Objectives: The objective of the working group is to gather all inland waterways’ users in order to share knowledge and experiences on inland waterways and intermodality issues.

Main issues of the working group:

- Needs and challenges for seamless freight transport connections
  - between waterways and ports and intermodal connections via rail and highway;
  - efficiency of delivery (time and cost) – the last urban mile
  - role of ports in the organisation of efficient supply chains
  - digital tools & technologies/IT solutions/etc.

9h15 Registration

OPENING SESSION

Opening remark:

10:30 – 10:40 Official welcome of the Delegation by Willy DEMEYER, Mayor of Liège TBC

SESSION 1 – CORE NETWORK CORRIDORS

10:40 - 10:50 Opening and welcome by Péter BALAZS, Coordinator of the North Sea-Mediterranean Corridor

10:50 - 11:00 Opening and welcome by Catherine TRAUTMANN, Coordinator of the North Sea-Baltic Corridor
SESSION 2 – INLAND WATERWAYS AND INTERMODALITY

11:05 – 11:20  Presentation of the first Belgian inland port, Liege Port Authority
Emile-Louis BERTRAND, Managing Director of the Liege Port Authority

11:20 – 11:35  Presentation of inland waterways and ports in Wallonia
Yvon LOYAERTS, General Director of the Directorate-General for Mobility and Inland Waterways, Public Service of Wallonia

11:35 – 11:50  The challenges and opportunities of financing IWW infrastructure
Tom SCHELTJENS, Projects Directorate, European Investment Bank

SESSION 3 – VIEW OF WATERWAYS’ USERS

11:50 - 12:05  Presentation of a multimodal container platform
Michiel van der HAGEN, Project Manager, Gemeente VENLO & Joris TENHAGEN, Director/Founder, TripleOre - intermodality, last mile

12:05 – 12:20  Presentation by a skipper
Pascal ROLAND, Professor/Expert, Ecole de la Batellerie de Huy - European issues of inland navigation seen by a skipper

12:20 – 12:35  Digital tools & technologies/IT solutions/etc.
Cas WILLEMS, Expert, Smart Atlantis - How to leverage evolving digital technologies to achieve seamless freight transport connections?

SESSION 4 – Q&A SESSION

12:35 - 13:00  Q&A session

SESSION 5 – BOAT TOUR ON THE MEUSE

13:00 - 13:30  Transfer from the venue to the port and boarding on the Pays de Liège for a boat tour on the Meuse (Monsin – Lanaye – Renory – Parc de la Boverie)

13:30 - 15:00  Drinks and walking lunch
SESSION 6 – CORRIDORS SESSION

15:00 - 16:30 Presentation from the consultancy teams, followed by Q&A session on Working group topics.

Questions for debate (especially from the point of view of inland waterways and ports)

Corridors and work plans:

- What is the added value that you see in bringing the work of two or more corridors to the table?
- What are your views on the balance of priorities with the corridor work plans?
- What do you see as the current and future critical issues to be solved on the corridors?
- Which impact do you expect from the realisation of the Seine-Schelde project?

Technology / IT:

- What do you see as the most important technology-related trends for the future?
- How should maritime and inland ports cooperate in creating new services including ITS?
- In your opinion, which new services should be created to improve the traffic on inland waterways?

Financing your projects:

- What are the major barriers you face in terms of financing your projects?

16:30 Disembarkation in the Parc de la Boverie

17:00 Transfer from the Parc de la Boverie to Liège-Guillemins railway station and Monsin venue.