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REPORT
from the 48th Session of
International Sava River Basin
Commission

Zagreb, 20 -21 February 2018

Venue: Premises of the International Sava River Basin Commission, Kneza Branimira 29,
Zagreb

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I. ATTENDANCE

The International Sava River Basin Commission (Sava Commission) held the 48th Session (as a regular session) in Zagreb, on February 20-21, 2018. The following representatives of the Parties to FASRB – members and deputy members of the Sava Commission, attended the Session: Mr. Igor Pejić – Member and Mr. Boško Kenjić – Deputy Member (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Ms. Elizabeta Kos – Deputy Member (Croatia); Mr. Veljko Kovačević – Deputy Member (Serbia); Mr. Mitja Bricelj – Member and Mr. Marko Sotlar – Deputy Member (Slovenia).

Mr. Joško Nikolić, Mr. Silvio Ridzak and Mr. Anđelko Petrinić (Croatia) attended the Session as experts.

The Session was also attended by Mr. Petar Margić, (Danube Commission) and Ms. Martina Zupan (GWP CEE) as observers.

Mr. Dragan Zeljko – Secretary of the Sava Commission and officials of the Secretariat - Mr. Samo Grošelj, Ms. Dragana Milovanović, Mr. Željko Milković, Ms. Melita Žižanović Dakić, Ms. Majda Despotović and Mr. Mirza Sarač, attended the Session.

II. CHAIRMANSHIP

Mr. Igor Pejić, the Chairman of the Sava Commission, chaired the Session.

III. ADOPTED AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Report on tasks and duties regarding decisions and conclusions from previous sessions of Sava Commission
3. Realization of Work Plan of Sava Commission for FY 2017
 - 3.1. Water Management issues
 - 3.2. Navigation issues
 - 3.3. Cross-cutting issues
 - 3.3.1. Information management issues
 - 3.3.2. Hydrological and meteorological issues
 - 3.3.3. Statistical issues
 - 3.3.4. Tourism development issues
 - 3.4. Meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement
 - 3.5. Promotion activities
4. Projects

5. Work Plan of Sava Commission for FY 2018
6. Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB
7. – 9. Internal issues (closed session)
10. Other business
 - a. Sava and spatial development
 - b. EuroNatur's proposal regarding their participation at the Meeting of the Parties
 - c. Information on the public awareness activities in Slovenia
11. Date and preliminary agenda of the next Session of Sava Commission
12. Adoption of the Report from the Session

IV. CONCLUSIONS

AD. 1 – Adoption of the agenda

The Sava Commission adopted the proposed agenda of the 48th meeting (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-1/1-3), with agenda items presented in Part III of this Report.

AD. 2 – Report on tasks and duties regarding decisions and conclusions from previous Sessions of Sava Commission

Conclusion:

The Sava Commission took note on Report on tasks and duties regarding Decisions and Conclusions from the previous Sessions of the Sava Commission (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-2/1-3).

AD. 3 – Realization of Work Plan of Sava Commission for FY 2017

3.1. Water management issues

Conclusions:

- 1. The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2017 (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-2/1-3) with regard to water management issues.*
- 2. The Sava Commission took note on the reports from the 34th and 35th PEG RBM Meeting (Docs. No. 3-17-6/3-2 and 3-17-16/3-2), and the 32nd PEG FP Meeting (Doc No. 3-17-13/3-2).*
- 3. The Sava Commission considered and accepted the Interim overview of significant water management issues in the Sava River Basin (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-3/2-2).*
- 4. The Sava Commission took note on the Status report on the Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System (Sava FFWS) development (Doc No. 1R-48-O-18-3/3-2). With regard to the progress in the Sava FFWS establishment, the Sava Commission repeated its previous conclusion that is necessary that responsible institutions in countries, urgently, at latest in March 2018 enter into consultation process regarding the rights and obligations after the establishment of the System, given the provisions of the Article 9 of the Protocol.*
- 5. The Sava Commission took note on the Status report on the development of the Flood Risk Management Plan for the Sava River Basin (Doc No. 1R-48-O-18-3/4-2).*
- 6. The Sava Commission took note on the Status report of the development of the climate change adaptation strategy for the Sava river basin (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-3/5-2) along with the Outline of the Climate Adaptation Strategy for the Sava River Basin (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-3/6-2) and acknowledged support in the development of the Outline of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Ministry of Ecological and Inclusive Transition (Republic of France) and the International Office for Water (IOWater).*

