REPORT
from the 29th Session
of the International Sava River Basin Commission

July 10, 2012
Zagreb

I Attendance

The International Sava River Basin Commission held the 29th Session (as a special session) in Zagreb, on July 10, 2012. The following representatives of the Parties to the FASRB – members and deputy members of the ISRBC, attended the Session: Mr. Kemal Karkin (B&H) – Member, Ružica Drmić (Croatia) – Deputy Member, Mr. Aleksandar Prodanović (Serbia) – Member, Mr. Mitja Bricelj (Slovenia) – Member.

Mr. Janko Brnardić (Croatia), Ms. Marija Pinter (Croatia), Ms. Dragana Milovanović (Serbia) and Mr. Aleš Bizjak (Slovenia) attended the Session as experts.

II Chairmanship

Mr. Aleksandar Prodanović (Serbia) chaired the Session.

III Adoption of the agenda

AD. 1 – Adoption of the agenda

Conclusion:
1. The agenda is adopted (Doc. No. 1S-29-O-12-1/1-3) as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Report on tasks and duties regarding Decisions and Conclusions from the previous Sessions of the ISRBC

3. Proposal of the Sava River Basin Management Plan

4. Other business
4.1. Work of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the project “Rehabilitation and development of transport and navigation on the Sava river waterway”

4.2. Activities related to the Sava river waterway maintenance and marking

4.3. Celebration of the Sava Day 2012

5. Date and preliminary agenda for the next Session of the ISRBC

6. Adoption of the Report from the Session

IV Conclusions

AD. 2 – Report on tasks and duties regarding Decisions and Conclusions from the previous Sessions of the ISRBC

Conclusions:

1. The ISRBC took note on the Report on tasks and duties regarding Decisions and Conclusions from the previous Sessions of the ISRBC (Doc. No. 1S-29-O-12-2/1-3).

2. With regard to Conclusion 4.7.2 from the 28th Session, related to possible engagement of a PR agency which would provide a continuous support to the promotion activities of the ISRBC, the Secretariat shall additionally explore the contacts that the potential agency/ies have in all four Sava countries.

3. The ISRBC agreed to organize negotiations on final harmonization of the Protocol on Sediment Management, tentatively in the 4th quarter of 2012. To this end, the ISRBC representatives shall deliver written confirmation of the readiness of their respective countries to participate in the negotiations.

4. With regard to Conclusion 4.8.4 from the 28th Session, related to establishment of a task group for considering the open issues and the measures aimed at securing integrity of the water regime and the elimination or reduction of transboundary impact, that are necessary to be regulated by a protocol, the ISRBC representatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Slovenia shall inform the Secretariat of the representatives of their respective countries in the task group by October 1, 2012.

5. The ISRBC took note that Decision 10/12 related to adoption of the Report on Realization of the Budget for FY 2011, was adopted in written procedure on May 15, 2012.

AD. 3 – Proposal of the Sava River Basin Management Plan

Conclusions:

1. The draft Proposal of the Sava RBM Plan will be delivered to the ISRBC representatives following the final written verification by the PEG RBM members, along with the draft Decision on adoption of the
RBM Plan on the 4th Meeting of the Parties (Doc. No. 1S-29-O-12-5/2-2), as the official basis for implementation of the internal national procedures that precede the passing of the decision on adoption of the Proposal of the Sava RBM Plan at the next session of the ISRBC.

2. Following the verification of the draft Sava RBM Plan by the PEG RBM members, but not later than July 20, 2012, the translated versions of the Sava RBM Plan will be submitted to the ISRBC representatives in the electronic form, for verification of the translation. The ISRBC representatives shall inform the Secretariat about the verification of the translation within 7 days.

3. Within 7 days after the verification of the translation, the Secretariat shall deliver to the ISRBC representatives, for further procedure, a hard copy of the draft Proposal of the Sava RBM Plan in English language and the respective official language(s), along with accompanying background information.

4. The ISRBC considered the draft Recommendation for adoption of the Sava RBM Plan and gave suggestions for the amendments.

5. The ISRBC considered the Proposal on preparation and organization of the 4th Meeting of the Parties (Doc. No. 1S-29-O-12-6/1-2), and thereof, concluded the following:
   (a) The ISRBC accepts the proposed plan of activities on the preparation and organization of the 4th Meeting of the Parties and the accompanying Draft Program of Work and the Draft list of institutions/organizations to be invited to the Meeting, all amended in accordance with the discussion.
   (b) The 4th Meeting of the Parties is planned to be held on December 3, 2012, in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A preliminary announcement of the Meeting shall be sent out to international organizations and institutions as soon as possible.
   (c) The level of the 4th Meeting of the Parties should be the minister level.
   (d) The Organizational Board of the 4th Meeting of the Parties will be established following the nomination of the members by the end of September 2012.
   (e) The ISRBC accepted the draft initial note to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Doc. No.1S-29-O-12-4/1-2, Annex 3).

