
Terms of Reference of the River Basin Management Expert Group (RBM EG)

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der Donau



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Group (RBM EG) of the ICPDR

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The RBM EG is an Expert Body of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR).
- 1.2 The ToR define the mandate to the RBM EG to take action in the subject areas described below. The ToR also provide guidance to the work, which the RBM EG is expected to undertake, and to its general working arrangements.

2. Objective (Mission statement)

The overall objective of the Group is to provide guidance and coordination to ICPDR activities related to the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive in the Danube River Basin (i.e. all the work needed in order to arrive at a coordinated implementation of the 1st Danube River Basin Management Plan and the work on the 2nd cycle of WFD implementation within the time frame set in the WFD) and those related objectives of the DRPC.

3. Responsibilities

- 3.1 The RBM EG is responsible for initiating, guiding and ensuring the successful completion of the work required under its ToR.
- 3.2 The RBM EG will report regularly to the ICPDR and its Standing Working Group on the implementation of ongoing activities, on proposed activities and the results achieved.
- 3.3 Establishment - subject to the approval of the ICPDR or its Standing Working Group - and guidance of time limited Task Groups to provide needed input to fulfil the tasks listed below.
- 3.4 Proposed activities with policy or financial implications for the ICPDR must be approved, in advance, by the ICPDR.

4. Main tasks of the RBM EG

The RBM EG is entrusted to carry out the following main tasks:

- 4.1 Coordination of all tasks related to WFD implementation in the Danube River Basin District at the basin-wide level.
- 4.2 Preparation of the draft interim report on progress of implementation of the first JPM (2012), draft review and update of the “Article 5 analysis” (2013) and draft review and update of the 2nd

- DRBM Plan (2015); coordination of and guidance for other ICPDR Expert Groups for all tasks related to the development of these products (FP EG, MA EG, PM EG, IM+GIS EG and PP EG).
- 4.3 Ensure development and carrying out of the actions needed to fulfil the WFD requirements for public information and consultation at the basin-wide scale. This task shall be closely coordinated with the Public Participation EG.
 - 4.4 Coordination of all aspects related to hydromorphology.
 - 4.5 Coordination of all aspects related to economics based on WFD requirements.
 - 4.6 Coordination with FP EG on all aspects of integration of the WFD and the Flood Risk Management Directive.
 - 4.7 Coordination of integration of other policies relevant for River Basin Management, specifically the integration of the hydropower sector and facilitating the required steps for the adaptation to climate change.
 - 4.8 Coordination of activities among sub-basins, for which an international river basin management plan is being prepared, in order to ensure consistency between the management plans on the basin-wide and sub-basin level.
 - 4.9 Coordination of the reporting requirements under the WFD on the basin-wide scale, thereby taking into account the reporting tool of the EC, the 'Water Information System for Europe' (WISE). This task shall be closely coordinated with all relevant EGs, in particular the IM+GIS EG.
 - 4.10 Coordination of the activities in the Danube Basin with the relevant WFD implementation activities at the European Union level.
 - 4.11 Preparation, as appropriate, of project proposals in support of its tasks.
 - 4.12 Review its ToR on a regular basis and propose amendments for approval by the ICPDR.
 - 4.13 Preparation of appropriate information for dissemination to interested bodies and the public about RBM EG activities in close cooperation with the PP EG.
 - 4.14 prepare a Work Program for future activities of the RBM EG. This will be prepared according to the requirements of the ICPDR and should include action(s) planned for the following year (in detail) and for subsequent years (in outline).

5. Cooperation with other ICPDR Bodies

The RBM EG will collaborate closely with all other EGs. The RBM EG has a coordinating function in the preparation of all necessary steps for the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (i.e. the development of the Danube River Basin Management Plan). RBM EG meetings should therefore be intended to take place after meetings of other ICPDR Expert Groups and before the meetings of the Standing Working Group and Ordinary Meetings. The RBM EG shall invite the Chairperson or a nominated representative of the relevant EGs to their meetings to ensure the necessary coordination.

6. Membership

- 6.1 The RBM EG consists of the representatives as nominated by the Contracting Parties to be a standing member of the RBM EG. Additional experts may also participate in meetings if their particular specialist knowledge is required.
- 6.2 Each Contracting Party may propose candidates (one or more) to participate in time-limited Task Groups organised to address specific issues.
- 6.3 Representatives of other organisations may become accredited observers to the RBM EG and/or its Task Groups by following the relevant procedures of the ICPDR relating to observer status.

7. Working Arrangements

The general working arrangements for the RBM EG are provided by the ICPDR Rules of Procedure.