



PRESS RELEASE

The Danube Commission (DC) held its Seventy-fifth session on 14th of December 2010 at the premises of the Danube Commission in Budapest.

In the work of the session the delegations of all member states of the Danube Commission (the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Republic of Hungary, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Romania, the Republic of Serbia, the Slovak Republic, Ukraine and the Republic of Croatia), as well as observer states (the French Republic and the Kingdom of Belgium) participated. The representatives of the international organizations also presented at the session: the Central Commission for Navigation on the Rhine and the International Sava River Basin Commission.

In his opening remarks, the President of the Danube Commission, Ambassador Alexandr Tolkach, highlighted crucial points in the work of the Danube Commission for the past period, as well as set future priorities with the aim to improve Commission's activity, its strengthening and development.

The session considered legal, financial, organizational, nautical, technical, statistical, economical issues, as well as waterway maintenance and ecological questions, and took appropriate actions.

The session adopted document "Principle Directions of Shipping policy on the Danube" (doc.DC/SES/75/7) and "Action Programme of the Danube Commission in the field of Shipping policy on the Danube" (doc.DC/SES/75/8) and recommended to be guided by these papers when planning the work of the Danube Commission in the medium term. The revised package of proposals of the Danube Commission has been approved as a contribution of the Danube Commission into the development of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region. The Danube Commission Secretariat was tasked to undertake the Danube Commission's interaction with the European Commission on the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, as well as on regular basis apprise member states of the Danube Commission of a progress made in implementing plan of interaction between the Danube Commission and the European Commission.

It was agreed on cooperation of the Danube Commission with the nongovernmental international organizations in the area of inland navigation.

The Seventy-fifth session adopted updated version of "General provisions for the navigation on the Danube (GPND) ", "Recommendations on Inland AIS application", "Recommendations on organization of the professional education for boatmasters" and amended "Recommendations on technical requirements for inland navigation vessels".

The session was informed by the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee on the Revision of the Convention regarding the regime of navigation on the Danube from 1948, Mr. Istvan

Horvath (Hungary). The President of the Danube Commission expressed an interest of the Danube Commission in the speedy completion of the revision process of the Convention.

The session also approved the preliminary agenda for the 76th session of the Danube Commission, scheduled to convene on 2nd -3rd of June 2011.

