

2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Committee, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2011, Orth an der Donau (Austria)

**Letter of Commitment for Future Cooperation by the Directors of the Danube River Network of Protected Areas**

The Danube River Network of Protected Areas (DANUBEPARKS) has been established as platform for the cooperation of the Danube River Protected Areas for the development and implementation of transnational nature conservation activities as well as to promote the exchange of experience and know-how on PA management tasks.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the DANUBEPARKS Steering Committee in Orth has evaluated the progress of the first joint project within the ETC-SEE programme. Together the project partners have successfully implemented a large number of activities, including several strategic papers, which form the basis for cooperation in the future in the respective fields of work.

During task force meetings, training courses and study visits, protected areas have grown together, have learnt from each other and widened their horizon in all fields of cooperation. Additional network partners have been involved in the activities of DANUBEPARKS.

DANUBEPARKS has gained observer status at the ICPDR and is stated as flagship project in the Action Plan of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region.

Based on the successful experience of the last two years the Directors of the Danube River Protected Areas represented in the DANUBEPARKS Network declare their willingness and commitment to cooperate further in the future and in the long term.

This prolongation of the cooperation will, above all, be shown in the submission of a follow-up project (DANUBEPARKS II) in the fourth call of the ETC-SEE programme. However, other projects are currently envisaged as well.

By signing this letter of commitment, the Directors of the DANUBEPARKS members declare their support for this future cooperation, providing staff and financial resources according to their possibilities.



Grigori Baboianu, Governor  
Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority  
Romania



Stela Bozhinova, Director  
Persina Nature Park  
Bulgaria



Yordan Kutsarov, Project Manager  
Rusenski Lom Nature Park  
Bulgaria

*M. Milenkovic - Godjevat*  
Marija Milenkovic, Project Manager  
Djerdap National Park  
Serbia



Ognjen Ivosev, Director  
Forest Estate Gornje Podunavlje  
Serbia



Goran Gugic, Director  
Lonjsko Polje Nature Park  
Croatia



Biserka Vistica, Director  
Kopacki-rit Nature Park  
Croatia



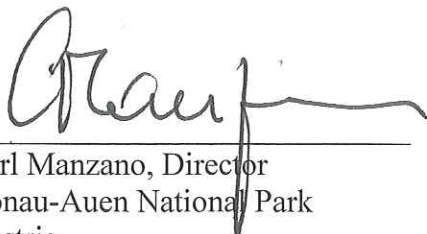
Eszter Buchert, Vice-Director  
Duna-Dráva National Park  
Hungary



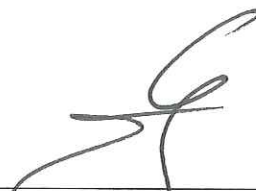
András Fűri, Director  
Duna-Ipoly National Park  
Hungary



Tomas Kusik, Director  
BROZ  
Slovakia



Carl Manzano, Director  
Donau-Auen National Park  
Austria



Siegfried Geißler, Project Manager  
Landkreis Neuburg-Schrobenhausen  
Germany



Thomas Schneider, Project Manager  
City of Ingolstadt  
Germany