



Brussels, October 16, 2014.

*To the First Delegates
of the Qualifying Members of PIANC
To the National Sections' Secretaries of PIANC
The Sister Associations of PIANC*

Subject: Setting up PIANC-PTGCC Working Group n°. 178 on climate change adaptation for maritime and inland port and navigation infrastructure

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,
Dear Colleagues,

It is increasingly acknowledged that the consequences of climate change will affect both existing and new seaport and inland waterway infrastructure. Adaptation (to reduce vulnerability or increase resilience) will therefore be necessary. New designs will need to take into account the effects of climate change and some existing infrastructure may need retrofitting. Non-structural measures including modifications to management activities, maintenance regimes and other port, harbour and waterway operations are also likely to be required to facilitate the continued function of the physical infrastructure. The implications for infrastructure of an increase in the frequency of extreme events and associated adaptation options similarly need to be better understood.

Consequently PIANC is setting up a Working Group on climate change adaptation for maritime and inland port and navigation infrastructure to collect currently available international experiences and to develop a report to support the incorporation of these considerations in practice. The Terms of Reference are enclosed herewith as part of this call for members.

The guide coming out of this Working Group will apply to all type of infrastructure projects: inland navigation, maritime for commercial but also recreational ports.

Given the wide scope of this Working Group, each National Section is exceptionally encouraged to **nominate two or more members to the Working Group** (for example, one member with expertise in inland navigation and another in maritime), **in addition to one or two young professionals**.

We are looking forward to receiving the **nomination of your experts from your country or organization**. May we ask you to **inform PIANC HQ by November 30st, 2014** latest including the name, qualifications and (e-mail) address of the expert proposed by your country/organisation. Please enclose a brief curriculum vitae of the proposed expert together with some details about his professional experiences.

The kickoff meeting for this Working Group (for those members who can attend) **is planned to coincide with the PIANC PTGCC and Commission meetings in Brussels, Belgium, on Feb 5 and 6, 2015.** This meeting will inter alia discuss the setting up of and representation on the inland and maritime sub-groups. We therefore urge you to circulate this call for members as soon as possible and to ensure that your nominated experts are aware of the meeting dates.

We remind you that in accordance with PIANC rules, the costs incurred in taking part in working groups' activities are borne by the member countries/organisations.

Additionally all interested PIANC delegates are invited for a short meeting - which will be held at PIANC HQ, Koning Albert II Laan 20, 1000 Brussels, Belgium in room 01 G20 on February 5, 2015 from 5:30-07:00 pm - to get informed and having the opportunity to support the WG with recommendations for the further development of the WG activities.

We thank you beforehand for your collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'L. Van Schel', with a stylized, overlapping loop and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eng. L. Van Schel
Secretary-General