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10th Special Session of the ISRBC
June 5, 2008

Secretariat of the Sava Commission

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Report on the activities performed within the period between the two sessions of the ISRBC and other issues

ACTIVITY	OUTCOMES / STATUS	NEXT STEPS / PROPOSAL / REMARK
PROJECTS		
Technical assistance in preparation and implementation of the Sava RBM Plan	<p>The chronology of the project development is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 14 December – The initial proposal, agreed on the PEG RBM meeting, sent to DG Enlargement (Mr. D'Eugenio); - 11-12 February – Meeting with Mr. Romero (DG Environment) who requested the proposal of splitting project budget in the two lines - tender and grant; - 29 February – Upon request of the EC, the Secretariat sent a document containing its view on the future project administration and provisional division of tasks between the tender and grant lines (agreed by the PEG RBM), as well as its comments on the upgraded version of the project proposal (OPF Environment Sava River) made by EC; - 6-7 March – Beneficiary meeting held in Brussels. The Sava Commission was not invited; - 24-25 April – Meeting with Mr. Romero, where further explanations were provided by the Secretariat. The Secretariat asked for urgent information on the project development; - 5 May – Mr. Romero sent the two documents: PF_SAVA - FINAL 	<p>Instructions from the EC are expected on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - format of formal confirmation of grant contributions for beneficiary countries; - further development of the project proposal including final divisions of the tasks between grant and tender budget line; - implementation of the grant line of the project.

	<p>-no FA (proposal developed after the beneficiary meeting – no suggestions of the Secretariat were included) and PF_SAVA - FINAL -no FA_comments D2 (some suggestions of the Secretariat were included);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 14 May – The Secretariat sent to Mr. Romero the two documents (PF_SAVA - FINAL -no FA_comments D2-rev1, and rev2), containing further proposal of the text, as well as Annex V of the proposal with details on the project implementation; - 19 May – The Secretariat received PF_SAVA - FINAL -no FA_comments ENVD2_19May2008, which represents version of the project upgraded by DG Environment and sent to the DG Enlargement (incorporated some of our proposals dated 14 May) - 19 May – Formal acceptance of contributions in amount of 10 000 Eur per each country received from the Sava Commission members from B&H, Croatia and Serbia. <p>Explanation: As reported on the IX Special Session, the estimated cost of the project is 1.300.000 EUR. The project is planned for financing through “grant” and “tender” lines. About 300.000 Eur is proposed to be a grant to ISRBC, for implementation of certain project tasks to be finally agreed. Requested participation of the beneficiary countries is 10% of the grant amount, 10000 EUR per each country.</p>	
Hydrology Report for the SRB Analysis	The Terms of Reference was accepted by the Sava Commission at the 9 th Special Session.	At the 9 th Special Session, the Competitive Request for Quotations procedure, in accordance with “Rules of Procurement Procedures” of the Sava Commission, was suggested to be applied for selection of the consultant. The suggested procedure is in preparation.
Development of preparatory documentation for the Joint Sava Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Consultant (Institute for Biological Research “Siniša Stanković” – IBISS, from Belgrade) has delivered the draft report of the Preparatory documentation for the Joint Sava Survey 2009. The document will be discussed on the 7th PEG APC meeting (June 12, 2008). - The document will be used as a basis for the project proposal in scope of the South East Europe Transnational Programme (launched on May 5, 2008). The call for proposals in the SEE Programme will follow a 2-step procedure. For the first step, the Project Proposal Documentation should be sent to the Central Office by June 13, 2008. The project proposal is being prepared by the ISRBC Secretariat and IBISS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At the beginning of September, the joint workshop will be organized by the Secretariat and IBISS. On the workshop, the members of PEG APC, PEG RBM and the ICPDR EG MA (from the Sava countries) will participate and discuss about the detailed programme of the Joint Sava Survey. - The workshop, which was previously foreseen for June 12, has been postponed because in August and September, the second step of the call for project proposal of the SEE Programme will take place. The second step will end at the beginning of October 2008.

