



## 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, Romania as well as the Ukraine in 2003, Serbia and Montenegro as well as Bulgaria in 2004 and finally Russia in 2005.

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 interoperable 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 Hungary is represented by the following company:

**National Association of Radio Distress-Signalling and Infocommunications (RSOE)**

Name of company/administration

Short description (max. 200 words):

The National Association of Radio Distress-Signalling and Infocommunications (**RSOE**, established in 1982) became „prominent public benefit organization” in 1999.

Main activity area of the Association is establishing and operating river information and emergency call systems. We operate the dispatcher centre of the Danube („NAVINFO” callsign) in co-operation with the National Directorate-General for Disaster Management. We also take part in European Union projects.

We provide information through the Intranet Information and Database Centre for the competent authorities and for our partners. Our system registrates the dangerous goods carrier vessels (ADN) and makes statistics on them.

We operate public information websites about the Danube, the Tisza and lake Balaton (Balatoninform, Danubeinform, Tiszainform).

We have close co-operation with the Ministry of Economy and Transport, the Ministry of Interior, with the Ministry of Environment and Water. Our systems were established in the frames of a co-operation with the National Directorate-General for Disaster Management.



**Participating persons:**

Following persons are nominated as members of the Steering Committee:

<u>Gergely Mező</u>	<u>RSOE</u>	<u>Project Manager</u>
Name	Company/administration	Function

According to the rules stated within the "Memorandum - GIS Forum Danube" (Vienna, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 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.

Budapest, 1 November 2006

Sándor Dobai, President

