REPORT
from the 38th Session
of the International Sava River Basin Commission

July 6-7, 2015
Brčko

I Attendance

The International Sava River Basin Commission held the 38th Session (as a special session) in Brčko, on July 6-7, 2015. The following representatives of the Parties to the FASRB – members and deputy members of the ISRBC, attended the Session: Mr. Dražen Kurečić (Croatia) – Deputy Member, Ms. Leposava Sojić (Serbia) – Deputy Member, Mr. Mitja Bricelj (Slovenia) – Member and Mr. Robert Kojc (Slovenia) – Deputy Member.

Mr. Boško Kenjić (B&H), Ms. Elizabeta Kos and Mr. Janko Brnadić (Croatia), Ms. Dragana Milovanović (Serbia), Mr. Luka Štravs and Ms. Nataša Anderlič (Slovenia), attended the Session as experts.

The Session was also attended by representatives of the observers: Mr. Zoran Major (ICPDR) and Mr. Zlatko Blažević (NGO Slap), as well as by Mr. Matej Gojič from the Regional Development Agency of Ljubljana Urban Region, as a guest under the agenda item 5.3.

II Chairmanship

Mr. Mitja Bricelj, the Chairman of the ISRBC, chaired the Session.

III Adoption of the agenda

AD. 1 – Adoption of the agenda

Conclusion:

The agenda is adopted (Doc. No. 1S-38-O-15-1/3-3) 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. Current issues of the FASRB implementation
   3.1. Flood management issues
   3.2. Navigation issues
   3.3. Implementation of the Sava GIS and the Sava HIS
   3.4. Establishment of the Sava Water Council
   3.5. Protocols to the FASRB

4. Internal issues (closed session)

5. Other business
   5.1. Confirmation of members / deputy members of the expert groups of
        the ISRBC
   5.2. Information on the 5th Conference on regulation and multipurpose
        use of the Sava river
   5.3. Information on the initiative for the project “Sava River Bike Route”

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

7. 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-38-0-15-2/1-3).
2. The ISRBC took note that Decision 5/15 on extension of the Contract on Appointment of Mr. Dejan Komatina at the position of the ISRBC Secretary was adopted in written procedure on March 9, 2015.
3. The ISRBC took note that Decision 6/15 on Adoption of the Report on Realization of the Budget for FY 2014 was adopted in written procedure on June 2, 2015.
4. The ISRBC took note that Decision 7/15 on adoption of the Annual Report on Work and Activities of the ISRBC for the period April 1, 2014 – March 31, 2015, was adopted in written procedure on July 1, 2015.
5. According to Conclusion 5.3 from the 37th Session, regarding the realization of the ISRBC Recommendation 2/14 (related to nomination of the national coordinators for projects of common interest relevant for the FASRB implementation), the Secretariat shall prepare the additional information on arguments for nomination of the national coordinators as proposed by Recommendation 2/14. The information shall be delivered to the ISRBC by July 31, 2015.

AD. 3 – Current issues of the FASRB implementation

3.1. Flood management issues

Conclusions:
1. The ISRBC took note on the status of major ongoing activities in the field of flood management.
2. With reference to the 4th conclusion from the ministerial meeting held in Brčko, on July 6, 2015, related to achieving a synergy between activities at the regional and national level, it is necessary to ensure the regular exchange of information on related projects and activities, particularly with regard to activities within the project “Improvement of joint actions in flood management in the Sava river basin” (WBIF project). The list of the related projects will be presented at the sessions of the ISRBC and updated regularly.
3. The ISRBC took note on the interest of the U.S. Government to provide financial support for the acquisition of Lidar-based high-precision geodetic data needed for further development of the Sava river hydraulic model. In order to define the spatial extent of Lidar surveying, the Secretariat shall develop the proposal of the extent and deliver it to the ISRBC for approval and enabling the continuation of the activities.
3.2. Navigation issues

Conclusions:


2. According to Conclusion 4.2.3 from the 37th Session, regarding the commencement of negotiations on a bilateral agreement on navigation on inland waterways between Croatia and Slovenia, the ISRBC representatives from Slovenia shall inform the ISRBC on their feedback to the relevant documentation that has been submitted by Croatia to Slovenia, by September 15, 2015.

