



PIANC - Recreational Navigation Commission

## Working group 133

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

#### ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF RECREATIONAL NAVIGATION

##### 1. Historical background - Definition of the problem

The growing interest of people in recreational navigation, together with the development of Yacht Harbours and Marinas and their facilities and services, looks like to become a significant economical item in many countries.

The industry of Recreational Navigation can produce a relevant number of new jobs and the occasion for interesting businesses.

Every berth generates a number of activities, directly or indirectly concerned.

Public bodies and private investors would be interested in knowing the economical return of Marina projects and of Recreational Navigation development.

##### 2. Objective of the study

The WG should investigate and report on:

- i. The economical impact of Recreational Navigation on the surrounding area, based on the number, type and dimension of new activities generated and of new jobs created both in the facilities' construction phase and in the operation phase.
- ii. The revenue for State and Local Communities in terms of income taxes, VAT, etc.
- iii. The social impact, in terms of the increased number of Recreational Boats and of Boaters in the area, of tourism and other benefits.
- iv. The actions taken by Local Communities and State to finance, partially or totally, and to sustain public or private initiatives with the target of

developing Recreational Navigation and the results expected and/or obtained.

### **3. Earlier reports to be reviewed**

Actually no PIANC report has been issued on the argument.

In the Report of the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Commission for Pleasure and Sport Navigation on Dry Marinas (Supplement to Bulletin n°37 Vol. III/1980) some analysis has been developed on the economics of Dry Marinas.

### **4. Matters to be investigated**

All the suitable economic impacts of constructing and operating a Marina or Yacht Harbour shall be investigated, starting from the construction phase, involving workers, contractors and suppliers, to the operation phase, creating new jobs and goods and services demand in the territory.

Also benefits produced, from the social and economic point of view, shall be investigated in the different cases (new construction, rehabilitation of existing Yacht Harbour or regeneration of abandoned harbour's areas).

### **5. Method of approach**

The Working Group shall:

- i. Prepare a list of items involved in the construction and operation of Marinas and Yacht Harbours from the social-economic point of view (construction costs, jobs and salaries, economic benefits to the Community, etc.);
- ii. Evaluate in parametric terms the importance and the influence of each item;
- iii. Give a value in terms of economic impact to each item;
- iv. The WG should collect existing information, also through the use of specific questionnaires mailed to Marina Operators, Public Bodies, Boat Builders, Boaters' Associations, etc. to provide a worldwide overview on the argument.
- v. The questionnaires could be set in the PIANC website and distributed by web, with the help of International and National Associations concerned.

### **6. Suggested final product of the Working Group**

The Working Group shall issue a Report in which a description of factors concerned with the construction and the operation of Marinas and Yacht Harbours producing an economic impact is made. An evaluation of each factor and some recommendations on design, construction and operation of Marinas and Yacht Harbours in order to achieve the best economic impact shall be forwarded.

The Report could serve to Investors, Operators, Community Administrators and Designers to evaluate the economic impact of a Marina or Yacht Harbour.

## **7. Desirable disciplines of the members of the Working Group**

The members of the WG should be experts in the following disciplines:

- i. Design of Marinas and Yacht Harbours
- ii. Operation of Marinas and Yacht Harbours
- iii. Country and Urban Planning
- iv. Social Sciences
- v. Economics

## **8. Relevance for countries in transition**

Due to the importance of nautical tourism in increasing the Gross Domestic Product, the evaluation of the economic impact of Marinas and Yacht Harbours may be very useful in planning and financing new projects in Countries in Transition.