

# ***JOINT STATEMENT FOLLOW UP MEETING `09***

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## Overview

1. *The Danube Commission – an institution for navigation*
2. *DC activities in the field of IWT and Ecology*

# 1. *The Danube Commission – an institution for navigation*



## Legal Nature of the DC

- International organization
- Intergovernmental organization
- Subject of Public International Law
- Legal personality

# 1. *The Danube Commission – an institution for navigation*

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1. 1815: Congress of Vienna, Final Act
2. 1856: Paris Conference (I)
3. 1921: Paris Conference (II)
4. 1948: Belgrade Conference



Participants to the Congress of Paris (1856)

# 1. The Danube Commission – an institution for navigation

## FUNCTIONING OF THE DC

- Legal basis: Chap. 2 BC and Rules of Procedure of the DC.
- 11 Member States (1948, 1998) Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Moldova, Slovakia, Romania, Russia, Ukraine, Serbia.
- 7 Observers (2001, 2006): France, Netherlands, Czech Republic, Turkey, Cyprus, Greece, Montenegro.
- Cooperation with international organizations: CCNR, UNECE, Sava Commission, ICPDR etc...
- Official and working languages: French, German, Russian.

# 1. The Danube Commission – an institution for navigation

## TASKS

- Modernization and unification of the normative base of navigation on the Danube
- Contributions to the improvement of political relations of riparian countries
- Collection, Evaluation and Promotion of data and information concerning navigation on the Danube

# 1. The Danube Commission – an institution for navigation

## Decision-making process:



### ➤ Expertgroups

Discussions on Expertlevel

### ➤ technical Workgroup

responsible ministries of the MS

### ➤ Plenary Sessions

Representatives of the MS

mainly by simple majority

## **2.1** *DC activities on the field of IWT and Ecology*

- Transport of dangerous goods
- Collection of ship waste
- Port development plan
- Influence of climate change on IWT
- Cooperation in process of sustainable and environmentally friendly development and improvement of navigation – JS

## 2.2 *Progress and current status of the Joint Statement*

➤ Dec. 11, 2007 JS adopted in the 69. Session of DC – decision

DC/SES 69/18

➤ Apr. 14, 2008 Working meeting of the leaderships of DC, ICPDR, SRBC and representatives of the EC in the Danube Commission in Budapest dedicated to concrete steps following the JS

## 2.2 *Progress and current status of the Joint Statement*

➤ May 20-21, 2008

Working Plan for 2008/2009 adopted in the 70th Session of the DC (DC/70/32)

WP point IV.4:

Joint Statement on Guiding Principles on the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin-cooperation between DC, ICPDR and SRBC



## 2.2 Progress and current status of the Joint Statement

➤ Sep. 22-23, 2008 hydrotechnical Expert Group of the DC

In the frame of water policy the influence of EU WFD 2000/60/EC on the development of Danube's IW infrastructure has been outlined.

### Conclusion:

to continue the cooperation in the spirit of the JS and to organise the Workshop on environmental friendly river development



## 2.2 *Progress and current status of the Joint Statement*

➤ Jan. 29-30, 2009      JS follow up meeting at the premises of the DC

### Objectives:

- Information about the progress on the implementation of the JS in the Danube River Basin
- Discussion of further development and application of the JS and its implications
- Information about and Discussion of new facts and perspectives regarding European IWT
- Information about and Discussion of the current state of legal and policy frameworks of integrated river basin management and environmental protection
- Information about the current state of IWT projects in the Danube basin

## 2.2 *Progress and current status of the Joint Statement*

➤ Mar. 17-18, 2009

hydrotechnical Expert Group  
at the premises of the DC

Initiation of a Masterplan for main infrastructure  
projects on the Danube in accordance with the JS



# Thank you for your attention

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