3.3. Implementation of the Sava GIS and the Sava HIS

Conclusions:

1. The ISRBC took note on the status of activities on the implementation of Sava GIS and Sava HIS.

2. The ISRBC considered the proposal for awarding the contract by negotiated procedure for the establishment of the Sava HIS to the Consortium consisting of Information Engineering Ltd. and IGEA Ltd. (Doc. No 1S-38-0-15-14/1-2), and finding it justified, adopted the respective Decision 8/15.

The International Sava River Basin Commission has adopted the following

DECISION 8/15

❖ On awarding the contract to the Consortium consisting of Information Engineering Ltd. and IGEA Ltd. in the amount of max. 34,155.00 EUR for the establishment of the Hydrological Information System of the International Sava River Basin Commission (Sava HIS) in accordance with Technical and Financial offer which is attached to this Decision as its integral part.

3.4. Establishment of the Sava Water Council

Conclusion:
The ISRBC representatives shall deliver their opinions and additional comments to the proposal related to the establishment of the Sava Water Council (Doc. No. 1S-38-0-4/1-2) by July 31, 2015.

3.5. Protocols to the FASRB

Conclusions:

1. The ISRBC took note on the Status Report on realization of the Work Plan of the ISRBC for FY 2015 (Doc. No. 1S-38-0-15-5/1-2) with regard to the protocols to the FASRB.
2. According to Conclusion 4.6.2 from the 37th Session, regarding the status of ratification of the Protocol on Prevention of Water Pollution caused by Navigation, the ISRBC representatives from Serbia and Slovenia informed that internal national procedures for ratification are in progress in both countries and are expected to be finalized in the near future.

3. The ISRBC representatives shall inform the Secretariat of the bodies responsible for implementation of the Protocol on Flood Protection to the FASRB and the corresponding contact persons, by July 31, 2015.

4. The ISRBC representatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina shall inform the Secretariat of the readiness of Bosnia and Herzegovina to participate in negotiations on final harmonization of the Protocol on Emergency Situations to the FASRB, by the next Session.

AD. 4 – Internal issues (closed session)

AD. 5 – Other Business

5.1 Confirmation of members / deputy members of the expert groups of the ISRBC

     Conclusion:
     The ISRBC considered the proposal related to confirmation of members and deputy members of the expert groups. The respective decision(s) shall be delivered to the ISRBC for adoption in written procedure.

5.2 Information on the 5th Conference on regulation and multipurpose use of the Sava river

     Conclusion:
     The ISRBC took note on the brief information about the Conference, to be held in early December 2015, presented by the representative of the NGO “Slap”. The Secretariat shall forward the additional information on the Conference to the ISRBC.

5.3 Information on the initiative for the project “Sava River Bike Route”

     Conclusion:
     The ISRBC took note on the presentation of the initiative, delivered by the representative of the Regional Development Agency of Ljubljana Urban Region. The Secretariat shall forward the related information to the ISRBC.

AD. 6 – Date and preliminary agenda for the next Session of the ISRBC
Conclusion:
The 39th Session of the ISRBC will be held on October 6, 2015, 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. Realization of the Work Plan of the ISRBC for FY 2015
   3.1. Water Management issues
   3.2. Navigation issues
   3.3. Cross-cutting issues
   3.4. Meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement
   3.5. Promotion activities
   3.6. Protocols to the FASRB

4. Projects

5. Internal issues

6. Other business

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

8. Adoption of the Report from the Session

AD. 7 – Adoption of the Report from the Session

Conclusion:
The ISRBC adopted the Report from the 38th Session. The Report shall be delivered to Ms. Enisa Babić, ISRBC Member from B&H (temporary), for confirmation.