



## MILITARY - CIVILIAN COOPERATION THE MAIN TOPIC FOR THE CONGRESS IN 2013

The Executive Committee decided at the last meeting in Prague in December 2012 that military and civilian collaboration in road safety will be the main topic for the congress 10 -13th September next year in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The EC decided also - with reference to the received delegate feedbacks from the last congress in Spain - to restructure the congress. The field trip will be reduced to half a day, national presentations will be possible and guided group discussions will be held on basis on the introduction of the main topics/subtopics. More info will come later at the web.



The historical and beautiful Home of the B-H Armed Forces will be the congress venue for the next year.

### Changes in leadership after the next congress in 2013

President Oddvar Haagensen, Norway, will leave ECRAF in 2013 after four years as president. Due to the transfer of secretariats etc, the EC decided at the last meeting to start the election work early. Johan Pihlström, Sweden and Jan Sevsic, Czech Republic, are also for election at the next General Assembly. More info will come later at the web

## ECRAF WILL PRESENT THE FIRST ACCIDENT STATISTICS NEXT YEAR Will not wait any longer for other partners



From Afghanistan

EC has decided to start to collect accident data by itself and will present the first statistics at the next congress.

- We have over years tried to establish collaboration with other actual European military bodies, but we could not wait any longer. This statistics are vital for our accident prevention work and we need to progress, says project leader Johan Pihlström, Sweden. Continue next page.

### EC WILL MEET IN HELSINKI

Helsinki in Finland will be the next meeting place for the EC 7.- 8th May 2013. Member of EC, Arto Purkunen, will be the host for the meeting.

### ECRAF web site will have some changes

The ECRAF web site will early next year have some changes. The page called **Best Practice** will be updated with new subjects. The first subject to be dealt with will be Risk Management based among others on earlier congress presentations.

### WORKING GROUP FOR ECRAF NETWORKING

Good and relevant networking is an important part of the ECRAF policy platform. EC decided at the last meeting to establish a working group to present a strategy to improve the continued networking. A report will be presented for the next congress. The working group will be chaired by the President and members are Arto Purkunen (Finland) and Leif A. Ellefset (Norway). More info later at the web.



ECRAF wish you all  
**MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
and  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR !**



Dear colleagues,

The year 2012 are about to be history and the year 2013 will soon be a reality. This edition of the President's corner is being written on the return flight after the Executive Committee meeting in Prague 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> December were the Executive Committee among other things have decided the main topic for the upcoming ECRAF Congress in Sarajevo 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2013. The main topic will be "Military – Civilian Cooperation", and the Congress programme will be adjusted in line with the feedback after the Congress in Saragossa were delegates asked for more time to discuss and change of experience.



For me personally the next year will be a special one. After 7 years in ECRAF, and one year as the vice-president and four year as the President, I will leave ECRAF after the Congress in September. These seven years have been interesting, and I have learned to know many fine people, dedicated to the great task to improve road safety in their national Armed Forces. Working in an international environment can be demanding, but is always a great opportunity to learn more about different cultures and working methods. To gain new experience and knowledge is a necessity to develop as a person, and I am grateful for all I have learned during the years in ECRAF.

The Executive Committee have established a new Working Group in order to develop a systematic procedure for the networking process. The working group will be chaired by me, and I will be accompanied by Arto Purkunen and Leif Agnar Ellevset. The WG will be an important instrument also in the handover of information to the next leadership in ECRAF.

But before we will join the New Year, we will celebrate Christmas Holydays and the New Year's Eve. For many Europeans 2012 has been a difficult year with economic challenges. It is now time to be together with the family, to relax, and to gain new energy. I would like to wish you all a peaceful Christmas Holydays and a very happy New Year, and I am looking forward to see you all in the beautiful city of Sarajevo in September.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year !**



## NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the ECRAF Newsletter will come in February 2013. Contributions must be received within the last week of January 2013.

## Statistics ...

*Continues from page 1*

Pihlstrøm underlines that the work will start with collection of national statistics.

The ECRAF members will in January receive more outfilling information and a questionnaire

which must be returned within 1st of April. Then the work will start to build up the ECRAF accident statistics with the content decided by the last GA.

-It is my hope to present a preliminary document at the EC meeting in Helsinki in May and the final document at the General Assembly in Sarajevo September 2013, concludes Pihlstrøm. *More at web later.*

## EDITORIAL

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## CONGRESS HOSTS

ECRAF is seaching for hosts for the congresses in 2014 and 2015. Interested candidates can contact the EC or the Secretariats for more information. Actual candidates are also under discussion by EC.

