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International seminar on *"Railways in the past, present and future"* organised by Moroccan Railways and UIC on 6 March in Marrakech as part of ONCF's 50th anniversary celebrations

Three round tables will in turn address regional visions for the revitalisation of rail transport, technical challenges, international standards and standardisation, as well as societal and management issues for the rail sector

(Paris/Rabat, 14 February 2014) As part of the ceremonies to mark the double anniversary celebrations of 100 years of railways in Morocco and 50 years of Moroccan National Railways (ONCF) taking place under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI of Morocco, ONCF is organising an international seminar in collaboration with the International Union of Railways (UIC) on the theme of *"Railways in the past, present and future"*. The seminar will take place on 6 March 2014 in Marrakech. Delegates invited to attend the event will be welcomed on the afternoon of 5 March. The programme for 7 March will include some technical/cultural visits.

This international gathering will be attended by many stakeholders, leaders and experts from the transport and railway sector, representatives of international institutions, manufacturers, heads of research, academics, etc.

The event will provide a platform to share and discuss the development of the railway system and the main challenges that this sector will need to overcome in the future.

Three round tables, bringing together high-level decision-makers from several regions across the world, will give participants an opportunity to discuss the following developments and issues:

-Visions aiming to revitalise railways around the world, discussion on regional visions and strategies, including those of the African region

-Societal and management aspects in railway transport

-International harmonisation, standardisation and sustainable development challenges

International media representatives interested in taking part in this international seminar in Marrakech are asked to send their accreditation requests to the UIC Communications Department:

Com@uic.org

Moroccan media representatives are asked to directly contact the ONCF Communications Department in Rabat for their accreditation.

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