



Letter of intent for the participation in the „GIS Forum Danube“

History:

The „GIS Forum Danube“ was founded in 1997 as a trilateral working group by the waterway directorates from Germany, Austria and Slovakia. As common goals these members defined the development of an intensive exchange of geographical data and a close cooperation in the field of waterway management along the Danube waterway. Since 1999 the group has been supported by the Danube Commission and had been asked to handle topics related to River Information Services (RIS). At this time the name of this trilateral working group was changed into “GIS Forum Danube”. In the following Hungary joined the meetings in 2000, Croatia in 2002 and Romania as well as the Ukraine in 2003.

Nowadays European states grow together and the European Union is extending towards the East. Therefore it is of utmost importance that inland navigation along the Danube waterway can rely on internationally compatible systems. Following this purpose the European Union has agreed on inviting European countries to implement pan-European River Information Services (RIS) by the end of 2005 at the conference of ministers of transport in Rotterdam (September 2001). By following these demands the “GIS Forum Danube” also guarantees the implementation of vital basic conditions along the European Corridor VII in line with the White Book of the European Commission (Brussels 12/09/2001).

Participating companies/administrations:

The country **BULGARIA** is represented by the following company/administration:

Executive Agency “Exploration and Maintenance of the Danube River”

Name of company/administration

Short description (max. 200 words):

AEMDR is located in Rousse town and has a 69-year history.

The activities of the Agency include:

Providing the navigational conditions by performing deepening of the riverbed, diving, trawling and vessels lifting activities for maintenance of the Danube navigational way, in the water areas of the ports and winter camps, for the safety of navigation in the part between rkm374.100 to rkm845.550;

Investigation of the hydromorphological and hydrological regime of the Danube;

Gathering and distribution of information regarding the condition of the navigational way and the hydrometeorological regime of the river;

Removal of pollutions caused by vessels;

Processing of materials and data from the hydromorphological surveys and publishing of pilot guides, navigational charts, layouts, annuals, reference books and other materials for needs of the navigation, the Danube commission and the joint Bulgarian-Romanian commissions;

Preparation of a chart of the Danube riverbed and riverbank terraces;

Providing of information in the field of the river explorations;



Executive Agency "Exploration and Maintenance of the Danube River"

Name of company/administration

Short description (max. 200 words):

Informing the responsible authorities and services for taking of safety measures during a possible danger of flooding, riverbank damages etc.;

Coordinating of projects for construction of hydrotechnical and infrastructure projects;

Coordinating of the disposition of technical structures for gaining of inert materials;

Performing of hydrometeorological observations.

Participating persons:

Following persons are nominated as members of the Steering Committee:

Georgi Georgiev	EAEMDR	Executive Director
Name	Company/administration	Function
Dessislava Ivanova	EAEMDR	Chief Expert
Name	Company/administration	Function

According to the rules stated within the "Memorandum - GIS Forum Danube" (Vienna, January 27th, 2004) the representatives are willing to participate in the GIS Forum and accept the commonly passed rules for the co-operation. The participants will participate in the common meetings and are willing to stick to the commonly recommended agreements and rules.

Rousse, 12th of May 2004
Place, Date

Georgi Georgiev, Executive Director
Name, function



Rousse, 12th of May 2004
Place, Date

Dessislava Ivanova, Chief Expert
Name, function