

## Motion: European River Cruise Campaign 2.0

The 44th ITF Congress meeting in Singapore from 14-21 October 2018

**RECALLING** the ITF Congress 2014 Resolutions on the strategic levers,

**NOTING WITH DEEP CONCERN** that the European River Cruise sector home for over 15.000 workers who see their working and living conditions on board worsening. The many inspections of the coordinated Water police bodies in Europe documented practices that border organised crime and human trafficking.

**BEING AWARE** that many River Cruise companies change tactics and outsource their hotel and catering services to so-called third party service providers who relocate their headquarters to those EU Member States where there is the most beneficial tax and social security regime. To the same Member States that opt out on every European directive trying to upgrade the social conditions of these workers.

**MINDFUL** also of the fact that there is no real European employer counterpart to talk to. Intermediate talks with IG River Cruise did not result in tangible and concrete agreements. This 'Interest Group' met some severe opposition from its affiliates on a closer relationship with the ETF. Although recent meetings with the new President of IG River Cruise, Mr Daniel Buchmüller promise some future options.

**BEING ALSO AWARE** that despite the significant effort made by all affiliates concerned and despite of the past 10 years of ITF support, financial and logistic, that has been greatly appreciated, no more tangible progress nor results could be produced. An in depth assessment by the Campaigns Steering Group learned that this particular sector is hard to organise due to its seasonal character and the uncertainty about the correct applicable legislation. Also a sector with unclear union responsibility due to the sector's lack of transparency, i.e. different layers of owners, operators, manning agencies and tour charterers.

**STATING** the renewed, explicit and written commitment of the European affiliates concerned to invest measurable time and resources to help this campaign succeed e.g; in carrying out ship visits, in actively engaging in the ITF/ETF River Cruise Campaign and in assisting crewmembers in resolving their problems.

**STATING** the explicit commitment of all affiliates concerned to establish improved, transparent and detailed communication of all local activities to the ITF/ETF River Cruise Campaign Coordinator via the dedicated database that has been developed especially for this aim.

**CALLS UPON** the ITF Congress to further support this campaign financially and logistically as we remain convinced that this is a worthwhile campaign which with the correct focus, involvement and support, the ETF unions can bring significant results.

Submitted by the **ETF Inland Waterways Transport Section**