



## **Draft Ministerial Statement** ***March 25, 2009***

The water and energy sectors are inter-related. Water contributes significantly to energy production through hydropower, and to energy conservation through inland waterborne transport. There is a lack of infrastructure in some parts of the world for inland waterborne transport and hydropower within the context of integrated water resources management.

In that respect, PIANC<sup>1</sup> supports an increase of investment in dams and inland waterborne transport not only to create a sustainable intermodal transport system but also to make energy generation and utilization cleaner and greener, whilst also helping to mitigate water-related disasters. However, due concern needs to be given to the social and environmental impacts of dams.

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<sup>1</sup> PIANC is the forum where professionals around the world join forces to provide expert advice on cost-effective, reliable and sustainable infrastructure to facilitate the growth of waterborne transport. Established in 1885, PIANC continues to be the leading partner for government and private sector in the design, development and maintenance of ports, waterways and coastal areas.

A non-political and non-profit organisation, PIANC brings together the best international experts on technical, economic and environmental issues pertaining to waterborne transport infrastructure. Members include national governments, public authorities, corporations and interested individuals. PIANC provides guidance to public and private partners through high-quality technical reports. Its international working groups develop regular technical updates on pressing global issues to benefit members on shared best practices.