on the conference equipment.

- Please bring your presentation on a USB stick. An on-site email address will also be available if you prefer to send your file by email.

- Files must be submitted at least 1 hour before your session to allow technicians sufficient time to prepare.
- Please ensure you hand over:
  - ➢ Your final PPTX file, including your video
  - ➢ Any embedded video files as separate backups
- When submitting your material, please clearly indicate
  - ➢ Your session name
  - ➢ The speaker's name

  This ensures your file is correctly assigned and loaded in the right meeting room.
- File Types
  - ➢ Only PowerPoint files(PPTX) are accepted.
  - ➢ If you do not have PowerPoint files, the technicians can assist in converting PDF files into a PowerPoint file on-site; however, this is not recommended.
  - ➢ If your presentation contains videos, they have to be inserted directly into the PPTX, and you also have to provide the original video files to the technicians.
- Speakers' Room opens as follows:

Date	Opening Hours
Tuesday 10 March	09:00 – 18:00
Wednesday 11 March	08:00 – 18:00
Thursday 12 March	08:00 – 14:00
Friday, 13 March	08:00 – 13:00

6.5   Preparatory meeting on Monday, 9th of March, 17:00-18:00

Session chairs are invited to a Preparatory meeting on Monday, the day before the start of the Congress. The aim is to address all questions that you may still have at that point, while keeping the duration within 60 mn.

Venue: Hall E at SAVOIEXPO - EXHIBITION PARK (Congress Venue)

Address: 1725 AVENUE DU GRAND ARIETAZ, 73000 CHAMBÉRY, FRANCE

6.6   Pre-Meeting in your session room

We recommend that session chairs invite all speakers to meet in the session room 10 minutes ahead.

7   DURING THE SESSION

7.1   Keep track of the time

Please keep track of time, otherwise some speakers will be short of time. We recommend that you communicate well with your speakers about the duration of the presentation time beforehand, and send a signal to them at the 2-minute and 1-minute mark.

7.2   Reserve time for questions and answers

Interaction with the audience is a key feature of the Congress. Sufficient time should be allocated to questions and answers.

7.3   Invite all delegates to visit poster sessions

We recommend that session chairs encourage attendees to visit the poster sessions in Hall C, where the authors who submitted full papers will be present with their posters for further discussion.

The details of the poster sessions:
https://pre-proceedings-chambery2026.piarc.org/en/program/Poster-sessions

8 AFTER THE CONGRESS

Session Conclusions

As session chair, you are invited to prepare short conclusions of your session. Those conclusions will encapsulate the key takeaways from your session and will feed into the General Report of the Congress. Please refer to the "Guidelines and Template for Session Conclusions".

9 CONTACTS

PIARC Contact for preparation

Go HIROCHI go.hirochi@piarc.org: for Session leaders and all Oral presenters

Tomohiro MATSUBARA tomohiro.matsubara@piarc.org: for Poster presenters

paperschambery2026@piarc.org: for authors

PIARC contact on site

You will find a contact person from PIARC GS in each session room. He/She will be able to assist you. The PIARC General Secretariat remains at your disposal for further questions that you may have, and we look forward to meeting you in Chambery.

Appendix

The link for the session details on the preproceeding website.

Code	Session Name and the link for the pre-proceeding website
W01	[Winter Service Session 01 - Automatic Spreading and Digitalisation Part 1](#)
W02	[Winter Service Session 02 - Overview of winter service worldwide](#)
W03	[Winter Service Session 03 - Risk assessments due to challenges in winter maintenance caused by climate change](#)
W04	[Winter Service Session 04 - Human Resource Management in Winter Service](#)
W05	[Winter Service Session 05 - Automatic Spreading and Digitalisation Part 2](#)
W06	[Winter Service Session 06 - New takes on winter maintenance management in meeting challenges in climate change](#)
W07	[Winter Service Session 07 - Forecasts for winter service](#)
W08	[Winter Service Session 08 - Adjustments in winter maintenance organization according to climate change and new climate zones](#)
W09	[Winter Service Session 09 - Experiments and tools for winter maintenance](#)
W10	[Winter Service Session 10 - Evaluations of effect in winter maintenance regarding climate change](#)
W11	[Winter Service Session 11 - AI for road status information](#)
W12	[Winter Service Session 12 - De-icing material and application](#)
W13	[Winter Service Session 13 - Decision support for winter maintenance](#)
W14	[Winter Service Session 14 - Winter Maintenance Management in different Countries](#)
W15	[Winter Service Session 15 - Alternative technologies for melting snow and ice](#)
W16	[Winter Service Session 16 -Strategies and Guidelines for Winter Maintenance Management](#)
W17	[Winter Service Session 17 - Use of AI for winter maintenance](#)
W18	[Winter Service Session 18 - Winter Maintenance Management in special situations](#)
W19	[Winter Service Session 19 -Winter Service in Urban Areas](#)
W20	[Winter Service Session 20 - Special Aspects of Winter Maintenance Management](#)
W21	[Winter Service Session 21 - Use of Digital data to assist Winter Service](#)
W22	[Winter Service Session 22 - Innovation in Infrastructure and Organisation](#)
W23	[Winter Service Session 23 - Use of Data from Vehilces](#)
W24	[Winter Service Session 24 -Cyclist Mobility and Sustainable Winter Maintenance](#)
R01	[Resilience Session 01 - How can the resilience of aging bridges be improved in the context of climate change?](#)
R02	[Resilience Session 02 - Resilience of road freight traffic facing adverse situations: foresight, modelling, response and lessons learnt](#)
R03	[Resilience Session 03: Assessing and Managing Road Safety Risk within the Safe System Approach Part.1](#)