AD. 4 – Other business

4.1. Work of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the project “Rehabilitation and development of transport and navigation on the Sava river waterway”

Conclusions:

1. The ISRBC took note on the Reports from the 2nd (Zagreb, May 31, 2012, Doc. No. 2-12-6/7-2-ŽM) and the 3rd Meeting (Sarajevo, June 19, 2012, Doc. No. 2-12-6/8-2-MŽD) of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the project “Rehabilitation and
development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River Waterway”.

2. The ISRBC considered the proposal of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the project “Rehabilitation and development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River Waterway” to strengthen the role of the representatives of the NGO community, the economic/navigation sectors and the respective international organizations in the work of the Committee, and, thereof, passed Decision 11/12 on amendments of the Decision 07/11 referring to membership in the Committee, and Decision 12/12 on adoption of the Methodology of work of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the project “Rehabilitation and Development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River Waterway”.

The International Sava River Basin Commission has adopted the following

DECISION - 11/12

• On amendments of the Decision 07/11 on establishment of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the Project “Rehabilitation and development of transport and navigation on the Sava River Waterway”, referring to membership in the Committee.

Paragraph 3, the first sentence, is changed and reads:

“The Committee consists of the representatives of:

a) each of the competent ministries of the Parties to the FASRB, at least two per country, representing the water management/nature conservation/environmental protection and navigation sectors in a balanced way;

b) international organizations and stakeholders:
   - 1 representative of the ICPDR,
   - 1 representative of the Danube Commission,
   - 2 representatives of regional/national NGO community,
   - 2 representatives of the economic/navigation sector.

c) Secretariat of the ISRBC.

The International Sava River Basin Commission has adopted the following

DECISION - 12/12

• On adoption of the Methodology of work of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the Project “Rehabilitation and Development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River Waterway”.
The Methodology of work of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the Project “Rehabilitation and Development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River Waterway” is attached to this Decision as Annex I.

The Decision 01/12 on adoption of the Terms of Reference of the Committee for monitoring and coordination of implementation of the Project “Rehabilitation and Development of Transport and Navigation on the Sava River Waterway”, hereby ceases to be in force.

4.2. Activities related to the Sava river waterway maintenance and marking

1. The ISRBC took note on the Report from the meeting organized (with regard to Conclusion 2.2 from the 28th Session) on May 31, 2012 in the framework of the 2nd 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”, related to future activities on the waterway maintenance and marking. The ISRBC strongly supported realization of the conclusions from this meeting. The ISRBC is of opinion that Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Croatia should consider possibilities of joint realization of the activities on the waterway maintenance and marking on the sections of the waterway shared by the respective countries.

2. The ISRBC took note on the Information on Declaration on effective waterway infrastructure maintenance on the Danube and its navigable tributaries (signed at the Danube ministers meeting in Luxembourg, on 7 June 2012).

4.3. Celebration of the Sava Day 2012

Conclusions:
The ISRBC took note on Report on celebration of the Sava Day 2012.

AD. 5 – Date and preliminary agenda for the next Session of the ISRBC

Conclusion:

1. The 30th Session of the ISRBC will be held on October 1-2, 2012, with the following tentative agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Report on tasks and duties regarding Decisions and Conclusions from the previous Sessions of the ISRBC
3. Adoption of the Proposal of the Sava RBM Plan
4. Fourth Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB
5. Realization of the Work Plan of the ISRBC for FY 2012

5.1. Water Management issues
5.1.1. Work of the PEG for River Basin Management
5.1.2. Work of the PEG for Accident Prevention and Control
5.1.3. Work of the PEG for Flood Prevention

5.2. Navigation issues
5.2.1. Work of the PEG for Navigation
5.2.2. Work of the Ad-hoc EG for RIS

5.3. Information management
5.3.1. Work of the Ad-hoc EG for GIS

5.4. Hydrological and meteorological issues
5.4.1. Work of the Ad-hoc EG for Hydrological and Meteorological Issues

5.5. Projects
5.6. Meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement
5.7. Promotion activities
5.8. Protocols to the FASRB

6. Declaration from the Youth Parliament ”Youth Today for the Sava Tomorrow”

7. Internal issues (closed session)

8. Other business

9. Date and preliminary agenda for the next Session of the ISRBC

10. Adoption of the Report from the Session

AD. 6 – Adoption of the Report from the Session

Conclusion:

1. The ISRBC adopted the Report from the 29th Session.