



Estd. 1904

"The Spirit is in Victory"

THE AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION OF CEYLON

NEWS

# FIA Conference



As per decision taken by the Executive Committee of the Association, the President and the Secretary attended the above conference. There were 229 Automobile Clubs delegates from 60 nations representing nearly 70 million members of the FIA worldwide.

This year, Automobile Association of Malaysia hosted the conference which is a historical event since this is the first time the conference was held in the Far East. The Conference Week is primarily a networking environment where best practice is shared on a range of issues concerning sustainability, road accident prevention and environmental issues.

As many of the Clubs vary in size and degree of development, there is much mentoring from the bigger more established Automobile Associations to help the smaller organizations develop, in particular, in the field of accident prevention. It is also significant for the first time this year, Motor Sports Clubs worked alongside the Mobility Clubs.

This will only serve to enrich and strengthen the Federation as knowledge can then flow between all members.

The FIA is committed to supporting the United Nations "Decade of Action for Road Safety" aimed at preventing 5 million road accident deaths, in 10 years. President Jean Todt has put the full weight of the Federation behind the FIA Action for Road Safety. At the conference, it was spoken extensively and the delegates voted to adopt a logo as a powerful motivational focus. The week also saw the launch of MyRap, the Malaysian branch of the Road Assessment Program which is one of the many FIA initiatives to prevent road deaths and minimize the impact of the aftermath of accidents.

On Tuesday 22nd march at 1600hrs Region II Plenary session was held in the Pearl Room of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel where the reports and the election of the office bearers were held. There was no contest for the President and Treasurer. AA Australia was unanimously elected the President and AA Bangladesh as Treasurer. There were contests for 3 vice Presidency from 4 clubs and the Post of Secretary.

The nominations for the Vice Presidency were received from AA Ceylon, AA Malaysia, AA Philippines and AA Japan. Except AA Ceylon, the other clubs are already Vice Presidents of Region II.

The nominations for the Post of Secretary were from AA New Zealand and AA India. AA New Zealand was the Secretary of the Region II already. Secret balloting was carried out and the following results were announced: -

AA Malaysia AA Philippines and AA Japan (it is interesting to note that the AA Ceylon lost marginally in spite of their first appearance at this contest. It should be noted that the Club delegates seemed to be confused as to what is AA Ceylon, where as they know our Association as AA Sri Lanka).

#### Post of Secretary:

AA New Zealand. The secretary informed the Committee that the FIA has allocated Euro. 60,000/- for the FIA "Decade of Action for Road Safety" which will be inaugurated on 11th of May. He said the above sum will be distributed to the Clubs, after evaluating the respective proposals from the Clubs.

However, most of them have shown solidarity and supported the AA Ceylon in the event we forward our application for funding for Road Safety.

On Wednesday 23rd March, the Marketing Commission session was conducted from 0900hrs to 1530hrs at the Summit Room of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel. At 1140hrs, AA Ceylon Secretary made a Power Point presentation on Membership Drive and Retention Strategies – the AAC Experience. His presentation was received with great applause and was appreciated by the participants. Since the presentation was very clear and the subject matter was clearly submitted, there were no questions asked at the session.

On Wednesday 23rd March afternoon, the President and the Secretary met the Managing Director of M/s Tropics Holiday SDN BHD Kuala Lumpur to promote Malaysian outboard travel to Sri Lanka. They have also submitted certain packages which are now in operation for our consideration.

All in all, AAC exposure at the FIA Conference Week 2011 had brought great impact and popularity for the Association.