



Doc. No: 1R-53-M-20-1/1-3

**REPORT**  
**from the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session of the**  
**International Sava River Basin**  
**Commission**

Zagreb, 25-26 February 2020

Venue: Premises of the International Sava River Basin Commission, Kneza Branimira 29, Zagreb

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## **I. ATTENDANCE**

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The International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC, Sava Commission) held the 53<sup>rd</sup> Session in Zagreb, on February 25-26, 2020. The following representatives of the Parties to FASRB – members and deputy members of the Sava Commission, attended the Session: Mr. Igor Pejić – member and Mr. Boško Kenjić – deputy member (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Ms. Duška Kunštek – member and Ms. Elizabeta Kos – deputy member (Croatia); Mr. Mitja Bricelj – member (Slovenia) and Mr. Veljko Kovačević - deputy member (Serbia).

Ms. Olivera Janković, Ms. Irena Konjević, Ms. Zorica Janković (Serbia) and Aleš Bizjak (Slovenia) attended the Session as experts.

The Session was also attended by Mr. Dejan Trifunović (Danube Commission), Ms. Martina Zupan and Barbara Čenčur Curk (GWP CEE) and Branka Španiček (WWF-Adria), as observers.

Mr. Dragan Zeljko – Secretary of the Sava Commission and the officials of the Secretariat – Ms. Dragana Milovanović, Mr. Željko Milković, Ms. Majda Despotović, Mr. Nikola Cvjetković, Mr. Mirza Sarač and Ms. Melita Žižanović Dakić attended the Session.

Part of the meeting was attended by representatives of the World Bank: Ms. Berina Uwimbabazi, Ms. Zhimin Mao and Mr. Igor Palandžić.

## **II. CHAIRMANSHIP**

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Mr. Igor Pejić, the Chairman of the Sava Commission, chaired the Session.

## **III. ADOPTED AGENDA**

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1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Recapitulation of the 8th Meeting of the Parties
3. Realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2019
  - 3.1. Water Management
  - 3.2. Navigation
  - 3.3. Cross-cutting and development issues
  - 3.4. Cooperation and stakeholder involvement
  - 3.5. Promotional activities
4. Projects
5. Work Plan of the Sava Commission for Financial Year 2020
6. Overview of tasks and duties regarding decisions and conclusions from previous sessions of the Sava Commission
7. Financial issues

8. Legal issues
9. Secretariat's staff related issues
10. Other internal issues
11. Other business
12. Date and preliminary agenda of the next Session of the Sava Commission
13. Adoption of the Report from the Session

## **IV. CONCLUSIONS**

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### **Open session**

#### **AD. 1 – Adoption of the agenda**

*The Sava Commission adopted the agenda of the 53rd session (Doc. No. 1R-53-O-19-1/1-2), with the agenda items presented in Part III of this Report.*

#### **AD. 2 – Recapitulation of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties**

*The Sava Commission took note of the recapitulation of the 8th Meeting of the Parties (Doc. No. 1R-53-O-19-2/1-2) and expressed its satisfaction with the outcomes of the Meeting, noting that by adopting the Declaration and the Sava Commission’s Report, the 8th Meeting of the Parties confirmed the agreed approach in the implementation of the FASRB, as well as the fact that the ongoing activities of the Sava Commission are fully in line with the previously set goals and priorities. The Sava Commission thanked once again the host country for its hospitality and excellent organization of the Meeting, as well as to partners, institutions and experts who contributed to its successful work.*

#### **AD. 3 – Realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2019**

##### **3.1. Water Management**

###### **Conclusions:**

- 1. The Sava Commission took note of the Status report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2019 with regard to Water Management issues (Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-3/1-2).*
- 2. The Sava Commission took note of the status of the development of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sava RBM Plan. Taking into account that process of data gathering is not finalized, Sava Commission urged responsible institutions to deliver available data by March 31, 2020.*
- 3. The Sava Commission took note of the status of implementation of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sava FRM Plan as well as on preparation of elements for the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of the FRM planning including the development of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sava FRMP Strategy for follow-up and the update of the joint Sava PFRA report. The Sava Commission tasked the PEG FP and Secretariat to jointly work to prepare and participate in the implementation of the Summary of non-structural measures of the 1<sup>st</sup> Sava FRM Plan and regularly prepare the report on implementation of the entire Summary of Measures.*
- 4. The Sava Commission took note of the current status of the functioning of the Sava FFWS and requested the Secretariat to organize the remaining activities on the signing of the Memorandum and, thereafter, to take the steps provided in the Memorandum, necessary for the smooth functioning of the system.*

