

Terms of Reference of the ad hoc Public Participation Expert Group (ad hoc PP EG) of the ICPDR¹

¹ adopted at the 9th Ordinary Meeting of the ICPDR in Vienna, 11/12 December 2006

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The ad hoc PP EG is an Expert Body of the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR), which meets on specific request by the ICPDR or its Standing Working Group.
- 1.2 The ToR provide a mandate to the ad hoc PP EG to take action in the subject areas described below. The ToR also provide guidance to the work, which the ad hoc PP EG is expected to undertake, and to its general working arrangements.

2. Objective

The overall objective of the ad hoc PP EG is to support and provide input to ICPDR activities regarding communication and public participation issues including awareness raising.

3. Responsibilities

- 3.1 The ad hoc PP EG is responsible for guiding and ensuring the successful completion of the work required under its ToR.
- 3.2 The ad hoc PP EG will report to the ICPDR its Standing Working Group (StWG) or the other EGs, as appropriate, on the implementation of ongoing activities, on proposed activities and the results achieved.
- 3.3 Where issues are also addressed by other EGs, the reports to the ICPDR and the StWG will be consulted and agreed with the other EGs before submission.
- 3.4 Proposed activities with policy or financial implications for the ICPDR must be approved in advance by the ICPDR.

4. Main tasks of the ad hoc PP EG

The ad hoc PP EG is entrusted to carry out the following main tasks:

- 4.1 provide input and guidance to the ICPDR Operational Plan and its updates as needed based on the suggestions of the Danube River Basin Strategy for Public Participation in River Basin Management Planning 2003-2009, in close cooperation with the RBM EG;
- 4.2 provide guidance to other activities related to public outreach (e.g. Danube Day, Stakeholder Conference);
- 4.3 share experience in the field of public participation and ensure the communication flow horizontally and vertically;
- 4.4 establishment - subject to the approval of the ICPDR or its Standing Working Group - and guidance of time limited Task Groups to provide needed input to fulfil the tasks listed above.

5. Cooperation with other ICPDR bodies

The ad hoc PP EG will collaborate with and support the work of other ICPDR Expert Bodies, in particular the RBM EG.

6. Membership

- 6.1 The ad hoc PP EG consists of the representatives as nominated by the Contracting Parties to be a standing member of the ad hoc PP EG. Additional

experts may also participate in meetings if their particular specialist knowledge is required.

- 6.2 Each Contracting Party may propose candidates (one or more) to participate in (time-limited) Task Groups organised to address specific issues.
- 6.3 Representatives of other organisations may become accredited observers to the ad hoc PP EG and/or its Task Groups by following the relevant procedures of the ICPDR relating to observer status.

7. Working Arrangements

The general working arrangements for the ad hoc PP EG are provided by the ICPDR Rules of Procedure.