



Doc. No: 1S-39-M-15-1/1-3

**REPORT**  
**from the 39<sup>th</sup> Session**  
**of the International Sava River Basin Commission**

**October 19-20, 2015**  
**Zagreb**

**I Attendance**

The International Sava River Basin Commission held the 39<sup>th</sup> Session (as a regular session) in Zagreb, on October 19-20, 2015. The following representatives of the Parties to the FASRB – members and deputy members of the ISRBC, attended the Session: Ms. Enisa Babić (B&H) – Member (temporary), Mr. Dražen Kurečić (Croatia) – Deputy Member, Ms. Nataša Milić (Serbia) – Member, and Mr. Mitja Bricelj (Slovenia) – Member.

Mr. Boško Kenjić (B&H), Ms. Elizabeta Kos and Mr. Janko Brnardić (Croatia), and Ms. Dragana Milovanović (Serbia), attended the Session as experts.

The Session was also attended by Mr. Ivan Zavadski (ICPDR), Ms. Petra Remeta (WWF) and Ms. Irena Brnada (REC) as observers, as well as by Ms. Jarmila Pezo (IGEA & IN2) and Mr. Brantley Thames (USACE) as guests.

**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-39-O-15-1/1-3) 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. 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**

#### **3.3.1. 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**

### **3.6. Protocols to the FASRB**

## **4. Projects**

## **5. Internal issues (closed session)**

### **5.1. Financial issues**

#### **5.1.1. Status of regular contributions and other funds**

#### **5.1.2. Audit of the financial management of the ISRBC in FY 2014**

### **5.2. Legal and other issues**

### **5.3. Amendments to the Criteria and Procedures for granting the Observer Status in the ISRBC**

### **5.4. Other 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**

## **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-39-O-15-2/1-3).***
- 2. The ISRBC took note that Decision 15/15 on announcement of the Vacancy Notice for the position of the Secretary of the ISRBC was adopted in written procedure on September 8, 2015.***
- 3. The ISRBC took note that Decision 16/15 on nomination of the Screening Committee for evaluation of applications for the position of the Secretary of the ISRBC was adopted in written procedure on October 19, 2015.***

## **AD. 3 - Realization of the Work Plan of the ISRBC for FY 2015**

### **3.1. Water management issues**

#### **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-39-O-15-3/1-2) with regard to water management issues.**
- 2. The ISRBC took note on the reports from the following expert group meetings:**
  - **29<sup>th</sup> PEG RBM Meeting (Doc. No. 3-15-6/2-3)**
  - **26<sup>th</sup> PEG FP Meeting (Doc. No. 3-15-2/3-2)**
  - **27<sup>th</sup> PEG FP Meeting (Doc. No. 3-15-11/3-2)**
  - **19<sup>th</sup> PEG APC Meeting (Doc. No. 4-15-1/2-2).**
- 3. The ISRBC representatives shall investigate the availability of the data on Accident Risk Sites, Contaminated Sites and Mining Sites, needed for further work of the ISRBC, and inform the Secretariat accordingly by the end of 2015.**

### **3.2. Navigation issues**

#### **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-39-O-15-4/1-2) with regard to navigation issues.**
- 2. The ISRBC took note on the Report from the 18<sup>th</sup> PEG NAV Meeting (Doc. No. 2-15-2/11-2-PEG NAV).**
- 3. According to Conclusion 3.2.2 from the 38<sup>th</sup> 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 November 30, 2015.**

### **3.3. Cross-cutting issues**

#### **3.3.1. Information management issues**

#### **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-39-O-15-5/1-2) with regard to information management issues.**
- 2. The ISRBC took note on the reports from the 11<sup>th</sup> (Doc. No. 3-15-5/3-2), the 12<sup>th</sup> (Doc. No. 3-15-10/3-2) and the 13<sup>th</sup> (Doc. No. 3-15-12/3-2) meetings of the Ah GIS EG.**

### **3.3.2. Hydrological and meteorological issues**

#### **Conclusion:**

*The ISRBC took note on the Status Report on realization of the Work Plan of the ISRBC for FY 2015 (Doc. No. 1S-39-O-15-6/1-2) with regard to hydrological and meteorological issues, and the Report from the 11<sup>th</sup> Ad hoc HM EG Meeting (Doc. No. 3-15-13/2-2).*

### **3.3.3. Statistical issues**

#### **Conclusion:**

*The ISRBC took note on the Status Report on realization of the Work Plan of the ISRBC for FY 2015 (Doc. No. 1S-39-O-15-7/1-2) with regard to statistical issues.*

### **3.3.4. Tourism development issues**

#### **Conclusion:**

*The ISRBC took note on the Status Report on realization of the Work Plan of the ISRBC for FY 2015 (Doc. No. 1S-39-O-15-9/1-2) with regard to tourism development issues.*

## **3.4. Meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement**

#### **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-39-O-15-9/1-2) with regard to meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement, and its accompanying annexes:**
  - *Annex 1: Report on the visit of the delegation from the Central Asian countries to the ISRBC*
  - *Annex 2: Report from the Workshop on stakeholders' participation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sava RBM planning cycle*
  - *Annex 3: Report from the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting on implementation of the Joint Statement on Guiding Principles for the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube Basin*
  - *Annex 4: List of the ISRBC events in FY 2015.*
- 2. The ISRBC supported further strengthening of cooperation with Montenegro through their stronger involvement in future activities of the ISRBC.**