5. *The Sava Commission urged the responsible institutions (Sava FFWS users) to finalize activities within improvement of the Sava HEC-HMS model and asks responsible national institutions to deliver models, data and information required for the planned upgrade of the Sava HEC-RAS hydraulic model.*
6. *The Sava Commission took note of the training of the Accident Emergency and Warning System (AEWS), held on December 6, 2019 in Zagreb, and encouraged the Secretariat and the ICPDR to repeat the organization of such events according to needs in the future.*
7. *The Sava Commission took note of the Report on planned dredging in the Sava River Basin for 2019 (Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-3/1-2) and tasked the Secretariat to deliver the Report to national authorities.*
8. *The Sava Commission took note of the status of work of expert groups in the field of water management (as described in Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-3/2-2) and the following reports:*
  - a. *Report from the 40th PEG FP meeting held on October 01, 2019;*
  - b. *Report from the 40th PEG RBM meeting held on October 21-22, 2019;*
  - c. *Report from the 41st PEG RBM meeting held on January 29-30, 2020.*

### **3.2. Navigation**

#### **Conclusions:**

1. *The Sava Commission took note of the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2019 with regard to navigation (as described in Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-3/1-2) and the following reports:*
  - a. *Report of the 2nd Meeting of Stakeholder Forum for the Development of Environmental Impact Assessment Study and Design for the Action: Improvement of the Navigability Conditions of the Sava River from rkm 300 to rkm 329 (November 12, 2019, Zagreb) and*
  - b. *Report of the 14th Meeting of Captains of Port Master Offices from the Sava River Basin (November 14 - 15, 2019, Slavonski Brod).*
2. *With the aim of regular updating the cross-sections of the Sava River in the existing HEC-RAS hydraulic model in order to increase the accuracy of the water level forecasts and the benefits that the shipping industry and other waterway users may have, the Sava Commission shall adopt a Decision on delivery of results of bathymetric surveys of the Sava River and its navigable tributaries to the Sava Commission on a regular basis.*
3. *The Sava Commission took note of the status of the follow-up process of the Joint Statement on Guiding Principles on the Development of Inland Navigation and Environmental Protection in the Danube River Basin including the Report of the respective 10th Workshop held on September 11-12, 2019 in Budapest.*

4. *The Sava Commission took note of the status of work of expert groups in the field of navigation (as described in Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-3/4-2) and the Report from the 22nd PEG NAV meeting held on October 29-30, 2019.*
5. *The Sava Commission considered and adopted Decision 2/20 on Adoption of the Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2020 (Doc. No: 1R-53-D-20-2/1-2).*

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

#### **Conclusions:**

1. *The Sava Commission took note of the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2019 with regard to cross-cutting issues (as described in Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-3/6-2) including Status Report on Sava and Drina Corridor Integrated Development Program (SDIP).*
2. *The Sava Commission took note of the presentation delivered by representatives of the World Bank and requested that the World Bank officially submit for consideration all SDIP documents necessary for a decision of the Sava Commission on the implementation of regional activities by February 28, 2020. The Sava Commission will consider the abovementioned documents and decide accordingly as soon as possible.*
3. *The Sava Commission took note of the status of work of the related expert groups (as described in Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-3/7-2) and the following reports:*
  - a. *Report from the 20th PEG GIS meeting held on November 12-13, 2019;*
  - b. *Report from the 16th PEG HMI Meeting held on October 21-22, 2019;*
  - c. *Report from the 4th meeting of the Task group for sustainable tourism development held on October 30, 2019.*

### **3.4. Cooperation and stakeholder involvement**

#### **Conclusion:**

*The Sava Commission took note of the Status report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2019 with regard to cooperation and stakeholder involvement (as described in Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-3/8-2).*

### **3.5. Promotional activities**

#### **Conclusion:**

*The Sava Commission took note of the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2019 with regard to promotional activities (as described in Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-3/9-2), including the information about Participation of Sava Youth Parliament's representatives at the 15th European Youth Parliament for Water that was held on November 17-24, 2019 in Nizhny Novgorod, Russian Federation.*

