
Workshop III

Final steps towards the:

icpdr **iksd**
International
Commission
for the Protection
of the Danube River
Internationale
Kommission
zum Schutz
der Donau

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Joint Statement on Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Sustainability in the Danube River Basin

/// Deutschland /// Österreich /// Česká republika /// Slovensko /// Magyarország /// Slovenija /// Hrvatska /// Bosna i Hercegovina /// Srbija i Crna Gora /// România /// България /// Moldova /// Україна ///

Philip Weller
Executive Secretary, ICPDR

The Process



- Workshop 1: Initial Facts and Exchange of Views and Experiences; visit of example site near Vienna
- Workshop 2: Agreeing upon technical ways to achieve ecology-friendly IWT; visit of example site Calarasi/RO
- Workshop 3: Finalisation of the Joint Statement
- Presentation of the Joint Statement

Workshop I Results



- Strong support by all participants to this Danube IWT process
- Cooperation between Basin and Navigation Commissions is proven as mutually beneficial
- River ecology requires a very dynamic landscape and is seriously deteriorated along the Danube
- IWT is an envir.-friendly transport and has a growing market
- Danube IWT has to respect the legal framework (WFD, FFH)

Workshop I Results



- Danube river landscape has to serve many functions, i.a. IWT
- Each river section has its individual character and needs its own management and development
- Danube has free capacities for IWT but needs to respect and adapt to the river ecology
- IWT projects should not further deteriorate the riverine landscape but aim at improving/restoring it (e.g. GES)
- IWT projects need to be multi-functional and multi-disciplinary: a thorough preparatory *process (planning guidelines)* can lead to win-win situations

Workshop II Results



- Discussion of technical ways to achieve ecology-friendly IWT
- Visit of the 2nd example site (Calarasi–Braila ISPA project): boat travel and discussion of project concept and design alternatives
- Recommendation to more work with natural river structures and to *jointly* assess alternative technical options
- Possibilities to improve IWT via **non-structural measures** (fleet, emissions, DoRIS, training): as essential as structural measures to make Danube competitive
- Environment effects of **sediment dredging**: short and long-term effects; list of mitigation measures [Philip Weller-Executive Secretary,](#)

Workshop II Results



Economic background: opportunities to expand IWT on the Danube (forecasted doubling of transport volumes)

New planning approach for sustainable IWT in the Danube
– proposal of Planning Principles (*to be commented*)

Overview of some 20 IWT projects in the DRB (*to be commented*)

Tasks

Start drafting the Statement and comment the 1st draft

Draft a list of navigation bottlenecks (by DC)

Draft a list of critical habitats (by NGOs)

Workshop II Results



Work Group Discussions:

Prerequisites for achieving an ecologically sound IWT
(IWT and environment stakeholder views)

Basin wide approach for integrating IWT and ecology

**How to plan current and future IWT and environment
measures in an integrated way?**

Agreement on the *structure of the Statement* and the
drafting process up to the Zagreb workshop

Drafting the Joint Statement



The Process since Workshop II

- Agreement on the table of contents and character of the Joint Statement at WS II
- Work of the Drafting Team (July / Aug.) and comments on draft Stat. from stakeholders (Sept.)
- Dissemination of revised draft Statement to all participants prior to WS III

Finalising the Joint Statement



Discussions at WS III:

- Overview of main changes from received comments, additional comments;
- Critical issues and future Statement utilisation
- Proposed *Breakout Groups*:
 - + Economic aspects and future needs (ch. 2)
 - + Balancing IWT and ecology (ch. 3)
 - + Principles and criteria integr. approach (ch. 4)
 - + Utilisation of process results and Follow-up Tasks (ch. 5)

Follow up from Workshop III



After the Workshop III:

- WS III report; production of a final edited draft
- Circulation of a final draft for written agreement by end of October / early November
- Public Presentation of Common Statement in December

The logo for the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) and the Internationale Kommission zum Schutz der Donau (IKSD). It features the acronyms 'icpdr' and 'iksd' in a bold, lowercase sans-serif font. A blue curved line arches over the text from the left side of 'icpdr' to the right side of 'iksd'.

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for the Protection
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Thank you for your attention

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