



**Press release of the Danube Commission: 98th session of the Danube Commission
(15th December 2022)**

On 15 December 2022, the Danube Commission (DC) held its 98th session, under the presidency of the Representative of Ukraine to the Danube Commission, H.E. Mrs. Ambassador Liubov Nepop, at the premises of the Danube Commission in Budapest.

The delegations of ten Member States of the DC (Republic of Austria, Federal Republic of Germany, Republic of Bulgaria, Republic of Croatia, Hungary, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Republic of Serbia, Slovak Republic and Ukraine), as well as observer states and international organizations (European Commission, Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine, Moselkommission, UNECE) participated in the meeting.

The President of the DC outlined the main tasks of the DC in 2023 and Mrs. Rita Silek, Director of the Directorate-General for International Law of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary provided information on the activity of the newly created Committee for the preparation of the Diplomatic Conference regarding the regime of navigation on the Danube.

The session addressed issues from various fields of the DC's activity. In particular, delegations discussed topics related to navigation, fairway maintenance, ecology, economic statistics, as well as legal and financial spheres of its activity...

At its 98th session, acting on the recommendations of its working groups on technical issues and legal and financial issues, the Commission adopted decisions pertaining to:

- the execution of the Work Plan of the Danube Commission for the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022 and on the adoption of the Work Plan for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 (DK/TAG 98/6);
- the budget for 2023 (DK/TAG 98/16);
- the approval the Report on the results of the working group on technical matters, held in October 2022 (DK/TAG 98/12);
- legal matters (concerning the approval of the Report on the results of the working group on legal and financial matters from May 2022) (DK/TAG 98/19).
- amending the "Description of the duties and qualifications of functionaries and employees of the Secretariat of the Danube Commission" with regard to the new positions of "Financial manager" (DK/TAG 98/17) and "Expert for questions related to the impact of climate change on the navigation on the Danube" (DK/TAG 98/9);

During the debate, the delegations were provided by the Secretariat with the Report on the execution of the Work Plan of the Danube Commission for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2022 (DK/TAG 98/4), Information on cooperation with international organizations and Information on the execution of the budget in 2022 (as of 1 December 2022) (DK/TAG 98/14).

At the conclusion of its work, the 98th session set an indicative agenda for the 99th session of the DC to be held on 15 June 2023.