3.2. Navigation issues

Conclusions:

1. *The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2017 (Doc. No: 1R-48-O-18-4/1-2) with regard to navigation issues.*
2. *The Sava Commission took note on the Report from the 20th PEG NAV Meeting (Doc No: 2-17-2/11-2-PEG NAV).*
3. *The Sava Commission considered and adopted Decision 1/18 on adoption of Marking and Maintenance Plan on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the year 2018. (Doc. No: 1R-48-D-18-1/1-2).*
4. *The Sava Commission considered and accepted Secretariat's expert opinion on navigation on inland waterways between Croatia and Slovenia and regulation of recreational navigation and use of the Kupa River in the border areas with a proposal of possible actions.*

The Secretariat shall, with the assistance of the competent ministries and local authorities, identify common sectors on which navigation is taking place or there is interest to develop navigation and establish the basics for harmonization of the navigation regime.

The Secretariat shall develop the draft document regarding regulation of navigation on the identified common sectors and deliver it to the Sava Commission for consideration.

5. *The Sava Commission took note on nomination of the members from Bosnia and Herzegovina of bilateral commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, for inland navigation, thus eliminating the need for the Secretariat to develop amendments to the related Sava Commission's rules in order to overcome the difficulties caused with temporary inactivity of the bilateral commission.*
6. *The Sava Commission took note on the Report from the 6th meeting of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the project "Rehabilitation and development of transport and navigation on the Sava river waterway".*

3.3. Cross-cutting issues

3.3.1. Information management issues

Conclusions:

1. *The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2017 (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-5/1-2) with regard to information management issues*
2. *The Sava Commission took note on the Report from the 16th PEG GIS Meeting (Doc. No. 3-17-8/3-2).*

3.3.2. Hydrological and meteorological issues

Conclusions:

1. *The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2017 (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-6/1-2) with regard to hydrological and meteorological issues.*
2. *The Sava Commission took note on the Report from the 14th PEG HMI Meeting (Doc. No. 3-16-9/2-2).*
3. *The Sava Commission's members shall inform the Secretariat on the name of institution in each country which will receive the full set of Lidar-based products and digital Orthophoto by March 16, 2018.*
4. *The Sava Commission tasks the Secretariat to address the relevant institutions in the countries and request all available data and event specific information related to floods occurred in 2009, 2010, and 2014 for the purpose of successful finalizing the Sava hydraulic model by the USACE experts.*
5. *The Sava Commission took note on the successful delivery and installation of IT equipment, purchased within the 2nd phase of the U.S. Government's support. The Sava Commission expresses appreciation to the U.S. Authorities for its support in acquiring the necessary IT equipment which will be among other purposes used for the operational functioning of Sava FFWS.*

3.3.3. Statistical issues

Conclusion:

The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2017 (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-7/1-2) with regard to statistical issues.

3.3.4. Tourism development issues

Conclusions:

1. *The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2017 (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-8/1-2) with regard to tourism development issues.*
2. *The Sava Commission took note on the Report from the 1st meeting of the Task group for sustainable tourism development (7-17-6/2-2).*

3.4. Meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement

Conclusions:

1. *The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2017 (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-9/1-2) with regard to meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement, along with accompanying documents:*
 - a. *List of Sava Commission's events in FY 2017;*

- b. *Report from the 8th Meeting on the Follow-up of the Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin;*
 - c. *Conclusions from the 12th Meeting of the Captains from the Port-Master Offices from the Sava River Basin;*
 - d. *Information on the workshop “Governance and Technology for Flood Risk Reduction”.*
2. *Secretariat shall invite inspectors for navigation safety to attend the future meetings of the Captains from the Port-Master Offices from the Sava River Basin.*

3.5. Promotion activities

Conclusions:

1. *The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2017 (Doc. No. 1S-47-O-17-10/1-21R-48-O-18-10/1-2) with regard to promotion activities.*
2. *The Sava Commission shall inform the Secretariat about nominated members of the Editing Board for the SAVANewsFlash from the Parties by the end of February 2018.*

