

## EU STRATEGY FOR THE DANUBE REGION

### Conference on transport, energy and environmental issues

*Vienna / Bratislava, 19-21 April 2010*

#### Presentation

The objective of this conference is to discuss the issues of transport, energy, urban areas, environment and information society. Indeed, these are high overall on the agenda of the EU as confirmed by the recently proposed strategy 'EU2020' ("A European strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth").

The audience of the conference will be made up of representatives of authorities at EU, national and regional level, as well as a wide range of stakeholders of the Danube Region. Through the discussions, macro-regional projects will be identified, the areas of agreement and disagreement between parties (and the possible ways forward) will be established and participant views will be noted by the European Commission. The whole conference will consider the interaction between different perspectives (e.g. between transport, environment, economy,...) thereby underlining the integrated approach of the Strategy.

#### **19 April 2010** (Vienna, Festival Hall of the City of Vienna)

*13:00-13:45 Registration*

14:00-15:15 Opening Plenary Session (interpretation in EN, DE, SK)

**Mr Michael Häupl**, Governor of the City of Vienna

**Mr Johannes Hahn**, Commissioner for Regional Policy

**Mr Dušan Čaplovič**, Deputy Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic

**Mr Michael Spindelegger**, Austrian Minister of Foreign Affairs

**Mr Philippe Maystadt**, President of the European Investment Bank

15:15-15:30 "A journey through the Danube Region: territorial cooperation shaping our joint future" (Movie made by the INTERACT programme)

*15:30-16:00 Coffee break*

16:00-18:00 **Connectivity and environmental challenges of the Danube Region**  
(interpretation in EN, DE, SK)

Panel discussion with the involvement of the audience

With high level representatives of authorities at EU and national level, as well as key stakeholders in the area of connectivity and environment of the Danube Region

*18:30-20:30 Evening Programme - Cultural and musical entertainment*

**20 April 2010** (Bratislava, Hotel Sheraton)

08:45-10:00 Ship trip from Vienna to Bratislava (2 ships and buses)

10:30-10:40 **Mr Andrej Ďurkovský**, Mayor of Bratislava

10:40-12:30 **Resource Efficient Danube Region** (interpretation in EN, DE, SK)

Panel discussion with the involvement of the audience

With high level representatives of authorities at EU, national and regional level, experts as well as key stakeholders in the area of connectivity and environment of the Danube Region

*12:30-14:00 Buffet lunch*

14:00-17:00 **Discussion on specific topics** (Workshops - in EN only)

**1) Mobility – smart solutions for the Danube Region**

**2) Clean and secure energy – Danube Region realities**

**3) Risk prevention – living with all sides of nature**

*30 minutes coffee break during the sessions*

*17:30-19:30 Evening Programme*

*20:00 Return to Vienna*

**21 April 2010** (Vienna, Festival Hall of the City of Vienna)

08:30-10:30 **Discussion on specific topics** (Workshops - in EN only)

**4) Biodiversity – economic pressures, ecological aspirations**

**5) Water quality – fighting pollution, applying modern standards**

**6) Digital agenda for the Danube Region**

*Partner Search Forum for the development of flagship projects will be run in parallel to the workshop sessions.*

*10:30-11:00 Coffee break*

11:00-11:30 Conclusions of the workshops

11:30-12:30 **Integration of environment and mobility issues in regions and cities**

Panel discussion (interpretation in EN, DE, SK)

With representatives of regions, cities and experts on urban issues of the Danube Region

12:30-13:00 Closing Plenary Session (interpretation in EN, DE, SK)

*13:00-14:00 Buffet lunch*