REPORT
from the 50th Session of the
International Sava River Basin Commission
Zagreb, 4-5 December 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 (ISRBC, Sava Commission) held the 50th Session in Zagreb, on December 4-5, 2018. The following representatives of the Parties to FASRB – members and deputy members of the Sava Commission, attended the Session: Mr. Igor Pejić – Member (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Ms. Elizabeta Kos – Deputy Member (Croatia); Ms. Nataša Milić – Member (Serbia); Mr. Mitja Bricelj – Member and Mr. Marko Sotlar – Deputy Member (Slovenia).

Ms. Duška Kunštek and Ms. Sanja Genzić (Croatia) and Ms. Olivera Janković (Serbia) attended the Session as experts.

Mr. Dragan Zeljko – Secretary of the Sava Commission and officials of the Secretariat - Mr. Samo Grošelj, Ms. Dragana Milovanović, Mr. Željko Milković, Ms. Majda Despotović and Ms. Melita Žižanović Dakić 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. Realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2018
   2.1. Water Management issues
   2.2. Navigation issues
   2.3. Cross-cutting issues
   2.4. Meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement
   2.5. Promotion activities
3. Projects
4. Overview of tasks and duties regarding decisions and conclusions from previous sessions of the Sava Commission (closed session)
5. Financial issues
6. Legal Issues
7. Other internal issues
8. Other business
9. Date and preliminary agenda of the next Session of the Sava Commission
10. Adoption of the Report from the Session.
IV. CONCLUSIONS

Open session

AD. 1 – Adoption of the agenda

The Sava Commission adopted the agenda of the 50th meeting (Doc. No. 1R-50-O-18-1/4-3), with the agenda items presented in Part III of this Report.

AD. 2 – Realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2018

2.1. Water Management issues

Conclusions:


With regard to Sava River Basin Management Plan:

2. The Sava Commission took note of information on the status of activities related to development of the 2nd Sava River Basin Management Plan and the related project proposal (as described in Doc. No. 1R-50-O-18-2/2-2).

With regard to Sava Flood Risk Management Plan:

3. The Sava Commission took note of information on the status of the activities related to development of the first Sava Flood Risk Management Plan (Sava FRMP) and the information on the status of the supporting project (as described in Doc No. 1R-50-O-18-2/3-2).

4. The Sava Commission accepted the plan of activities for finalization of the Sava FRMP, as follows:
   a. Following the final approval by the PEG FP members, the draft Sava FRMP will be submitted to the Sava Commission for its endorsement; by endorsement of the draft Sava FRMP, it becomes official proposal of the Sava Commission;
   b. The Proposal of the Sava FRMP in English and in all official languages of the Sava Commission shall be sent to the Parties as well as to Montenegro for adoption procedures;
   c. An Extraordinary Meeting of the Parties to the FASRB will be organized with aim to approve the Sava FRMP and to present other advances in cooperation of the Parties in flood management in the Sava River Basin. The meeting will be held in September/October 2019, tentatively.

With regard to Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System establishment:

5. The Sava Commission took note of the status on the Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System (Sava FFWS) establishment and the information on the status of the supporting project “Improvement of Joint Actions in Flood Management in the Sava River Basin” Component 2 -
Flood forecasting and warning system for the Sava River Basin (as described in Doc No. 1R-50-O-18-2/4-2).

6. Following the endorsement of the final project deliverables by the project’s Steering Board, the Sava Commission expresses its satisfaction with successful finalization of the Sava FFWS establishment.

7. The Sava Commission recognizes the Sava FFWS as a mature and reliable platform that can be used operationally for hydrological forecasting (especially flood forecasting) at both national and international level in the Sava River Basin.

8. The Sava Commission acknowledges a great work of all institutions and individuals who took part in this process and expresses appreciation to the Western Balkans Investment Framework and World Bank for its support in the process of the Sava FFWS establishment.

With regard to Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System post-project organization:

9. The Sava Commission took note of the status on the Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System (Sava FFWS) post-project organization and the information on activities of Task group (as described in Doc No. 1R-50-O-18-2/5-2).

10. With regard to a successful establishment of the Sava FFWS and taking into account the provisions of the Article 9 of the Protocol, the Sava Commission acknowledges the efforts undertaken so far in preparation of the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation on regular functioning and maintenance of the Sava Flood Forecasting and Warning System (MoU).

11. The Sava Commission invites responsible institutions in the Parties and Montenegro to agree upon and sign the MoU as soon as possible.

12. Having in mind the time needed for preparation, approval and signing of the MoU and, at the same time a need for the functioning of the Sava FFWS before reaching the final agreement, the Sava Commission asks the responsible institutions to find the way of financing the Sava FFWS in the first year of its functioning based on the budget estimated in the PPO document, and confirmed by Task group thereafter; The Task group members shall inform about readiness of each country and concrete options for abovementioned financing of the Sava FFWS, at their next meeting in January 2019.

13. The Sava Commission considered and approved its role in the post-project period functioning of the Sava FFWS, as the hosting organization of Archive & Web Server.

