Developing Inland Waterway Transport in the European Union

Contributing to a sustainable Transport Network

Unit C.2
Maximilian Bauernfeind

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20 out of 27 EU Member States have inland waterways

>37,000 km of waterways connect 100s of cities and industrial regions

Inland waterways in Europe
Europe’s Accessibility by Waterborne Transport
State of Play in Inland Navigation

- 20 out of 27 EUMember States have inland waterways; 12 Member States are connected by inland waterways
- Modal share of river transport: ~5% of total inland transport
- Modal share in NW Europe: up to 40%.
- > 500 million tons of freight p.a.
- Almost 140 billion ton-kilometres
Advantages of Inland Navigation
• High degree of safety
• Reliable and predictable
• Substantial spare capacities
• Environmentally most friendly mode of transport as
  – inland navigation contributes with less than 1% to transport’s greenhouse gas emissions and
  – it uses mainly natural infrastructure
  – in general, the external effects are 70% lower than in rail and 83% less than in road transport
Promotion of Inland Navigation in the EU
The goals of the NAIADES action programme for 2006-2013 can be defined as follows:

- Strengthen the **market position** of inland navigation
- **Modernisation** of the fleet
- Improve the **image** of the sector
- Promotion of **jobs and skills**, e.g. via the social dialogue
- Improvement of **infrastructure**, e.g. by removing bottlenecks

**Actors:** EU, Member States, social partners and river commissions
NAIADES (2)

Examples for actions under NAIADES:

• **Legislative measures:**
  – River Information Services (2005-7)
  – Technical requirements for vessels (2006-8)
  – Boatmaster certificates (ongoing)

• **Policy measures:**
  • Screening on administrative barriers for IWT (2008)
  • TEN-T Coordinator (2007-)
  • Social dialogue (ongoing)

• **Financial support:**
  • Funding Handbook (2008)
  • Fleet renewal programmes in MS (ongoing)
II. Other Programmes

• Marco Polo
  – Support for modal shift (transport) services, traffic avoidance, catalyst and common learning actions

• TEN-T
  – Up to 30% support for cross-border priority projects

• CIP
  – Competitiveness and innovation for SMEs

• Socrates, Leonardo
  – Professional qualifications

• IPA (ex “Phare”)
  – Preparing for EU accession

• Structural & regional funds
  – Economic and social cohesion

• INTERREG
  – Interregional cooperation
Upcoming Activities
• Revision of TEN-T guidelines (2011)
  – ensure that inland navigation is an integral part of the priority network
  – reduce bottlenecks along inland waterways
• New White Paper on Transport Policy (2011)
  – Ensure that inland navigation is duly represented
• Environment
  – Contribution to Commission’s policy on greening transport
  – Adaptation to climate change
Thank you for your attention

Maximilian BAUERNFEIND
maximilian.bauernfeind@ec.europa.eu
European Commission, DG Mobility and Transport
Unit C2 – Maritime Transport Policy: Ports & Inland Waterways
http://ec.europa.eu/transport/inland/index_en.htm