



## **GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RIVER INFORMATION SERVICES**

### **Update of the RIS Guidelines 2011**

#### **1. Historical background**

The European Union initiated in 1998 the concept of River Information Services (RIS).

The potential of RIS to bring inland navigation to a better position in the transport chain was also recognized by international organizations like the UNECE, river Commissions like Rhine, Danube and SAVA Commission and the International Association for Navigation (PIANC).

Since the first initiatives in Europe on River Information Services, this concept on information exchange to support traffic and transport management in inland navigation, has found its way throughout the world. River Information Services are in an implementation stage in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa.

PIANC established a Working Group that developed in 2002 the Guidelines for River Information Services. These Guidelines are still an important pillar in the implementation phase of River Information Services. In 2004 revisions of these Guidelines were drafted and published.

Since the publication of the RIS Guidelines version 2004, further developments on services and standards as well as the technical and practical experience have taken place. PIANC established in 2010 the Permanent Working Group 125 with the task to keep the Guidelines for River Information Services up to date.

As a first result, PIANC published in 2011 an update of the RIS guidelines after having analysed the world wide status of the implementation of River Information Services.

The PIANC RIS guidelines 2011 were formally accepted by the UNECE, Rhine Commission, Sava commission and Danube Commission.

#### **2. PIANC guidelines and RIS enabled Corridor Management**

Since the last technical report of PIANC on River Information Services the development in the implementation of River Information Services has been considerably.

In the PIANC "Technical Report on the Implementation Status of River Information Services status 2010" of Working Group 125, it was stated that the development and use of RIS services in the logistics environment was still in his infancy..

Since 2010 studies have been conducted on RIS enabled Corridor Management. The concept of Corridor management is recognised as the next step in the deployment of RIS services.

*"Corridor Management is defined as information services among waterway authorities mutually and with waterway users and related logistic partners in order to optimise use of inland navigation corridors within a network of waterways"*

Enhancing inland navigation with the concept of IWT Corridor Management will lead to the benefits for inland waterborne transport in the logistic chain e.g.:

- Reliable voyage planning to improve the operation of skippers, terminal and port operators;
- Improved added value of Vessel Traffic Management Services in the logistic chain;
- Simplification of the administration procedures by the usage of an intelligent information management.

The PIANC RIS guidelines are essential for the further development of River Information Services and as such the development and implementation of RIS enabled Corridor Management.

Based on these and other recent developments it is seen as a necessary step that the PIANC RIS guidelines are going to be updated by the Permanent Working Group 125.

### **3. Objectives of the Permanent Working Group 125 for the period 2016-2017.**

The following task for the Permanent Working Group 125 are suggested:

- Observe the developments of River Information Services (RIS) since 2011 and take special notice of Corridor Management,
- Submit a short status report on the development of RIS in different parts of the world since 2010 to the INCOM Commission.
- Update the PIANC "Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services 2011",
- Update the PIANC report on RIS related definitions, Edition 1 of Permanent Working Group 125 after consultation of RIS related initiatives and projects and standardization groups. In this activity specially working group on RIS of the CCNR- the organisation that maintains the RIS definitions and guidelines - should be consulted.
- Communicate on the update of the PIANC RIS Guidelines to relevant River Commissions, European Commission, UNECE and RIS related standardization bodies.
- Communicate with PIANC WG156 in order to avoid overlap with the tasks of this Working Group on e-Navigation.

#### **4. Final Product of the Working Group**

The final products of the Working Group are:

- Updated PIANC RIS Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services ", edition 4
- Updated PIANC RIS definitions, edition 2

#### **5. Membership and lifetime of the Working Group**

It is proposed to invite the current and active members of Permanent Working Group 125 to take part in the task of the WG125 for the coming phase (see list attached).

For those members who will not or cannot take part , they can be replaced by their national section by new members.

Any national section, or individual member may propose new members.

YPs (Young Professionals) are welcome in addition to regular member.

#### **6. Relevance for Countries in Transition**

The development of RIS bring also benefits to countries in transition. Especially countries with large inland waterways are called to involve in this Working Group.

<b>Membership InCom WG 125</b>		On 25th Sept 2015	
Country	Name	Details	email
<b><u>ACTIVE MEMBERS</u></b>			
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Germany	Mrs Schäfer (replaces Mrs Boetcher)	Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure	
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<b><u>NOT ACTIVE MEMBERS, CHANGED JOB, ... : TO BE REPLACED EVENTUALLY BY THEIR NATIONAL SECTION</u></b>			
Poland	Andrzej Stateczny	(changed position)	<a href="mailto:a.stateczny@marinetechonology.pl">a.stateczny@marinetechonology.pl</a>
France	Jacky BIRONNEAU	retired	
China	Mr Mou		
xx	Kari Jansen		

New Members for all nations are welcome (UK, Canada, Italy, Spain, Japan, Brasil, Argentina, ...)