

**PLATINA Interactive Conference/Workshop – Good Practices in Sustainable Waterway Planning: Putting Theory to Practice**  
14 -15 November 2011, Brussels

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**Panelist profile**



**Philip Weller (International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River)**

*Philip Weller works as the Executive Secretary of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR), Vienna, Austria. In this position he is responsible for the management of the ICPDR, which is the forum for the 14 major Danube countries and the European Commission to implement their commitments made to improve water quality and water management in the Danube Basin.*



**Matthias Ruete (DG Move – Mobility and Transport)**

*Since 2010 Matthias Ruete has been Director General of the Directorate General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE). Between 2006 and 2009 he was Director General for Energy and Transport. In 2005 he worked as Director in DG Enterprise and Industry for "coordination for competitiveness"; from 2000 to 2004 he was Director in DG Enlargement dealing with the coordination of negotiations, pre-accession and financial instruments, first for the ten countries that finalized negotiations in 2002 and then for Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey. From 1998 to 2000 Matthias Ruete was Director in DG Transport in the area of international relations, trans-European transport and infrastructure networks. His initial post at the European Commission was in DG Social Affairs (Health and Safety) before moving to DG Internal Market (administrator for media legislation, then assistant to the Director General), becoming Head of the Industrial Cooperation Unit in DG Industry in 1993. Before being appointed Director, he was Member of Cabinet, afterwards Deputy Head of Cabinet of Edith Cresson, the Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Education (1995 to 1998). Mr Ruete's academic background is in the field of law and political sciences. He holds a Master (London) and doctorate (Giessen) in law and the German state exams in law. Before joining the European Commission, he lectured in Constitutional, European and International Public Law at Warwick University.*

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**Karl Falkenberg (DG Environment)**

*Karl Falkenberg has a long experience as a negotiator in the European Commission. He started his career in the Commission as textiles negotiator, has dealt with international fisheries issues and since 1985 with the GATT. From 1997 to December 2000 he was in charge of the coordination of all WTO issues. In 2001 he was appointed Director in charge of sectoral trade policies and bilateral trade relations with North America, Japan, the Mediterranean area and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and in 2002 Director for Free trade agreements, Agricultural trade questions, ACP. From 2005 to 2008 he coordinated all bilateral trade policies as Deputy Director General. In January 2009, he took up the position of Director General of the Environment, covering the EU's environmental policy in both its domestic and international dimensions. Karl Falkenberg is a trained economist and journalist.*



**Hans-Peter Hasenbichler (via donau)**

*Mr. Hasenbichler is the Managing Director for the business area Waterway Management of “via donau”, responsible for the business area Waterway Management and for all Hydraulic Engineering and Flood Protection projects as well as for the business areas of Legal Affairs and Property Management.*



**Sergey Moroz (WWF)**

*Sergey Moroz joined the WWF European Policy Office in January 2005. As Freshwater Policy Officer, he is working on a range of issues, including the implementation of the Water Framework Directive and integration of sustainable water management into relevant EU policies and budgets. Before joining WWF European Policy Office, Sergey worked for four years with WWF Freshwater Programme in Denmark, UK and France. Prior to that, he worked for WWF's restoration project in the Danube Delta. A Ukrainian citizen, Sergey has a somewhat eclectic background for WWF, a fascination with all things “water” and a sizable collection of history books.*

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**Gernot Pauli (Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine)**

*Since 2003 Mr. Pauli , he has been the Chief Engineer of the Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine as responsible officer of the CCNR Secretariat for all issues relating to technical requirements for inland navigation*

*vessels including exhaust emissions, transport of dangerous goods, waterway infrastructure, fairway, incl. implication of EU Water Framework and Habitats directives for inland navigation, as well as for Police (traffic) regulations, river Information services and climate change (adaptation and mitigation). Since 2004 Mr. Pauli is an active member of the PIANC Environmental Commission / Inland Navigation Commission. Mr. Pauli is also the co-author of the PIANC report on climate change and navigation and author of Sustainable transport: A case study of Rhine navigation, Natural Resources Forum.*



**Nicolas Bour (Voies Navigables de France)**

*After graduating from the Ecole National des Ponts et Chaussées and the Ecole Nationale d'Architecture in Paris, Mr. Bour was project manager for several complex multidisciplinary projects in France and overseas in the transport, energy and industrial sectors. On 15 March 2004, he was appointed director of the Seine-Nord Europe project for Voies navigables de France. This appointment was made following the decision by*

*the Comité Interministériel de l'Aménagement et du Développement du Territoire (Interministerial Committee on Spatial Planning and Development-CIADT) dated 18 Decembre 2004 to make Voies Navigables de France project authority for the preliminary design studies of the high-capacity canal that will link the Seine basin to Northern Europe end 2017. In July 2011, he was appointed Director of Voies navigables de France for European waterways projects and innovation. In april 2011 the procurement process for Canal Seine-Nord was launched , and since early 2011 the public debate for Saône-Moselle – Saône-Rhin European waterway within European core network is under preparation.*