LIFE - 3 rd Countries Project “Protection of Biodiversity of the Sava River Basin Floodplains”	To fulfill the main objectives of the project, the following recent achievements have been made by the project team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New Sava SDI portal structured - Biodiversity and Land use field forms elaborated (in line with EU birds and Habitats Directives) - Joint field testing carried out in order to coordinate field activities - Field work running - The <i>Life along the Sava</i> e-newsletter published in English. The Sava Commission made its contribution with an article. 	The members of the LIFE project team will participate in the two events within the celebration of the Sava Day 2008 – in the Eco-camp in the NP Lonjsko polje, and in the poster session of the Workshop for presentation of the Draft Strategy on Implementation of the FASRB, to be held in Belgrade.
“Development and Upgrade of the Hydrometeorological Information and Forecasting System for the Sava River Basin”	The National Hydro-Meteorological Services of the Parties (NHMSs) were contacted by the Secretariat with a proposal to prepare a joint project proposal in scope of the South East Europe Transnational Programme, that would include a part of the project “Development and Upgrade of the Hydrometeorological Information and Forecasting System for the Sava River Basin”.	
International Contingency Plan for the Sava River Basin	In scope of the call for project proposals for South Eastern Europe, a project proposal for the International Contingency Plan for the Sava River Basin will be prepared. The leading partner is the University of Ljubljana, Faculty for Civil and Geodetic Engineering, and the Sava Commission would participate in the project as a partner. The proposal should be delivered to the central office of the programme by June 13, 2008.	
COOPERATION		
ICPDR	Through a number of contacts with the ICPDR, made during the reporting period, the following outcomes were achieved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation of the ICPDR in the celebration of the Sava Day 2008 was agreed. - Technical details related to preparation of the <i>Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Coordination between the ICPDR and the ISRBC</i> for signing, have been agreed. - Coordination of meetings of the ICPDR and ISRBC has been ensured. - Mutual attendance at the meetings of expert groups has taken place. 	
PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS		
Meeting with the representatives of the ICPDR and DC	A meeting with the representatives of the ICPDR and the Danube Commission was held at the headquarters of the DC in Budapest, on	

	<p>April 14, in order to discuss the follow-up activities to the <i>Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin</i>.</p> <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the ICPDR and the ISRBC will organize, preferably by the end of June, a meeting with all the participants of the process of development of the Statement, where the issues of implementation of the Statement, and its monitoring, will be discussed, and an appropriate questionnaire will be prepared. - the DC will organize, in October or November 2008, an expert meeting (workshop), where the questionnaire will be considered and discussed in detail. <p>The representative of DG TREN at the meeting reemphasized the support to the whole process and the implementation of the Statement and expressed the interest to follow up the continuation of the process.</p>	
<p>Meeting with the Energy, Ecology and Technology Research, Ltd., from Ljubljana (Slovenia)</p>	<p>A meeting with the Director of the Institute was held on April 17, 2008, in order to discuss the issues of planning of dams and using the hydropower potential of the Sava River at the lowest river section in Slovenia.</p> <p>The Institute is developing a plan of using the two most downstream dams at the Slovenian river section. For this purpose, it needs the data on the HPP Podsused. Seeking for these data, the Institut was recommended by HEP to contact the ISRBC Secretariat for assistance. At the meeting, the Institute was advised to contact the respective bilateral commission (Croatia-Slovenia), which could facilitate the transfer of data.</p> <p>After an additional request made by the Director of the Institute, the Secretariat contacted the Ministry of regional development, forestry and water management of the Republic of Croatia, namely the ISRBC member from Croatia, to investigate possibilities for an efficient transfer of data.</p>	
<p>Meeting with "Coca Cola"</p>	<p>A new meeting with „Coca Cola“ was held in Zagreb on April 28, where the financial support to the organization of the Sava Day 2008 was confirmed by the Coca Cola representative, including their donation of the products, as well.</p> <p>It was also generally agreed to indicate the sponsorship in the promotion publications of the Sava Commission.</p> <p>In additional contacts, technical details of the money transfer and delivery of the products were agreed.</p>	

	<p>Contacts have also been made with the „Coca Cola“ Serbia, and their financial support to the organization of the Sava Day 2008 was confirmed, too. The technical details are to be agreed soon. Generally, the „Coca Cola“ expressed an interest for future cooperation in terms of sponsoring ISRBC events, so that the ISRBC Secretariat will inform them on the future plans accordingly.</p>	
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