JOINT STATEMENT FOLLOW UP MEETING `09

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Danube Commission, Budapest

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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.


- 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:

- Expert groups
  - Discussions on Expert level
- 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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