R04	Resilience Session 04: Assessing and Managing Road Safety Risk within the Safe System Approach Part.2
R05	Resilience Session 05 - Improving resilience planning
R06	Resilience Session 06 - Organizational resilience: what & how?
R07	Resilience Session 07 - Resilience and sustainable operation of tunnels
R08	Resilience Session 08 - Resilient Roads: Smarter Asset Management
R09	Resilience Session 09 - Building Better Roads: Engineering for Resilience
R10	Resilience Session 10 - Rural Roads Resilience
R11	Resilience Session 11 - Extreme Weather: Coping Mechanisms
R12	Resilience Session 12 - Extreme Weather: Cooperative Solutions
R13	Resilience Session 13 - Earthworks facing climate change
D01	Decarbonisation Session 01 - Driving Decarbonisation with Road Investments
D02	Decarbonisation Session 02 - Measures to reduce the carbon footprint of pavements - part 1
D03	Decarbonisation Session 03 - Measures to reduce the carbon footprint of pavements - part 2
D04	Decarbonisation Session 04 - Electric Road Systems
D05	Decarbonisation Session 05 - Decarbonisation of construction & maintenance Part 1
D06	Decarbonisation Session 06 - Decarbonisation of construction & maintenance Part 2
D07	Decarbonisation Session 07 - Innovative ITS for Decarbonisation and resiliency
D08	Decarbonisation Session 08 - Roads for decarbonized mobility in urban and peri-urban areas
D09	Decarbonisation Session 09 - Comparative Analysis of the Evolution of Road Statistics
KS1	Keynote Session 1
KS2	Keynote Session 2
KS3	Keynote Session 3 - An innovative approach to preparing the French national road network for climate change adaptation
SDSW	Strategic Direction Session on Winter Service - Strategic Aspects of Winter Service
SDSR	Strategic Direction Session on Resilience - Resilience of the Road Network
SDSD	Strategic Direction Session on Decarbonisation - Decarbonisation of the road sector
SP1	Special Project Session 1 - Artificial Intelligence in the road sector
SP2	Special Project Session 2 - Motorcyclists road safety
SP3	Special Project Session 3 - Rapid Impact Assessment
SP4	Special Project Session 4 - Management of worksites
F01	Foresight session 1 - Holistic approach to foster circular and resilient road and transport infrastructures
F02	Foresight Session 2 - Expressways decarbonation
F03	Foresight session 3 - Prioritizing Critical Transport Infrastructure and Operations for Resilient Connectivity

F04	[Foresight session 4 - SIRWEC 2026 Part 1](#)
F05	[Foresight Session 5 - SIRWEC 2026 Part 2](#)
F06	[Foresight session 6 - Winter Service for airports](#)
F07	[Foresight session 7 - To be confirmed](#)
WK01	[Workshop 01 - Improvements to the PIARC International Climate Change Adaptation Framework - 2023 version](#)
WK02	[Workshop 02 - Transparency, Finance & Procurement for Sustainability](#)
WK03	[Workshop 03- Beyond Boundaries: Multi-dimensional Disaster Resilience](#)
WK04	[Workshop 04 - Overweighted commercial vehicles: impact on road infrastructures and mitigation](#)
WK05	[Workshop 05 - Transport Resilience in Motion – A Live Collaboration Forum](#)
WK06	[Workshop 06 - New Technologies and Innovation in the road sector](#)
WK07	[Workshop 07 - Natural hazards risk for mountain road infrastructure](#)
WK08	[Workshop 08 - Unlocking decarbonisation in road construction & maintenance](#)
WK09	[Workshop 09 - Winter Accessibility for the 2030 Winter Olympics - Ensuring Access to Ski Resorts and Olympic Venues in the French Alps](#)
WK10	[Workshop 10 - Road sustainability and resilience: addressing the challenges of temperature differentials](#)