## **3.5. Promotion activities**

#### **Conclusions:**

- 1. The ISRBC took note on the Status Report on realization of the Work Plan of the ISRBC for FY 2015 (Doc. 1S-39-O-15-10/1-2) with regard to promotion activities.**
- 2. The ISRBC took note on the Report on the Sava Day 2015 celebration (Doc. No. 1S-39-O-15-10/2-2).**

3. *The Secretariat shall prepare the proposal on establishment of the Sava Water Council and deliver it to the ISRBC for adoption in written procedure till November 6, 2015.*

### **3.6. 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-39-O-15-11/1-2) with regard to the protocols to the FASRB.*
2. *The ISRBC representatives from Slovenia shall inform on the status of ratification of the Protocol on Prevention of Water Pollution caused by Navigation, by November 15, 2015.*
3. *Since all Parties ratified the Protocol on Flood Protection to the FASRB, the ISRBC urges the Republic of Slovenia, as depositary, to distribute the official notification on the ratification through diplomatic channels, in order to enable the entering into force of the Protocol, as soon as possible.*
4. *As regards the bodies responsible for implementation of the Protocol on Flood Protection to the FASRB, the ISRBC took note that the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Serbia designated competent authorities for implementation of the Protocol. The ISRBC representatives from other Parties shall inform the Secretariat of the abovementioned, by November 15, 2015.*
5. *The ISRBC representatives informed on the internal process necessary for entering into force of the Protocol on Sediment Management to the FASRB, as follows:*
  - a) *Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Slovenia launched the required internal procedure;*
  - b) *Croatia officially finalized the procedure on October 14, 2015.*
6. *The ISRBC took note on the meeting of relevant institutions from Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Secretariat, held on September 30, 2015, in Banja Luka, regarding the readiness of Bosnia and Herzegovina to participate in negotiations on final harmonization of the Protocol on Emergency Situations to the FASRB. Following the meeting, the internal procedure for participation in negotiations on final harmonization of the Protocol was re-launched. The ISRBC representatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina shall inform the ISRBC about the outcome by November 30, 2015.*

### **AD. 4 - Projects**

#### **Conclusions:**

1. *The ISRBC took note on the Status Report on realization of projects (Doc. No. 1S-39-O-15-12/1-2), and its accompanying annexes:*
  - *Annex 1: Overview of the implemented and ongoing FASRB-related projects*
  - *Annex 2: Overview of the planned FASRB-related projects*

- ***Annex 3: Information on status of the project „Towards practical guidance for sustainable sediment management using the Sava river basin as a showcase“***
  - ***Annex 4: Information on preparatory activities for the implementation of the flood forecasting and warning system for the Sava river basin (Component 2 of the project „Improvement of joint flood management actions in the Sava river basin“)***
  - ***Annex 5: Information on status of the project „Establishment and completion of the Sava GIS – 1st implementation phase“***
  - ***Annex 6: Information on status of the project „Establishment of the Sava HIS“***
  - ***Annex 7: Information on status of the project „Strengthening public participation and stakeholder involvement in the Sava River Basin“.***
2. ***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 ISRBC took note that Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia nominated the national coordinators. The ISRBC representatives from other Parties shall inform the Secretariat on nomination of the national coordinators from their respective countries by November 15, 2015.***
  3. ***The ISRBC acknowledged the good cooperation with Public Institution „Vode Srpske“ and „Croatian Waters“, and encouraged them to consider signing the „Policy on the Exchange of Hydrological and Meteorological Data and Information in the Sava River Basin“ in the near future.***
  4. ***The ISRBC emphasized the importance of coordination of the projects that are coordinated by / implemented through the ISRBC and other projects relevant for the FASRB implementation which are coordinated / implemented on the national level of the Parties.***

## **AD. 5 – Internal issues (closed session)**

## **AD. 6 – Other Business**

### **Conclusions:**

1. ***The ISRBC took note on the information received from the Sava River Watershed Agency from Sarajevo related to the structure in the Sava River main channel near the bridge Šamac – Slavonski Šamac, which has negative effects from the viewpoints of navigation and water management, and called upon Bosnia and Herzegovina to seek for a solution, including within the bilateral commission of B&H and Croatia.***
2. ***The ISRBC representatives of Croatia supported the removal of the abovementioned structure from the Sava River main channel.***

## **AD. 7 – Date and preliminary agenda for the next Session of the ISRBC**

### **Conclusion:**

***The 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the ISRBC will be held on December 15, 2015, with the following tentative agenda:***

- 1. Adoption of the agenda***
- 2. Interviewing the selected candidates for the position of the Secretary of the ISRBC, and adopting the corresponding decision***
- 3. Other business***
- 4. Date and preliminary agenda for the next Session of the ISRBC***
- 5. Adoption of the Report from the Session.***

#### **AD. 8 – Adoption of the Report from the Session**

**Conclusion:**

***The ISRBC adopted the Report from the 39<sup>th</sup> Session.***