

## PRESS RELEASE

### Danube Commission's Workshop "Streamlining at the Danube"

(29 September 2015)

The Danube Commission's Workshop "Streamlining at the Danube" was held on September 29th 2015 at the Headquarters of the DC in Budapest, Hungary.

The participants represented the DC Member States, navigation companies, waterway administrations and universities.

As a sequel to previous workshops in 2013 and 2014 the intention this time was to discuss issues and challenges in the course of crossborder activities and identify possibilities to streamline administrative processes and procedures.

H.E. Rade Drobac, President of the DC, opened the workshop, followed by Petar Margic, Director-General of the DC Sec, who gave an introduction and overview of the DC's activities and initiatives since the last meeting. He highlighted an administrative arrangement between DC Sec and DG MOVE, which was signed in July 2015 to bring the cooperation of these institutions to the next level.



Presentations from the side of navigation companies, national administrations and universities allowed for constructive discussion. The participants shared their concerns about the navigational status of the Danube (Upper Danube and Lower Danube) and waiting times in general. In particular the participants agreed on the necessity for a deep analysis of the topic waiting times, as their occurrence is widely related to specific reasons.

The participants welcomed an initiative of the DC's Sec to examine possibilities for establishing common cross-border operations of neighboring countries such as Bulgaria/Romania and Serbia/Croatia/Hungary.

Information about upcoming projects completed the picture for the participants.

It was agreed to continue this series of yearly workshops to keep on fostering communication and cooperation of stakeholders to establish proactive support and fast solutions.