

„A SECURE FUTURE – SECURITY WITH A FUTURE”

“SAFETY AND SECURITY OF WATERWAY EXPERT GROUP” – SAFETY EG –

KICK-OFF CONFERENCE

**17-19 September 2013,
Budapest-Mohács**

István BARNÁCZ
pol. Lt. colonel
Head of Water Police
Danube Water Police Office



AIM OF EXPERT GROUP (Waterway Transport Safety Sub-group)

A standardized law enforcement system on the Danube that's instrumental in the creation and the preservation of waterway transport safety by keeping track of and enforcing the compliance with both international and national requirements concerning crew and safety of water crafts, prevention of environmental pollution, as well as living and working conditions on board in connection with phenomena representing threats to the waterway transport safety and analyzing and evaluating our experience with the enforcement of waterway transport regulation.



Expert group topics

- To identify the national organizations and authorities that are responsible for waterway transport safety
- To get an overview of some of the national and international regulations related to inland water crafts (e.g.: which documents are required on which water craft, operability documents etc.)
- We count on the assistance of contact persons who are experienced in the law enforcement, technical and nautical regulation of inland navigation in their respective countries and have profound knowledge of international regulations as well.



The Danube and the Rhine are Europe's most important waterways of goods traffic.

With the opening of the Danube-Main-Rhine canal, the navigation on the Danube went through functional changes.

After the enlargement of the European Union, the countries of Central and Eastern Europe began to comply with the EU standards.

The new structure has brought new subjective circumstances: the number of people on vessel crews has drastically decreased.

On the external Schengen border of the EU, the only external riparian Schengen border has been formed.

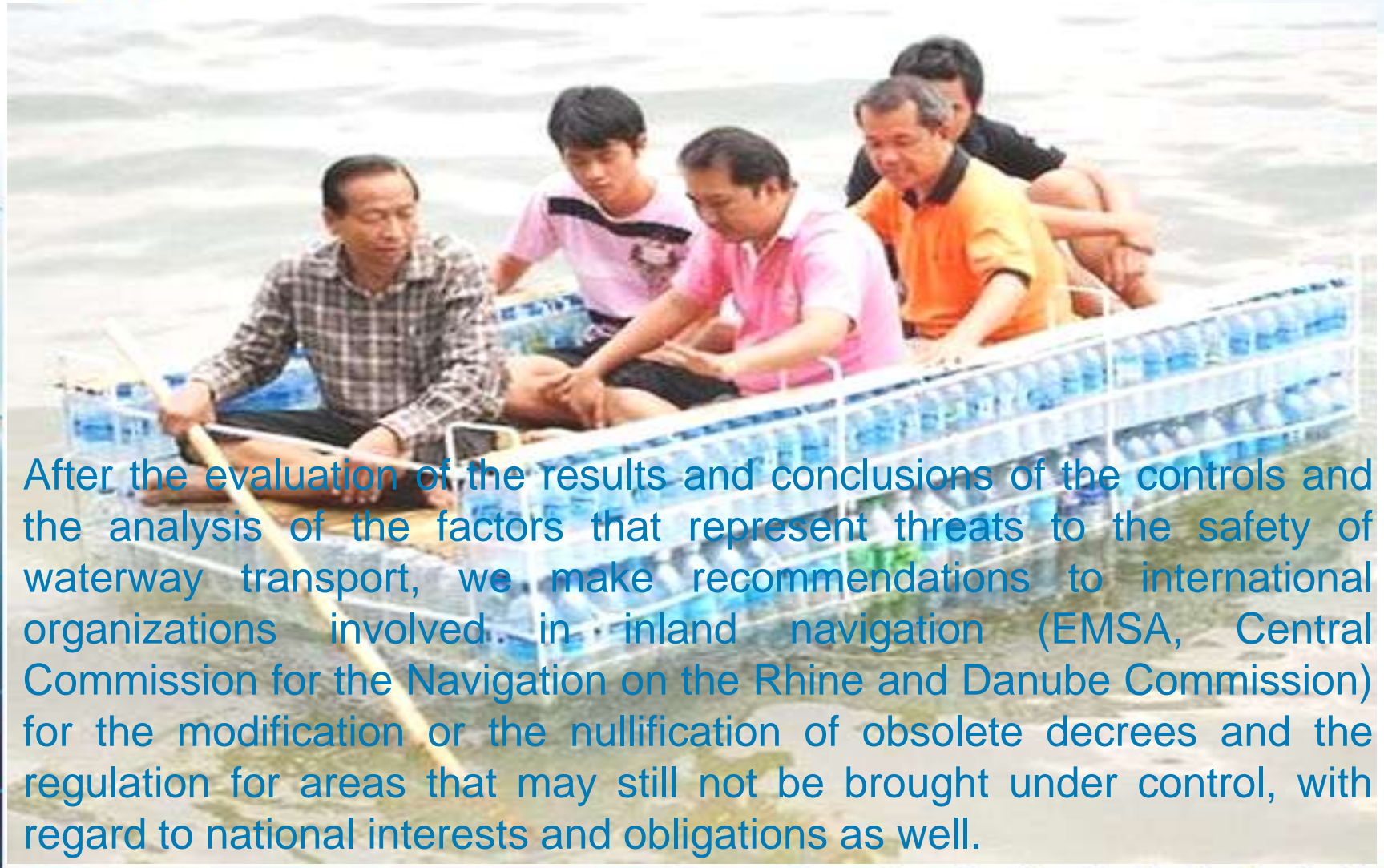
The changes in both practical and regulation structure of the Danube navigation require prompt response of the competent law enforcement organizations also.

During our law enforcement controls, we see considerable differences within the European Union concerning vessels from the Danube, the Rhine and the third countries.



A standardized system of control requirements and practice must be created so that we can control:

- qualification of the crew members, their sailing capability (consumption of drugs / alcohol);
- compliance with the sailing and resting times, working safety conditions;
- technical status of the vessel, compliance with the safety requirements, documents;



After the evaluation of the results and conclusions of the controls and the analysis of the factors that represent threats to the safety of waterway transport, we make recommendations to international organizations involved in inland navigation (EMSA, Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine and Danube Commission) for the modification or the nullification of obsolete decrees and the regulation for areas that may still not be brought under control, with regard to national interests and obligations as well.



By means of cooperation and each other's mutual assistance, we will be able to provide real time information on the present and expected difficulties or disaster situations. According to necessity, we can assist in averting danger. We can prepare for handling tools and situations that are yet unknown to us. Thus, we can make it possible for our children and grandchildren to discover the Danube, its water, flora and fauna, as well as all the beauty of its environment.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



E-mail address:
barnaczi@budapest.police.hu