

25

March 2020

15.00-19.00h

EBU Event 2020

Inland Waterway Transport
(IWT) key to deliver the Green
Deal

Sponsored by



Organisation



Venue

Permanent Representation
of the Netherlands in Brussels
Kortenberglaan 4-10
BRUSSELS



EBU Event 2020

Inland Waterway Transport (IWT) key to deliver the Green Deal

EBU welcomes the release of the Green Deal of the European Commission which aims to reduce transport emissions by shifting 75 % of the freight carried by road today to inland waterway transport (IWT) and rail. IWT disposes over free capacities on the European network of waterways and already today has very low CO2 emissions compared to road. It thus substantially can contribute to realise the Green Deal.

Inland Waterway Transport is known as an energy efficient, safe and sustainable alternative to other modes and contributes to decongesting overloaded road and rail networks for goods and people. A better integration of inland navigation into transport chains improves the efficiency of the entire European transport network. Europe's new industrial future and circular economy - with heavy and chemical industry - heavily relies on inland waterway transport as a transport mode. By shifting higher volumes to inland waterway transport it can substantially contribute to deliver the Green Deal.

Reliable infrastructure and multimodal transport chain

EBU in particular welcomes the Commission's proposal to better manage the capacity of inland waterways which should

lead to a reliable, safe, cost-effective and climate resilient infrastructure network. This requires an integrated water policy, in which inland navigation is fully recognised as a valuable water use.

IWT is an important part of the multimodal transport chain. EBU therefore supports the efforts to revise the proposal for a Directive on Combined Transport that should enhance the multimodal integration of all transport modes.

More funding and a follow up NAIADES action program needed

Where the Commission acknowledges the huge investment needs that go hand in hand with its proposal, EBU calls for a robust programme of funding within a new implementation strategy for IWT. This should be a joint effort by the Euro-

pean Commission, Member States, River Commissions, International Organisations and other stakeholders realised under the umbrella of a follow up to the NAIADES action programme. The inland navigation sector itself is committed to decrease its carbon footprint, already being the lowest compared to other modes. While the EU budget for the next financial period (2021-2028) is now being discussed, the inland waterway transport sector want to stress the importance of a strong Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), which includes support for Inland Waterway Transport.

EBU will discuss these developments and its priorities with high level representatives of the European Institutions, River and River Protection Commissions and important stakeholders like inland ports and shippers.



Programme

- 15.00 Registration and coffee/tea
- 15.30 Opening by EBU's President **Paul GORIS**
- 15.40 Key note speeches by
Adina VĂLEAN, *Commissioner for Transport, European Commission*
Duška KUNŠTEK, *Assistant Minister, Ministry of Sea, Transport and Infrastructure, Republic of Croatia*
- 16.15 Panel "IWT key to deliver the Green Deal"
Henrik HOLOLEI, *Director General European Commission DG MOVE*
Paweł WOJCIECHOWSKI, *Coordinator of the TEN-T corridor Rhine Alpine*
Friedrich LEHR, *President of the European Federation of Inland Ports and Managing Director of Port of Vienna*
Paul GORIS, *President EBU*
chaired by **Theresia HACKSTEINER**, *Secretary General EBU*
- 17.30 Summary and closure
- 17.35 Networking Cocktail

Free registration: <http://www.ebu-uenf.org/events/inland-waterway-transport-iwt-key-to-deliver-the-green-deal/>



T +31 653 336 366

info@ebu-uenf.org
www.ebu-uenf.org