

European Barge Union

#### **EBU MEETS EU PRESIDENCY**

Today EBU's presidents and secretary general met with Luxemburg's Minister of Transport Mr. Bausch to discuss the IWT topics under his presidency



### NRMM

EBU used the meeting to bring up the most important topics at this moment to its members. It discussed the actual status of negotiations of the NRMM directive, after the ENVI Committee in EP voted against EBU's recommendations for alignment with the US EPA standard. The Council already took a position in line with the US EPA Tier 4 Standard however in addition with PN. The Minister emphasized to understand the industry's position, but will be bound by the Council decision in the further negotiation process. He will however give his full support to find a compromise in line with this position at the end of his presidency.

## **Technical Directive Inland waterway vessels and CESNI**

Under LUX presidency also the Technical Directive is expected to be agreed with the EP. Part of this Directive is the newly installed European Committee for drawing up Standards in Inland Navigation (CESNI). The standards drawn up by CESNI will automatically apply in their up-to-

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date version both in CCNR and EU-Member States. EBU has received an observer status within this committee at the first meeting on 28 September in Strasbourg.

The reform will simplify and speed up procedures, in particular to adapt standards to technical progress. This should ensure a high level of safety, and encourage innovation and investment in new technologies. The new framework will provide legal certainty and be easier to use by member states' national administrations. The standards themselves are not changed by the proposal under discussion.

# **TEN-T: Special attention to lack of maintenance on the Danube**

Special attention was given to the governance of the new multimodal European Transport Corridors. EBU's President expressed his concerns about the non-transparency and lack of involvement of EBU and the sector in the corridor platforms. Vice-President Jaegers emphasized the poor condition of the maintenance on the Danube . The Minister proposed to table this topic at the upcoming informal Transport Council on 8 October in Luxemburg.

For further information on EBU: <u>www.ebu-uenf.org</u>

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