

Seminar on New Transport Strategies in the Danube Area

The UNECE-Trans European Railway (TER) Project, European Federation of Inland Ports (EFIP), TINA Office and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry for Lower Bavaria jointly organized a seminar on new transport strategies in the Danube area in Passau, Germany, 25 and 26 March 2004.

Delegations from 5 TER member countries from the Danube region, the Bavarian authorities, and a large number of representatives from inland ports, transport companies and shippers from the region attended the event.

The objective of the seminar was to discuss new and intelligent ways of transport, including intermodal solutions, which would allow for an integrated functioning of inland waterways and rail, offer more transport alternatives to shippers, and would support the efforts for economic progress and prosperity in the Danube region and beyond.

The subjects debated include: the role of the UNECE in the development of combined and intermodal transport in Europe; today's reality and future potential of the region; shippers expectations; complementarity of transport modes and the external relations of Corridor VII and the Danube region; railway potential for supporting the development of inland waterway transport in the region; integration of inland navigation in logistic chains; integrative role of the freight forwarder, Danube ports and ground interfaces.

Being the first meeting on railway-inland waterways intermodal transport in the region, the seminar was appreciated as a step forward in the co-operation between the railway sector and the inland waterway operators and ports.