## **AD. 4 – Projects**

#### **Conclusions:**

1. The Sava Commission took note of the Status Report on realization of Work Plan of the Sava Commission for FY 2019 with regard to realization of projects (as described in Doc. No. IR-53-O-19-4/1-2) including lists of:
  - a. the FASRB-related projects implemented or ongoing in the reporting period;
  - b. the FASRB-related project proposals;
  - c. flood related multilateral, bilateral and national projects;
  - d. RBM related multilateral, bilateral and national projects;
  - e. external projects supported by the Sava Commission.
2. The Sava Commission took note of information on the SHELTER project (Sustainable Historic Environments holistic reconstruction through Technological Enhancement and community based Resilience”, financed by EC Programme HORIZONT 2020), including the Minutes from the first Sava Open Lab Stakeholders Workshop held in Zagreb on October 2, 2019.
3. Upon proposal of the 1st stakeholder workshop, the Sava Commission agreed to establish a Task Working Group for the follow-up of the implementation of the SHELTER project. The Sava Commission representatives shall nominate two members per each Party (from PEG FP and authorities responsible for cultural heritage) by March 20, 2020 and inform the Secretariat accordingly. The Sava Commission tasked the Secretariat to invite relevant authorities from Montenegro to nominate their members of the Task Working Group.

#### **AD. 5 – Work Plan of the Sava Commission for Financial Year 2020**

##### **Conclusions:**

1. The Sava Commission considered the Draft Work Plan of the Sava Commission for Financial Year 2020 (Doc. No. 1R-53-D-20-2/2-2) and passed Decision 3/20 on adoption of the Work Plan of the Sava Commission for Financial Year 2020 (Doc. No: 1R-53-D-20-3/1-2).
2. With regard to celebration of the Sava Day 2020, the Sava Commission accepted the proposal of activities for the Sava Day 2020 celebration (Doc. No. 1R-53-O-19-5/1-2) including the proposal of activities for the 9<sup>th</sup> Sava Youth Parliament that will be held on May 29-30, 2020 in Banja Luka (Bosnia and Herzegovina), with the main topic “Let’s protect our cultural heritage!”, aiming to enable young people to learn about threats that cultural-historical sites in the Sava river basin face in case of floods.
3. The Sava Commission accepted the proposal of the Sava Commission’s publications for Financial Year 2020 (Doc. No. 1R-53-O-19-5/2-2).
4. The 15th anniversary of establishment of the Sava Commission will be duly marked during the next session of the Sava Commission.

#### **Closed session**

#### **AD.6 – Overview of tasks and duties from previous sessions**



**AD. 7 – Financial issues**

**AD. 8 – Legal issues**

**AD. 9 – Secretariat’s staff related issues**

**AD. 10 – Other internal issues**

**Open session**

**AD. 11 – Other business**

**Conclusion:**

*The Sava Commission took note of the information given by Mr. Mitja Bricelj that Slovenia will take over the presidency of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) from Serbia at the EUSAIR forum that will be held in Belgrade in May 2020. During the Slovenian presidency, the focus will be on demonstration of synergy between Sava and Adriatic river basins through the example of the Sava FFWS as a tool for climate change adaptation.*

**AD. 12 – Date and preliminary agenda of the next Session of the Sava Commission**

**Conclusion:**

*The 54<sup>th</sup> Session of the Sava Commission will be held on June 30 – July 1, 2020, with the following provisional agenda:*

- 1. Adoption of the agenda*
- 2. Report on tasks and duties regarding Decisions and Conclusions from the previous Sessions of the Sava Commission*
- 3. Current issues of the FASRB implementation*
- 4. Internal issues*
- 5. Other business*
- 6. Date and preliminary agenda for the next Session of the Sava Commission.*
- 7. Adoption of the Report from the Session*

*The possibility of holding the Session in Kranjska Gora will be explored, to symbolically mark the 15th anniversary of the Sava Commission.*