With regard to Sediment management:

14. The Sava Commission took note on the draft Template for the Information on Planned Dredging prepared in accordance with the Article 9 of the Protocol on Sediment Management which was confirmed by PEG RBM on November 27-28, 2018.

15. The Sava Commission will provide comments regarding endorsement of the draft Template as soon as possible, but not later than December 17, 2018.
After endorsement by the Sava Commission the Secretariat shall deliver the Template to competent authority/authorities responsible for implementation of the Protocol, nominated authority for official communication and its designated contact person.

With regard to work of related expert groups:

16. The Sava Commission took note on status of work of expert groups in the field of water management (as described in Doc. No. 1R-50-O-18-2/6-2) and the following reports:
   a. Report from the 36th PEG RBM Meeting;
   b. Report from the 33th PEG FP Meeting;
   c. Report from the 34th PEG FP Meeting;
   d. Report from the 35th PEG FP Meeting;
   e. Report from the 36th PEG FP Meeting;
   f. Report from the 37th PEG FP Meeting;
   g. Report from the 22nd PEG APC Meeting.

2.2. Navigation issues

Conclusions:


2. The Sava Commission took note on information of work of expert groups in the field of navigation (as described in Doc. No. 1R-50-O-18-3/2-2) and the following reports:
   a. Report from the 21st PEG NAV Meeting;
   b. Report from the 5th Ad hoc RIS EG Meeting.

3. The Sava Commission took note on the Report from the stakeholders’ meeting on regulation of the navigation on the Kupa River in the border areas between Croatia and Slovenia (as described in Doc. No. 1R-50-O-18-3/3-2) and asks the Secretariat to continue with the development of the draft Decision regarding regulation of navigation on the identified common sectors of the Kupa River and deliver it to the Sava Commission for consideration.


2.3. Cross-cutting issues

**Conclusions:**

2. The Sava Commission took note of the information of work of expert groups related to cross-cutting and other issues (as described in Doc. No. 1R-50-O-18-4/2-2) and the following reports:
   a. Report from the 17th PEG GIS Meeting;
   b. Report from the 18th PEG GIS Meeting;
   c. Report from the 2nd TTG meeting;
   d. Report from the 3rd TTG meeting.

2.4. Meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement

**Conclusions:**

1. The Sava Commission took note of the Status report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2018 with regard to meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement (as described in Doc. No. 1R-50-O-18-5/1-2).
2. The Sava Commission took note with satisfaction on participation of representatives of the 7th Youth Parliament in various water related events so far.
3. With regard to 8th Youth Parliament that will be organized in 2019:
   a. location of the event will be in Croatia and should have transboundary characteristics;
   b. ICPDR, GWP and geographic societies from Slovenia and Croatia will be invited to participate at 8th Youth Parliament;
   c. The Secretariat shall develop proposal for schools contest by the end of January 2019. A topic of the contest will be proposed by then and communicated to the Sava Commission.

2.5. Promotion activities

**Conclusion:**

The Sava Commission took note of the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2018 with regard to promotion activities (as described in Doc. No. 1R-50-O-18-6/1-2).
AD. 3 – Projects

Conclusion:
The Sava Commission took note on the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2018 with regard to realization of projects (as described in Doc. No. 1R-50-18-7/1-2) including:

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 ISRBC.

Closed session

AD. 4 – Overview of tasks and duties regarding decisions and conclusions from previous sessions of the Sava Commission (closed session)

AD. 5 – Financial issues

AD. 6 – Legal issues

AD. 7 – Other internal issues

Open session

AD. 8 – Other business

Conclusions:

1. Sava Commission took note on information provided by Mr. Mitja Bricelj on the progress in EUSAIR by first interpillar project (TSG3/TSG4) “Managing Touristic Flows in protected areas” based on methodology of green and blue corridors.
2. The Sava Commission concluded that blue and green corridors concept should be taken into account in preparation of the 2nd SRMBP.

AD. 9 – Date and preliminary agenda of the next Session of the Sava Commission

The 51th Session of the Sava Commission will be held on 5-6 March 2019, in Zagreb, with the following provisional agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Realization of Work Plan of Sava Commission for FY 2018
   2.1. Water Management issues
2.2. Navigation issues

2.3. Cross-cutting issues

2.4. Meetings, cooperation and stakeholder involvement

2.5. Promotion activities

3. Projects

4. Adoption of the Work Plan of Sava Commission for FY 2019

5. Overview of tasks and duties regarding decisions and conclusions from previous sessions of Sava Commission

6. Financial issues

7. Legal issues

8. Other internal issues

9. Other business

10. Date and preliminary agenda of the next Session of Sava Commission

11. Adoption of the Report from the Session

**AD. 10 – Adoption of the Report from the Session**

**Conclusion:**
The Sava Commission adopted the Report from the 50th Session.

______________________________  ______________________________
Dragan Zeljko, Secretary           Igor Pejić, Chairman
ANNEXES:

Annex 1 – List of the meeting documents and presentations

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Annex 2 – List of decisions


DECISION – 14/18 on amendments of Decision on re-establishment of Sava Commission’s expert groups (2/16, 14/17, 17/17, 5/18 and 10/18) (Doc. No: IR-50-D-18-4/1-3)