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**Carl Manzano (Nationalpark Donau Auen)**

*Carl Manzano, born 1953, studied Biology and Political Sciences in Vienna, Scientific Assistant at the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna and at the Institute for Higher Studies, Vienna. His early involvement were in environmental NGOs, as director of the Donau Auen*

*National Park Planning Group and director of Thistle Association (NGO). Since 1997 he is director of Donau Auen National Park.*



**Hendrik Havinga (Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, Rijkswaterstaat, Directorate East-Netherlands)**

*Mr. Havinga has graduated in 1978 in Civil Engineering at the Delft University of Technology and subsequently joined the Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management During the past decade Mr. Havinga developed (together with experts from other fields) new approaches to river management, that could eliminate disadvantages of traditional river engineering and increase the sustainability of river measures and resilience of the river system. Specific nautical, morphological and institutional knowledge of Mr. Havinga has been used by consultants in feasibility projects on Inland Water Transport and river management abroad.*



**Elmar Fuchs (German Federal Institute of Hydrology)**

*Mr. Fuchs has finished studies of Agricultural Sciences University of Bonn, and started his career in 1987 as an agricultural engineer. He holds PhD in Soil Sciences University of Hamburg and since 1993 he has been working for the German Federal Institute of Hydrology in the of department “groundwater, geology, river morphhology” and “environmental interactions”, dealing with soil protection along waterways, handling of dredged material and dealing with environmental impact assessment, ecological modeling, sustainable waterway development, research projects on river ecology (inland and European). He has been one of the Members of PIANC Environmental Commission (EnviCom).*



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**Theresia Hacksteiner (European Barge Union)**

*Ms. Hacksteiner holds the position of the Secretary General of the European Barge Union (EBU) based at Brussels. The main goal of the EBU is the representation of inland navigation interests on European and international level as regards general, economic and legal affairs. Ms Hacksteiner is also Secretary General IVR - International Association for the representation of the mutual interests of the inland shipping and the insurance and for keeping the register of inland vessels in Europe, based at Rotterdam as well as the Director NBKB, a Dutch vessel inspection foundation. During her active role in international organizations, Ms Hacksteiner has gained an extensive experience which reflect in Management of international organisations, dealing with general, legal, economic and technical affairs, Advising member organisations as regards general, economic and legal aspects in inland navigation, Networking with governments, European institutions and other international organizations, Lobbying European and international institutions as well as Organizing international conferences and seminars.*



**Karin De Schepper (INE)**

*Karin De Schepper has fifteen years experience in shipping, inland waterways and port policy. She has been General Secretary of Inland Navigation Europe (INE) since 2001. INE is the European platform of waterway managers and promotion agencies. The main goal of INE is to achieve an increased and better use of transport by water to create efficient and sustainable mobility in EU cities and regions with navigable rivers and canals.*



**Daniel Pullan (Birdlife)**

*Mr. Pullan holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and a master's degree in Town Planning. He started his career in local government in the UK, working on spatial urban plans, but soon moved into the nature conservation sector and started work in 2000 at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Europe's largest nature conservation organization. He has spent eight years as a casework officer, dealing with development proposals affecting Natura 2000 sites in the UK. A lot of this work involved renewable energy projects, in*

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*particular wind farms, where RSPB increasingly worked positively with developers in order to avoid conflicts between nature conservation and development interests, in particular through early engagement and strategic planning processes. RSPB also worked constructively with the UK ports industry during this time to address the needs for expanded port capacity, whilst maintaining the integrity of the Natura 2000 network. Daniel now works in the RSPB's international department, providing support for BirdLife International partners in the EU on development and site protection issues.*



**Cesare Bernabei (DG Move)**

*He studied electrical engineering at the university La Sapienza in Rome and discussed his Doctoral Experimental Thesis on Fiber Optics dispersion in 1976. Started his career at the research laboratory David Sarnoff in Princeton New Jersey USA in 1979 as solid state circuit designer. Returned to Italy he worked as radar system engineer for Contraves Italiana and then Alcatel Italiana. He joined the European Commission in 1993 in the Transport Directorate General managing the Airport Research budget. Since 2007 he has joined the TEN department as Policy Assistant of Mrs. Karla Peijs, Coordinator for European inland Waterways. Mr. Bernabei is also coordinating EC transport contribution to the Danube Strategy*



**Jorge Rodríguez-Romero (DG Environment)**

*Jorge Rodríguez Romero (A Coruña, Spain, 1969) is graduated in Organic Chemistry and Chemical Engineer. The whole of his professional career has been linked to water protection. Jorge is permanent official of the Spanish Ministry of the Environment (in special leave) and of the European Commission. He has also worked a number of years as independent consultant and for an international engineering firm based in Canada. Since 2004 Jorge works for the European Commission Directorate General for the Environment and since 2008 he leads the team responsible for the Water Framework and Floods Directives.*