QUESTIONNAIRE ON TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR RIVER CRUISE VESSELS IN URBAN AREAS

INTRODUCTION

In the summer period, thousands of tourists coming to Saint Petersburg, Russia, take a boat trip on small rivers and canals located within the city limits, which are usually not accessible for bigger cargo vessels and passenger deckers. Traffic of river cruise vessels on these waterways is, therefore, very dense and often limited with a one-way traffic mode on many sections (see pictures below). Similar river cruises are very popular in Amsterdam, Paris, Strasbourg, Bruges etc.





Up to now, this traffic has not been subject to any monitoring or supervisory control by the river administration. Starting from 2019, the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation is going to set up a comprehensive traffic monitoring and control system for river cruise vessels on these waterways.

In order to develop and introduce such vessel traffic management system for smaller rivers and canals in Saint Petersburg, the Volga-Baltic Inland Waterway Administration is collecting information about the existing traffic management systems for river cruise vessels in urban areas in Europe. You are kindly requested to complete the questionnaire below.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Nos.	Information requested	Answers
1	Are there any special legal acts regulating navigation of river cruise vessels on rivers and canals in urban areas?	
2	Is there a special authority responsible for organizing and managing traffic of river cruise vessels and safety of navigation on smaller rivers and canals in urban areas: – on rivers and canals; – at locks?	
3	Please indicate the parameters of most common river cruise vessels operating in urban areas: - overall length; - overall breadth; - draught; - freeboard; - gross tonnage; - number of passengers	
4	Are there any limitations for the traffic density on smaller rivers and canals in urban areas (maximum number of vessels on the same waterway section)?	
5	Are these waterways fitted with navigation signs and signals, semaphores, boards allowing, restricting or prohibiting navigation?	
6	Who is responsible for the maintenance of the fairway, AtoNs, mooring equipment on smaller rivers and canals in urban areas?	
7	Are there berthing places for river cruise vessels on smaller rivers and canals in urban areas? Is there any supervision of such berthing places?	
8	Is it allowed for these vessels to navigate on smaller rivers and canals in urban areas at night and what are conditions for that?	
9	How operators are informed about the under-bridge clearance on smaller rivers and canals?	
10	Is there a dedicated radio communication channel for river cruise vessels?	

Nos.	Information requested	Answers
11	Are the Notices to Skippers transmitted to operators of river cruise vessels: - regularly; - in special cases; - no? If YES, what is the content of these messages?	
12	Is there an obligation to report via VHF radio on the start and end of the voyage? If "YES", whom this message should be transmitted to?	
13	Are there any other relevant issues related to the traffic management of river cruise vessels in cities that your Administration deals with?	

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION!

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