

## 4th Annual Forum of the EU-Strategy for the Danube Region

29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> October 2015 in Ulm

**Contribution form** (Please use one form per proposal!)



Title of the contribution:

**“Setting water management priorities until 2021 – The Danube River Basin Management Plan 2015”**

### Contribution to thematic session:

- Innovation
- Dual education/entrepreneurship
- Civil Society (engagement)

### PAC-Actions:

- Workshop
- Panel discussion
- Exhibition stand
- Other contribution

### Contact Details

Institution: International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR)

Address: Vienna International Centre, D0412, Wagramer Straße 5, 1220 Vienna, Austria

Contact person (name): Mr. Ivan Zavadsky, ICPDR Executive Secretary

E-mail: Ivan.Zavadsky@unvienna.org

Phone (incl. country code): +43 1 26060 5730

Mobile:

### Involved or concerned PAs:

- |   |  |                                |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PA 1a | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PA 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> PA 8  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PA 1b            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PA 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> PA 9  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PA 2  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PA 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> PA 10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PA 3             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PA 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> PA 11 |

### Intention, Focus, topic of the contribution:

Water does not stop at administrative or political boundaries, requiring close co-operation between the countries within an international river basin. The International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR) was established by the Danube countries to foster cooperation on water management in the Danube basin, which is the most international river basin in the world.

As the platform for the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) on the basin-wide scale, the ICPDR elaborated during the last years and with the involvement of different stakeholders and interest groups the Danube River Basin Management Plan 2015, which is setting water management priorities for the period until 2021. The plan will be adopted by the Danube countries in December 2015 and aims to further protect and enhance the status of all waters, prevent their

\*cross out if not needed

deterioration and to ensure the sustainable, long-term use of water resources. It establishes and strengthens several integrative principles for water management, including public participation in planning and the integration of economic approaches, and also aims for the integration of water management into other policy areas.

With its Joint Program of Measures agreed by all Danube countries, the plan is therefore of key relevance for different policy fields and interest groups related to water, including e.g. biodiversity and ecosystems, renewable energy and hydropower development, inland navigation, the quality and quantity of groundwater resources as well as adaptation to climate change.

The for the next years, much attention will be given to the implementation of the plan and the measures contained therein. This will pose managerial, but also financial challenges to the countries of the Danube Region. The EUSDR could make vital contributions to the implementation of concrete measures on the national and local level, for example to financial questions through the funding mechanisms of the EU.

The session, an interactive lively discussion between the panelists and the audience, will be moderated by an experienced moderator also having knowledge and experience of the session topic. The intention is to focus on key challenges in managing water through the lens of achieving good status of all waters of the entire DRB through effective river basin management planning and building on synergy generated by stakeholders and partners working together within the EUSDR.

The session will be opened by a keynote presentation of an ICPDR representative on the main elements of the Danube River Basin Management Plan 2015, introducing the progress achieved, challenges ahead and planned next steps for sustainably managing the Danube basin's waters. Four panelists will present their views, opinions and relation to different Priority Areas of the EU Danube Strategy, including representatives of a Danube country government, NGO, business representative and EUSDR Priority Area 4 coordinator. The moderator shall put focus on interactive dialogue between the panelists and audience, 1/2 of the time will be moderated discussion. The session will be held under the 2015 Danube Day motto "Get active".

#### Moderation, Speakers, Panelists

Name and function of Moderator\*:

Ms. Birgit Vogel, RBMsolutions

Ms. Vogel will introduce the speakers/panelists and moderate the session with active involvement of the audience.

Name and function of Speaker\*:

1. Mr. Knut Beyer, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety and co-chair of the ICPDR River Basin Management Expert Group

Mr. Beyer will present the main elements of the Danube River Basin Management Plan 2015, progress achieved and challenges ahead for the WFD planning period until 2021.

Names and functions of Panelists\*:

1. Danube country government representative (e.g. from the lower Danube region)
2. NGO representative (e.g. WWF)
3. Business representative (e.g. from the hydropower sector or Coca Cola)
4. Priority Area 4 Coordinator

#### Organizational matters

##### **Workshops/panel discussions:**

Estimated number of participants: 60

Basic equipment in the conference rooms: stools (conference seat arrangement) + desk

Further technical equipment:

- Beamer/screen
- Flipchart
- microphones (>100 Participants)
- other equipment:

Remarks:

Proposals for concrete names of panelist participants are in place and can be confirmed and introduced soon.

Please send back to [Sandra.Neudenberger@stm.bwl.de](mailto:Sandra.Neudenberger@stm.bwl.de) by 20<sup>th</sup> March 2015.