



Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

Brussels, 24 October 2023

Interinstitutional files:
2021/0420 (COD)

WK 13756/2023 INIT

LIMITE

TRANS
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INFORMATION

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Transport - Intermodal Questions and Networks
N° prev. doc.:	ST 14224 2023 INIT
N° Cion doc.:	ST 15109 2021 INIT
Subject:	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network, amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1153 and Regulation (EU) No 913/2010 and repealing Regulation (EU) 1315/2013 - Chapter III

Delegations will find attached comments by **the Netherlands** on the above-mentioned subject.

Line 55 (Recital 45): Inland waterways in Europe are characterised by a heterogeneous hydro-morphology which hampers a coherent performance for all waterway stretches. Inland waterways, especially free flowing stretches, may be heavily impacted by climate and weather conditions. In order to ensure reliable international traffic, while respecting the hydro-morphology and applicable environmental legislation, TEN-T requirements should take into account the specific hydro-morphology of each waterway (for example free-flowing or regulated rivers) as well as the objectives of environmental and biodiversity policies. **For this purpose, reference water levels should be established for each European Transport Corridor, waterway or section of waterway, while taking into account the impact of climate change as recognised by recital 14.** In the process of specifying reference water levels the Commission should closely cooperate with Member States concerned and the river navigation commissions concerned set up by international agreements in order to ensure a coherent approach regarding the requirements for inland waterway infrastructure with a view to promote that mode of transport.