



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY AND TRANSPORT
DIRECTORATE B - Transport Logistics, TEN-T and Comodality

Brussels, **16 OCT. 2009**
TREN B 3/RD/vb/ D(2009) 63281

INVITATION

Subject: Hearing "Impact of economic crisis on inland waterway transport sector" on 16 and 17 November 2009

Dear Sir/Madam,

One year after the economic downturn, the economic recession is still leaving its marks on inland waterway transport. In order to discuss the impacts of the economic crisis on the inland waterway transport sector, the Commission invites the representatives of the European professional organisations, the Member States concerned, the forwarder industry and the banking sector to a hearing.

The hearing shall allow the sector to voice its views and give the opportunity to take stock of the situation, discuss possible measures and to consider longer-term developments. Enclosed you find a preliminary draft agenda.

The meeting takes place on: **16 and 17 November 2009**
Conference Centre Albert Borschette, Rue Froissart,
Brussels, Room 1 D

The hearing will be simultaneously interpreted into Dutch, English, French and German.

We would be grateful if you could confirm not later than 9 November 2009 your participation to this meeting by return e-mail to valentina.belcheva@ec.europa.eu.

Please show this invitation to the Security at the entrance of the building.

Sincerely Yours,

Jean-Eric PAQUET
Acting Director

Encl. Draft Agenda

**Hearing "Impact of economic crisis on
inland waterway transport sector"
16/17 November 2009**

Draft Agenda

(First day – 16 November)

10:00 – 10:15	Introduction
10:15 – 10:30	Development of transport demand (Market Observation): Q&A
10:45 – 13:00	Professional organisations (EBU, ESO) Statements by the profession
14:30 – 15:50	Member States (Tour de table) Q&A
15:50 – 16:40	Banking sector Q&A
16:40 - 17:45	Future prospects – views of Transport Economic Institutes Q&A
17:45 – 18:00	Conclusion

2nd Day – 17 November (morning)

Committee of the Regions (Jacques Delors building SAL 70)

9:30 – 10:00	"Serious market disturbance" and "suitable measures" - Presentation of Directive 96/75 and Regulation 718/99 Q & A
10:00 – 10:30	Presentation of the Dutch request and proposed measure
10:30 – 11:45	Discussion
11:45 – 12:30	Conclusion

(End of meeting: 12:30 h)