AD. 4 - Projects

Conclusion:

The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of projects (Doc. No. No. 1R-48-O-18-11/1-2), along with accompanying documents:

- a. *Overview of the implemented and ongoing FASRB-related projects;*
- b. *List of flood related projects and activities;*
- c. *Overview of the planned FASRB-related projects;*
- d. *Overview of external projects supported by the Sava Commission.*

AD. 5 – Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2018

Conclusions:

1. *The Sava Commission considered the Draft Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2018 (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-12/1-2) and passed Decision 2/18 on adoption of the Work Plan of the Sava Commission for Financial Year 2018 (Doc. No: 1R-48-D-18-2/1-3).*
2. *The Sava Commission accepted the proposal of activities for the Sava Day 2018 celebration (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-12/2-2) and the proposal of the Sava Commission’s publications for FY 2018 (Doc. No. 1R-48-O-18-12/3-2).*

AD. 6 – Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB

Conclusions:

1. *The 7th Meeting of the Parties will be held on June 7, 2018 in Bled.*
2. *The Sava Commission considered and accepted the proposal on the preparation and organization of the 7th Meeting of the Parties, including Draft agenda, Draft programme of work and Draft list of institutions / organizations to be invited to the meeting (Doc. No: 1R-48-O-18-13/1-2).*
3. *The Sava Commission representatives informed on the nomination of the members of the Organizational Board of the 7th Meeting of the Parties as follows:*
 - a. *Bosnia and Herzegovina: Mr. Enes Šeperović and Ms. Senaida Mehmedovski;*
 - b. *Republic of Slovenia: Mr. Marko Sotlar and Mr. Mitja Bricelj.*

The Sava Commission’s representatives from Croatia and Serbia shall inform the Secretariat of the members of the Organizational Board of the 7th Meeting of the Parties by the end of February, 2018.

AD.7 – AD.9 - Internal issues (closed session)

AD. 10 – Other Business

10.1. Sava and spatial development

Conclusions:

The Sava Commission took note on presentation delivered by Mr. Mitja Bricelj on how the spatial planning could be linked with already established mechanisms at the Sava Commission level. In this regard, PEG RBM shall be informed at the next meeting about development priorities that need to be taken into account in development of the 2nd Sava RBM plan in accordance with the Joint Plan of Actions for implementing of the concept of the green and blue corridors (EUMRS).

10.2. EuroNatur’s proposal regarding their participation at the Meeting of the Parties

Conclusion:

Regarding EuroNatur’s proposal to present “Sava White Book – The River s Sava: Threats and Restoration Potential” at the Meeting of the Parties, the Sava Commission concluded that it is not feasible taking into account the given format of the Meeting of the Parties. Instead, the Sava Commission invites Euronatur to present this book on the meetings of the relevant Sava Commission’s expert groups and/or at the Session of the Sava Commission.

10.3. Information on the public awareness activities in Slovenia

Conclusions:

1. *The Sava Commission took note on the event organized in Mostec near Brežice (Slovenia) in February 2018 with aim to raise the public awareness on flood risks in the Sava River basin with participation of Slovenian and Croatian authorities, as well as local schools.*
2. *The Sava Commission took note on the information about the international competition “Let’s cooperate for dream river/lake/coast” announced within the preparation for the Bled Water Festival in 2018.*
3. *The Sava Commission took note on the initiative from Slovenia related to organization of the Sava bike tour 2018. The initiative will be further presented at the next meeting of Task group for sustainable tourism development in March, 2018.*

AD. 11 – Date and preliminary agenda for the next Session of Sava Commission

Conclusion:

The 49th Session of the Sava Commission will be held on July 3-4, 2018, in Karlovac, with the following provisional agenda:

1. *Adoption of the agenda*
2. *Report on tasks and duties regarding Decisions and Conclusions from the previous Sessions of the Sava Commission*
3. *Recapitulation of the 7th Meeting of the Parties*
4. *Current issues of the FASRB implementation*
5. *Internal issues*
6. *Other business*
7. *Date and preliminary agenda for the next Session of the Sava Commission.*
8. *Adoption of the Report from the Session*

AD. 12 – Adoption of the Report from the Session

Conclusion:

The Sava Commission adopted the Report from the 48th Session.