

The Following Message has Been Received from Mr Tamas Marton, head of section for Maritime and Inland Navigation Section from Hungarian Ministry of National Development, the for Distribution at the Joint Statement Meeting:

Dear colleagues,

In my short information I expressed our apologies for not being able to be present and contribute to the works of the Joint Statement Meeting taking place in Vienna on 5-6 April 2011. As you are aware this period of the spring belongs to the duties of the Presidency of Hungary and it is full of challenging conferences and among those conferences there is one on the next week, being organised in the period of 6 – 8 April in Budapest – Esztergom. Guests arrive on the 6th April and the series of events will be closed by a seminar of EFIP in Paks, Hungary on the 8th April.

Recently we were honoured to host the Council Meeting of EU Ministers of Environment in Budapest and among the very interesting points on the agenda of the Ministers' Meeting questions with respect to inland navigation and river training were also called upon by the host officials and reflected in the media so we expect a lot of work still to be done before we can come to a compromise solution which we shall be able to apply on the Hungarian stretch of the Danube. As we have declared we are seeking to find a solution which could provide for the improvement of navigability of the Danube through the improvement of the quality of environment.

You may also know that the Consortia led by the Hungarian research company VITUKI which is responsible for the planning and submission of proposals to the competent authorities here in Hungary has an authorisation from the European Commission to present the final report and other relevant documents before the 30 November 2011. This clarification about the stage of these works may point to the fact that we are still a bit far from being able to deliver a presentation about the possible training solutions being applied on the Hungarian stretch of the Danube in the frame of the EU priority program of improvement of navigability of the Danube River.

So we confirm with regret that we are not able to attend the coming Joint Statement meeting but will follow with interest the work of it and are looking very much forward to receive further information about the progress made during this meeting.

Thank you for your kind attention and wish you a nice weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Tamás MARTON
head of section

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