Dear colleagues and friends,

I remind those of you, who have not yet registered, that the next and 9th "EUROPE-INBO 2011" international conference, organized by the "Group of European Basin Organizations for the Implementation of the Water Framework Directive", will take place, at the invitation of the Portuguese Water Authorities and North River Basin Organization, on 27, 28, 29 and 30 September 2011 in OPORTO (PORTUGAL), Ipanema Park Hotel.

As you know it, Oporto is one of the most prestigious cities of Portugal. It is rich with history and its region produces the famous Port wine known worldwide.
The meeting is open to all INBO member organizations and observers, and also to the water administrations and organizations, interested in the implementation of the Framework Directive, of the member and candidate countries of the European Union and of all the other countries of Eastern Europe, the Balkans, Caucasus and Central Asia and of the Mediterranean basin.

There will be simultaneous translation into English, Spanish, French and Portuguese.

Registration to the "EUROPE-INBO 2011" conference is free of charge but compulsory.

You are invited to present a paper on your practical experiments and you will find attached the form necessary for your registration. In order to facilitate the good organization of the meeting and your best welcoming in OPORTO, I thank you in advance for kindly returning it to me, at your earliest convenience, by e-mail: inbo@wanadoo.fr or by Fax: +33 1 40 08 01 45.

URGENT: PLEASE PREPARE THE WORKSHOPS WITH US:

Of course, our meeting will be organized around main and current topics on the implementation of the Framework Directive (WFD) in the National and Transboundary River Basin Districts and the prospects for the future, in particular we will discuss the recent report of 14 June 2011 entitled: "Support to Fitness Check Water Policy" and the process initiated by the European Commission to develop the "BLUEPRINT TO SAFEGUARD EUROPE'S WATER RESOURCES".

Our work will be organized around five round tables:

- Water and Energy: the dilemmas, costs and benefits,
- Water Governance in Transboundary River Basins: Strategic cooperation and twinning among Water Authorities,
- Adapt to long term challenges linked to climate change and prevent extreme phenomena,
- Develop new knowledge and know-how on river hydro-morphology, restoration and protection of water ecosystems,
- Cooperation with the neighboring Countries, non-member of the European Union, for the application of the WFD principles and methods.
This conference in Oporto is part of the European Regional Preparatory Process of the 6th World Water Forum to be held in Marseilles - France from 12 to 17 March 2012, and aims at strongly mobilizing all partners involved, especially the Euro-Mediterranean countries, to collect effective field-implemented solutions and proposed measures to meet the current and future challenges of water management in the region.

Several side events will be organized by the coordinators of the 12 "Specific Priority Targets of the Europe Region.", which also correspond to the topics of five round tables.

The « EUROPE-INBO 2010 » meeting itself will be organized simultaneously with the General Assembly of the Mediterranean Network of Basin Organizations (MENBO) which will also take place in Oporto at the same dates.

Any useful information, programs and papers will be continuously available on the website: www.inbo-news.org.

PLEASE THINK TO QUICKLY CONFIRM YOUR HOTEL BOOKINGS.

Your hotel booking at group discount price, can be made in the hotel of your choice, you are requested to make your reservations by following this link: www.hfhotels.com/porto/euro-inbo2011, or by FAX: (+351) 226 194 160

I would advise you to arrive on Tuesday 27 September 2011, either at the railway station or at the Oporto International Airport, from which shuttles will be organized to drive you to your hotel and to the conference venue. If your agenda allows it, you could leave Oporto on Saturday 1st October 2011.

Our Portuguese hosts will take charge of the shuttles from the railway station or the airport and local travels in the Oporto region, together with lunches and dinners, from Tuesday 27 September evening to Friday 30 September evening included.

In order to facilitate the good organization of the meeting and your best welcoming in OPORTO, I thank you in advance for also returning, at your earliest convenience, the enclosed registration form at: inbo2011.porto@arhnorte.pt and inbo@wanadoo.fr.

BEWARE:

Some of you, who are not citizens of the European Union, will need an entry Visa to the « European Schengen Area », which must be obtained before your departure from your country.
I am pleased to see you in Oporto, next September, and I remain,

Yours faithfully.

Jean-François DONZIER
Permanent Technical Secretary
International Network of Basin Organizations
PERMANENT TECHNICAL SECRETARIAT
21, rue de Madrid - 75008 PARIS (FRANCE)
Tel. +33.1.44.90.88.60 - Fax +33.1.40.08.01.45
E.mail : inbo@wanadoo.fr

www.inbo-news.org
www.remoc.org
www.arhnorte.pt/euro-inbo2011

Encl.: - Registration form
       - Draft Program