



55TH COMMISSION for SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

“Strategies for the eradication of poverty to achieve sustainable development for all”

The United Nations Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD),
in partnership with Baltic Sea Forum (BSF)
cordially invites you to attend a high-level panel discussion:

**“Sustainable transport as a strategy for the eradication of poverty and
The Baltic Sea Region Programme project EMMA as an example of how sustainable
transport solutions support social development and the Sustainable Development Goals
(SDGs) - from macro-regional specifics to international policies”**

**Tuesday, 7 February 2017
11.45 to 1 p.m. – Conference Room E
United Nations Headquarters
New York, NY**



Welcome and Moderator

Professor Kurt Bodewig

President Baltic Sea Forum

Opening Remarks

H.E. Juergen Schulz

Ambassador, Permanent Mission of
Germany to the United Nations

Keynote Address

Daniela Bas

Director, United Nations Division for
Social Policy and Development
DSPD

Speakers

Dr. Patrick Ho Chi Ping

Deputy Chairman, Secretary General of
China Energy Fund Committee

Gunnar Platz

PLANCO Consulting GmbH

Stefan Breitenbach

Port of Hamburg Marketing Reg.
Assoc., Lead Partner of the Baltic Sea
Region Programme EMMA

Closing Remarks

H.E. Raimonda Murmokaitė

Ambassador of the Republic of
Lithuania to the United Nations



TOPIC: Sustainable transport solutions as tool for social development and elimination of poverty.

FORMAT: Presentations followed by a moderated discussion with participants

CONCEPT:

Infrastructure is a main prerequisite for social and economic development, and a well-functioning transport system is an integral component of infrastructure.

Infrastructure must offer reliable and efficient transport solutions for industry to successfully take part in (inter)national trade and welfare. Alternative and efficient transport solutions such as inland shipping need to play an important role in the transport mix to support competitiveness and sustainability.

Due to economies of scale, inland ships have significantly lower transport cost per unit than lorries. Thus, inland shipping is a cost efficient transport solution that strengthens the competitiveness of regional companies on the one hand and results in growing trade on the other hand.

Stronger regional cooperation through the creation of more competitive transport solutions results in increased economic development and supports efforts to reduce poverty.

Awareness and knowledge of inland shipping and setting up multimodal transport solutions is rather limited in many regions. In consequence, regional specifics and needs for inland shipping are not adequately considered in national and international politics.

The Baltic Sea Region cooperation project EMMA illustrates how this can be achieved and what is important to consider. Bringing this up on the international policy agenda is a major step towards the further integration of inland shipping in transport chains.

www.project-emma.eu

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Which aspects need to be considered in the development of inland navigation in order to **implement social development and to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** of the UN?
- How do we achieve **closer cooperation** between the UN, UNECE or ECoSoC and regional initiatives such as EMMA?
- What are the **main challenges** in the view of the UN, UNECE or ECoSoC when it comes to the development of a sustainable transport system?