**AD. 13 – Adoption of the Report from the Session**

**Conclusion:**

*The Sava Commission adopted the Report from the 53rd Session.*

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*Dragan Zeljko, Secretary*

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*Igor Pejić, Chairman*

**ANNEXES:****Annex 1 – List of the meeting documents**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Document number</b>	<b>Document title</b>
<b>Open session</b>		
AD.1	1R-53-O-19-1/1-2	Draft Agenda of the 53rd Session
AD.2	1R-53-O-19-2/1-2	<i>Eighth Meeting of the Parties_ overview and way forward</i>
AD.3.1	1R-53-O-19-3/1-2	WM Issues_ Status Report - Annex 1: Sava FFWS current status - Annex 2: Training of the AEWS users (Dec 06, 2019) - Annex 3: Report on planned dredging in 2019
AD.3.1	1R-53-O-19-3/2-2	WM Issues_ Status of work of related expert groups - Annex 1: Report from the 40th PEG FP Meeting - Annex 2: Report from the 40th PEG RBM Meeting - Annex 3: Report from the 41th PEG RBM Meeting
AD.3.2	1R-53-O-19-3/3-2	Navigation issues_ Status Report - Annex 1: Report from the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Stakeholder Forum - Annex 2: Conclusions from the 14 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of Captains of Port Master Offices
AD 3.2	1R-53-O-19-3/4-2	Navigation issues_Status of work of related expert groups - Annex 1: Report from the 22 <sup>nd</sup> PEG NAV meeting
AD 3.2	1R-53-O-19-3/5-2	Navigation issues_Overview of the Joint Statement follow-up process - Annex 1: Report of the 10th Workshop on the Follow-up of the Joint Statement
AD.3.2	1R-53-D-20-2/1-2	Draft Decision 2/20 on adoption of Adoption of the Waterway Marking Plan for 2020 - Annex 1: Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2020
AD.3.3	1R-53-O-19-3/6-2	Cross-cutting Issues_ Status Report - Annex 1: Sava and Drina Corridor Integrated Development Program status
AD.3.3	-	World Bank_SDIP / presentation
AD.3.3	1R-53-O-19-3/7-2	Cross-cutting Issues_ Status of work of related expert groups - Annex 1: Report from the 20th PEG GIS Meeting - Annex 2: Report from the 16th PEG HMI meeting - Annex 3: Report from the 4th meeting of TG for sustainable tourism development

AD.3.4	1R-53-O-19-3/8-2	<p><i>Cooperation and stakeholder involvement_ Status Report</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Annex 1: List of ISRBC events in FY 2019</i></li> </ul>
AD.3.5	1R-53-O-19-3/9-2	<p><i>Promotional activities_ Status Report</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Annex 1: Participation of Sava Youth Parliament representatives at the 15th European Youth Parliament for water</i></li> </ul>
AD.4	1R-53-O-19-4/1-2	<p><i>Projects_ Status Report</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Annex 1: List of the FASRB-related projects implemented or ongoing in the reporting period</i></li> <li>- <i>Annex 2: List of the FASRB-related project proposals</i></li> <li>- <i>Annex 3: List of flood related multilateral, bilateral and national projects</i></li> <li>- <i>Annex 4: List of RBM related multilateral, bilateral and national projects</i></li> <li>- <i>Annex 5: List of the external projects supported by ISRBC</i></li> </ul>
AD 4.	1R-53-O-19-4/2-2	<p><i>SHELTER project summary</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Annex 1: Minutes from the first Sava Open Lab Stakeholders Workshop</i></li> </ul>
AD. 5	1R-53-D-20-3/1-2	<p><i>Draft Decision 3-20_Adoption of Work Plan of ISRBC for FY 2020</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Annex 1:Draft Work Plan of ISRBC for FY 2020</i></li> </ul>
AD. 5	1R-53-O-19-5/1-2	<p><i>Proposal of activities within the Sava Day 2020 celebration</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Annex 1: Sava Youth Parliament 2020_Proposal of activities</i></li> </ul>
AD. 5	1R-53-O-19-5/2-2	<i>Proposal of publications in FY 2020</i>

## **Annex 2 – List of decisions**

**DECISION 2/20** on Adoption of the Plan for Waterway Marking and Maintenance on the Sava River and its Navigable Tributaries for the Year 2020 (Doc. No: 1R-53-D-20-2/1-2)

**DECISION 3/20** on adoption of the Work Plan of the Sava Commission for the Financial Year 2020 (Doc. No: 1R-53-D-20-3/1-2).

**DECISION 4/20** on adoption of the Budget for Financial Year 2020 (Doc. No: 1R-53-D-20-4/1-3).

**DECISION 5/20** on amendments of Decision on re-establishment of Sava Commission's expert groups (2/16, 14/17, 17/17, 5/18, 10/18, 14/18 and 16/18) (Doc. No: 1R-53-D-19-4/1-3).

**DECISION 6/20** on renewing the observer status in the Sava Commission to the Euronatur – Association for the protection of nature and conservation of biological diversity, for the period of three years (Doc. No: 1R-53-D-20-6/1-3).