



Environmental Commission - EnviCom –

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Background

The Environmental Commission (EnviCom) is responsible for dealing with both broad and very specific sustainability and environment-related issues of interest to PIANC. EnviCom also represents PIANC in networking with international organizations dealing with these issues such as the London Convention, OSPAR, WODA, IAPH, UNEP, SedNet, IADC, PARALIA, INE, EUDA, ESPO, COPRI, CEDA, WEDA, New Delta Interreg, COPEDC, CCNR, and the EC. The EnviCom is responsible for generic environmental issues that cross cut all PIANC areas. The specific environmental impacts of inland navigation and recreation, and international cooperation activities are typically partnered and/or dealt with respectively by the InCom, MarCom, ReCom or CoCom. As part of its activities, the EnviCom also has communications with non-traditional groups dealing with environmental affairs and training needs, and has initiated efforts to enhance PIANC membership with environmental specialists. Continuous attention is paid to future or developing issues through routine strategic discussions.

Meetings

The EnviCom met in

- Brussels, Belgium, 1./2. February, 2007,
- Yokosuka City, Japan, 11./12. October 2007.

Members

- Active members from 15 nations and 6 partners (see member list on EnviCom website)

Technical Recommendations/Guidance:

Dredging:

published

- Dredged Material Management Guide- special guide (1997).
- EnviCom/WG 1: Management of Aquatic Disposal of Dredged Material (1998).
- Public Relations Booklet “Dredging: The Facts” – in partnership with CEDA, IADC and IAPH (1999).
- Public Relations Booklet “Dredging: The Environmental Facts” – in partnership with CEDA, IADC and IAPH (2001) .
- EnviCom/WG 5: Environmental Guidelines for Marine, Near shore, and Inland confined Disposal Facilities (CDF’s) for Contaminated Dredged Material (2002).
- ReCom WG 14/EnviCom: Dredging of Marinas (2004).
- Technical Brief “Managing Contaminated Dredged Material- CDM.
- EnviCom WG 8: Generic Biological Assessment Guidance for Dredging and Disposal (2006).
- EnviCom WG 10: Environmental risk assessment in dredging and dredged material disposal (2006)

in work

- EnviCom WG 11: Management, Reclamation of Dredged Material End Use of Existing Disposal Facilities (in prep. for publication in 2008).
- EnviCom/WG13: Dredging Management Practices for the Environment. (in prep. for publication in 2008)
- EnviCom/WG14: Dredged Material as a Resource. (in prep. for publication in 2008)
- MarCom51/EnviCom: Water Injection Dredging. (in prep. for publication in 2008)

Ports:

published

- EnviCom WG 4: Environmental Management Framework for ports and related industries (1999).
- EnviCom WG 3: Glossary of Environmental Terms and Terminology as related to PIANC activities. (2000).
- EnviCom WG 2: Bird habitat management in ports and waterways (2005).

in work

- MarCom43/EnviCom: Minimizing Harbor Siltation. (in prep. for publication in 2008)
- EnviCom WG15: Environmental Aspects of Dredging and Port Construction Around Coral Reefs. (in prep. for publication in 2008)
- EnviCom WG16: Fish and Shellfish Habitat Management in Ports and Waterways. (started)
- Marcom WG 56/EnviCom: Applications of Geotextiles in waterfront Protection (started).

upcoming

- EnviCom WG with IAPH: Electrical shore power supply

Navigation:

published

- EnviCom/WG 6: Guidelines for Sustainable Inland waterways and Navigation (2003).
- EnviCom/WG 7: Ecological and Engineering Guidelines for Wetlands Restoration in Relation to the Development Operation and Maintenance of Navigation Infrastructure (2003)
- ReCom 12/EnviCom: Recreation Navigation and Nature (2003).

in work

- InCom27/EnviCom: Environmental Impacts of Vessels. (in prep. for publication in 2008)
- EnviCom WG12: Sustainable Waterways within the Context of Navigation and Flood Management. (in prep. for publication in 2008)
- EnviCom TG 1: EU Water Framework Directive (PIANC, CEDA, ESPO, EBU, INE, IAPH, EFIP and others) - continuing.
- EnviCom TG 3: Climate change and navigation.- (started - in prep. for publication in 2008)

upcoming

- InCom/EnviCom-WG: Alternative Bank Protection Methods for Inland Waterways
- InCom/EnviCom-WG: Fish Passage
- EnviCom TG2: Environmental Benefits of Waterborne Transport
- EnviCom WG: Environmental Risk Management
- EnviCom WG: Recommendations for Sustainable Maritime Navigation

Further Activities:

Seminars/Workshops

- PARALIA/EnviCom Seminar on Ports vs. Nature. March 2003
- Navigating the EU Water Framework Directive: seminar on the Implications of the WFD, 30th October 2003, Brussels.
- EnviCom presentation at the Environmental Day, WODCON. Sep. 2004 in Hamburg, Germany.
- Participated in Australian Ports Conference and Dredged Material Management Training, Aug 2005.
- Participated in Dredged Material Management Training, Gothenburg, Sweden, Sep. 2005.
- PIANC Seminar with the European Commission: Navigation and the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD), 31 January 2007; Brussels.
- Application of the WFD Article 4(3) tests to navigable water bodies: workshop organised by PIANC and the Navigation Task group, 22nd June 2007, Brussels
- Participation on the First Workshop of the EU WFD CIS-Working Group on Climate Change and Water 20-21.November 2007 in Bonn, Germany.

upcoming

- Presentations on the International Navigation Seminar (following PIANC AGA 2008), 28-29.May 2008 in Beijing, China.

Cooperation/Communication

- Young Professionals Activities. Continuing.
- Networking continues with the UNEP, IMO, WODA, EU-COM, OPSAR, CEDA, WEDA, IADC, IAPH, AAPA, ESPO, INE, CCNR, SedNet, RAMSAR Convention, WWF, PARALIA
- The EnviCom will support the Navigation Task Group activities related to the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive (Support of guiding principles for the development of navigation and environmental protection, e.g. for the Danube river basin)
- The EnviCom will communicate and support activities allotted to the implementation of the Maritime Policy and the EU Marine Strategy.
- Formal partnership with the IAPH Dredging, Port Safety, Environment and Port Planning and Construction Committees.
- Input to COPEDEC and CoCom on training for developing countries.
- Input to the PIANC electronic newsletter and PIANC magazine “On Course”

Strategic Initiatives

- Update and development of EnviCom Action Plan until 2015
- Climate Change and Navigation: Preparation of future activities of PIANC
- Promote concept of working sustainably in and with nature and fully integrated approach to environmental management (philosophy “Working with Nature”)
- Improved providence of EnviCom products to the network of education and training (incl.. Environmental Awareness Training for Developing Countries – Train the Trainer – In cooperation with CoCom)

Meetings planned in 2008:

- 31.Jan./1. Feb, 2008 in Brussels, Belgium
- 25./26. Sept. 2008 in Strasbourg, France