

The European Coordinator

Brussels, 15 February 2021 MOVE/B1 /IAS/DO/

To the representatives of ministries of transport and ministries of environment as well as experts from the countries of the Rhine-Danube Corridor and from invited other countries with major waterways

Subject: workshop on "EU environmental legislation requirements and inland waterway navigation projects"

Dear madam, sir,

METEET was created in 2016 following a DG MOVE initiative to assist the competent inland waterway transport authorities, who work towards developing and fostering an integrated approach to the development of infrastructural projects in the field of inland navigation, in the framework of the International Convention on the Protection of the Danube river (ICPDR).

It is managed by a steering committee composed of representatives from the Danube Commission Secretariat (DC), the ICPDR Secretariat, and the European Commission Directorates for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE), the Environment (DG ENV), Regional Policy (DG REGIO) and INEA. The International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) is also participating as an observer.

DG MOVE with the help of the Danube Commission has organized trainings for the representatives of both the Ministries of Transport and Environment in Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia, Serbia, Romania and Bulgaria.

Information about these events can be found here: https://www.danubecommission.org/dc/en/?s=METEET

The Green Deal and its initiatives, in particular the EU biodiversity strategy for 2030 and the Smart and Sustainable Mobility Strategy, provide new momentum to accelerate the shift to more sustainable transport. To reach this goal, it is essential that Member States

design strong projects serving the Green Deal objectives of sustainable transport and of environmental protection. This requires in particular to integrate successfully in such projects all the EU environmental policies objectives and associated requirements (stemming in particular from the Nature Directives, the Water Framework Directive and the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive/Strategic Environmental Assessment Directives).

As a conclusion to the many trainings which have already been organized along the Rhine-Danube Core Network Corridor, it became clear that support and advice from the side of the European Commission services is very welcome

Therefore, DG MOVE will organize, in cooperation with DG Environment, a workshop on "EU environmental legislation requirements and inland waterway navigation projects" and would be pleased if you could participate.

The workshop's objectives will be to raise awareness on the EU environmental legislation that apply to navigation projects. It will also aim at exploring, together with the participants, case studies which have demonstrated a successful integration of environmental policies. Eventually the aim is to identify the key factors for creating winwin solutions for rivers ecosystems and navigation.

Please find attached the agenda of the workshop that will be held on 16 March 2021 through an online platform.

I am looking forward to meeting you.

Yours sincerely,

Inés AYALA SENDER

TEN-T Coordinator