



PIANC
The World Association for Professional
Transport Infrastructure

Sailing Ahead

DECEMBER 2025



❖ Season's Greetings from all of us at PIANC HQ! ❖

Thank you to our board members, Working Group & Commission members, and colleagues from all over the globe for a successful 2025!

We look forward to continuing our work together in the year ahead!



JOIN US AT THESE UPCOMING PIANC EVENTS!

PIANC NORTH SEA CONFERENCE & AGA 2026

11-15 May 2026



PIANC-COPEDEC XI

21-26 February 2027



Website is open and people can already **pre-register!** Registration opens **January 2026!**

Download the [First Announcement](#) or visit the [website](#).

The deadline for sending in abstract has been **EXTENDED** until **31 January 2026!**

PRE-REGISTER NOW & SAVE THE DATE

VISIT WEBSITE

NEWS FROM THE PIANC WORKING GROUPS & COMMISSIONS

News from InCom & ESCAP

Meeting between PIANC (InCom) & ESCAP in Bangkok, Thailand

In the framework of the ongoing expansion of PIANC-membership in Southeast Asia, a small delegation of PIANC consisting of [Geert Van Cappellen](#) (PIANC Secretary-General), [Calvin Creech](#) (PIANC Vice-President), [Philippe Rigo](#) (Chair of InCom) and [Gensheng Zhao](#) (Vice-Chair of InCom) had several fruitful discussions with UNESCAP (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific), MRC (Mekong River Commission) and PIANC Indonesia (Prof. [Raja Oloan Saut Gurning](#)) at the premises of UNESCAP.



The further and deepening of collaboration with the Transport Division of UNESCAP under the lead of Mr Weimin Ren was central in the meetings. UNESCAP just recently published the 'ESCAP - PIANC Joint Working Paper on Inland Waterway Transport Development in the Asia-Pacific Region'. Please click [here](#) to find the document.

It is always a pleasure when PIANC can contribute in addressing the strategic challenges this large region faces. Mr Van Cappellen in particular thanks Ms Azhar Jaimurzina Ducrest and Mr Gyu Serb Kim for hosting us at UNESCAP.

Additionally, we began planning for the upcoming PIANC-Smart Rivers Conference, set for 14-18 June 2027, in Palembang, South Sumatra, Indonesia. With an expected 300-400 global participants, the conference will bring together river engineering experts, policymakers, port authorities, private sectors, academics, and river-based communities to share insights and drive innovation.

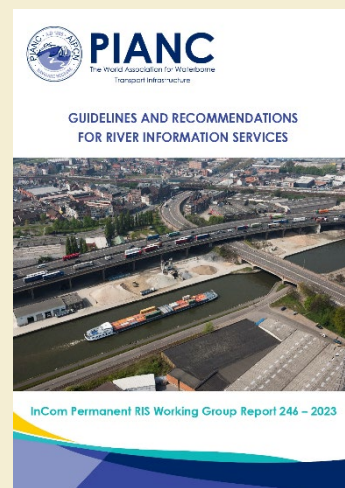


[Geert Van Cappellen](#) & [Calvin Creech](#)
Secretary-General & Vice-President of PIANC

Standardising River Information Services: A Digital Imperative for Africa's Waterways

Across Africa, ports and inland waterways are evolving rapidly – but their digital backbone often lags behind. Fragmented data, manual reporting, and limited real-time visibility remain common challenges. For engineers and operators, this translates into safety risks, operational inefficiencies, and missed opportunities for integration with global logistics chains.

River Information Services (RIS) offers a solution. Developed under PIANC's guidance and consolidated in the [WG 246 Guidelines \(2023\)](#), RIS is a harmonised framework for smarter, safer, and greener inland navigation. It is not just a technology – it is a standard that transforms waterways into interoperable, data-driven systems.



[Read more...](#)

News from CoCom

CoCom Meeting 11 November 2025



The Cooperation Commission (CoCom) held an online meeting on 11 November 2025. The session covered several key agenda items, including updates on PIANC-COPEDEC XI 2027, target country engagement, and areas for future improvement.

Click [here](#) to read the full report on the meeting.

Mohammadreza Allahyar
Co-Chairman of CoCom

News from MarCom

3rd PIANC Africa Webinar on MarCom WG 224: 'Planning of Fishing Ports'



The poster features a top section with a blue background and white text. It includes the PIANC logo, a calendar icon with 'JOIN' written on it, and a play button icon. Below this, the title '3rd PIANC AFRICA WEBINAR' and 'MarCom WG 224: 'Planning of Fishing Ports'' are displayed. The date '22 January 2026 at 16h30 to 18h00 SAST / UTC+2' is shown in a yellow box. A central section with a white background contains the PIANC logo, a small image of a fishing port, and a paragraph of text: 'Join PIANC Africa for a focused webinar on the updated guidance for planning and upgrading fishing harbours. **Marlin Mannion**, Chair of **PIANC WG 224**, will unpack practical recommendations on resilient layouts, maintenance, institutional arrangements, and integrating market systems and ICT/IoT—relevant to both greenfield projects and existing harbour upgrades.' Below this, the host 'Tauqeer Ahmed' (Head: Engineering Centre of Excellence, TNPA) and speaker 'Marlin Mannion' (Port Consultant/Expert, Mannion Marine Limited) are introduced with their respective photos. A registration link 'https://bit.ly/4iUicbm' and a QR code are provided at the bottom.

3rd PIANC AFRICA WEBINAR
MarCom WG 224: 'Planning of Fishing Ports'

DATE 22 January 2026 at 16h30 to 18h00 SAST / UTC+2

Join PIANC Africa for a focused webinar on the updated guidance for planning and upgrading fishing harbours. **Marlin Mannion**, Chair of **PIANC WG 224**, will unpack practical recommendations on resilient layouts, maintenance, institutional arrangements, and integrating market systems and ICT/IoT—relevant to both greenfield projects and existing harbour upgrades.

HOST:
Tauqeer Ahmed
Head: Engineering Centre of Excellence, TNPA

SPEAKER:
Marlin Mannion
Port Consultant/Expert, Mannion Marine Limited

Registration Link:
<https://bit.ly/4iUicbm>

NEWS FROM THE PIANC COMMUNITY

Some of our National Sections or national divisions have news to share on their past and upcoming activities.

**NEWS FROM PIANC
AUSTRALIA & NEW
ZEALAND**

**NEWS FROM PIANC
BELGIUM**

**NEWS FROM PIANC
GERMANY**



[News from PIANC A-NZ](#)

[Signing of the Contract
with AIM for the PIANC
World Congress 2028](#)

- [Strong German
Representation at
PIANC-Smart
Rivers 2025](#)
- [3rd PIANC-HTG
Forum](#)
- [Last Meeting
PIANC Germany](#)

NEWS FROM PIANC SPAIN



NEWS FROM PIANC USA



[Conference on Solutions Based on the
Principle of Working with Nature](#)

- [Meet Our New Commissioner](#)
- [PIANC Young Professionals](#)
- [Happy Holidays from PIANC USA!](#)

PUBLICATIONS

Just Shipped

The following publication was published in [December 2025](#):



PIANC WG 153C (MarCom): 'Recommendations for the Design and Assessment of Marine Liquid and Gas Terminals Handling Green Fuels and Fossil-Based Cargoes'

FREE DOWNLOAD PIANC MEMBER

PURCHASE YOUR COPY IN THE WEBSHOP

Upcoming Publications

The following publication will be published in January 2026:



- PIANC WG 215 (MarCom): 'Accidental Impacts from Ships on Fixed Structures: Design Considerations'

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