

RACECA Seeks Representation in Key Official Bodies

Roads and Civil Engineers Contractors Association continues to develop and seek representation in various official bodies to help chart their cause and interest. Such key bodies that they have been represented is the National Construction Authority which was formed under an act of Parliament in 2011 and Kenya Roads Board Technical and Development committee which has responsibility for directing and funding research into construction processes and activities.

The Association is in close contact

with the Ministry of Roads through the Permanent Secretary and the RACECA Chairman, Mr.Kishan Gehlot, Who are in the process of ratifying agreements made between Ministry of Roads, the Road Authorities and RACECA during a comprehensive meeting held in November, 2011. Through their representative, RACECA is asking the government to assess the practicalities of using Portland Pozzolana Cement, rather than the more expensive and less easily available Ordinary Portland Cement currently specified for stabilization of road pavements.

Portland Pozzolana Cement is manufactured by blending pozzolanic materials, Ordinary Portland Cement clinker and gypsum by either grinding them together or separately. Today Portland Pozzolana Cement is widely in demand for industrial and residential buildings, roads, dams and machine foundations. Portland Pozzolana Cement is resistant to harsh water attacks and prevents the formation of calcium hydroxide at the time of cement setting and hydration. It withstands aggressive gases, thermal cracks, wet cracking etc.

Ordinary Portland Cement is in short supply and expensive in Kenya and Pozzolana Portlands Cement is readily available in the country. It is used extensively throughout the world for cement stabilization of road pavements and RACECA see no reason why it is not specified for use here. RACECA has also requested their representative to discuss, with the Kenya Roads Board Technical and Development Committee the specifications for 80/100 and 60/70 bitumen in relation to climatic conditions to avoid any misunderstandings on their use in future. The use or Polymer Mocecf Bitumen in road pavements is also being raised with the Kenya Roads Board Technical and Development Committee.