



## LETTER FROM THE FIA PRESIDENT

14 March 2011

Dear Member,

The highlights of my working month in February and the first few days of March were the **World Motor Sport Council in Paris**, the Swedish Rally and a number of meetings in Scandinavia and Ireland. I also took the opportunity of visiting Robert Kubica in hospital, was invited to McLaren's headquarters, and I also attended the Geneva Motor Show.

The month started with a trip to Sweden to both support the Swedish leg of the championship as well as meet a number of senior government figures in Sweden and Norway. We were hosted by the Norwegian clubs, the Norges Automobil-Forbund (NAF) and the Royal Norwegian Automobile Club (KNA) who managed, with their warmth and hospitality, to help us forget the distinctly chilly outside temperature. Amongst our hosts, we enjoyed the company of **Mrs Magnild Meltveit Kleppa, Minister of Transport and Communications** and **Mrs Anniken Huitfeldt, Minister of Culture**, and amongst the topics discussed there was much emphasis on young driver training as well as the ongoing necessity for the use of electronic stability and control devices to help driving in such harsh wintry conditions.

The achievement of zero road fatalities in Iceland is the aim for both **Mr Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, the country's president** and the members of the Icelandic Automobile Association (FIB) and the Icelandic Motorsport Association (LIA). In the same vein, but with a different focus, our Irish members are concerned on a road safety campaign targeted at the most vulnerable users, the 17-25 age group. Two young rally drivers were chosen to act as ambassadors and I am certain that Craig Breen and Toni Kelly will make a strong contribution to this campaign which is supported by the Irish clubs as well as the Irish Road Safety Authority and its chief executive officer, Noel Brett.

Back in Paris and Geneva a number of commissions met in the lead up to the World Motor Sport Council, notably the **WRC Commission**, under the new presidency of Jarmo Mahonen, and the **Women & Motor Sport Commission**. This year rallying is moving into a new era, with revised regulations and new cars, while the role of women in motorsport is being enhanced by the commission which only a year after its foundation, is developing a series of initiatives involving Volkswagen Motorsport and the CIK-FIA.

In Paris I also had an interesting discussion with **Antonio Tajani, Vice-President of the EU Commission**. He is in charge of Industry and Entrepreneurship and is particularly interested in the development of electric cars. We discussed the possibility of supporting his interest with a FIA championship and this is now being evaluated.

**Ron Dennis and Martin Whitmarsh**, respectively Group CEO and Team Principal of McLaren, invited me to spend some time at the company's futuristic office and workshop complex in the south of England. We had a very constructive meeting and I was impressed by the layout and substance of the beautiful building which houses the team and its motoring sister company.

In the first few days of March we had the World Motor Sport Council in Paris and a number of issues were discussed with the representatives of the FIA sporting community. A press release was issued and further details can be found on our website.

Finally, it is with a heavy heart, and on behalf of the FIA, that I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to the family, friends and colleagues of the recently deceased **Victor Rubén Dumot Martínez**. He had been an important figure in both Latin American and Paraguayan motorsport. He was President of Region 4, President the Touring Y Automovil Club Paraguayo (TACPy) and a highly respected and regarded Vice President of the World Council for Automobile Mobility and Tourism. His contribution to the FIA was greatly valued by its members and by me. He will be sadly missed.

Our next appointment is for the important upcoming conference week in Malaysia and I very much look forward seeing many of you there.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Todt', written in a cursive style.

Jean Todt,  
FIA President



Nick Crow,  
FIA President of the Senate



Brian Gibbons,  
FIA Deputy President Mobility



Graham Stoker,  
FIA Deputy President Sport