



# European Maritime Heritage

**The European Association  
for Traditional Ships  
in Operation**

**Avec le patronage de l'agence  
européenne pour la culture  
(UNESCO)**

---

**EMH OFFICE & SECRETARY**

Theodo Fruithof  
Dijkweg 222  
NL-1619 JC ANDIJK, Netherlands  
Tel/Fax: + 31 228 593 136  
E-mail: thedo@wxs.nl

**PRÉSIDENT D'HONNEUR**  
Anders Berg, Sweden

**PRESIDENT**  
Michael vom Baur, Germany  
E-mail: michael.vomBaur@akeryards.com

**VICE PRESIDENT - TREASURER**  
Hendrik Boland, Netherlands  
E-mail: hendrik@email.nl

**MEMBER OF EXCOM**  
John Robinson, United Kingdom  
E-mail: Rob.Crusoe@btoopenworld.com

**MEDITERRANEAN FOCAL POINT**  
Museu Maritim de Barcelona  
Elvira Mata i Enrich, Spain  
E-mail: mataee@diba.es

**SAFETY COUNCIL & MoU SECRETARY**  
Jan Fock, Germany (Chairman)  
E-mail: jan.fock@onlinehome.de

**INLAND NAVIGATION COUNCIL**  
Dörte Münstermann (Chairman)  
E-mail: muenstermann@web.de

**CULTURAL COUNCIL**  
Arne Gotved, Denmark (Chairman)  
E-mail: arne@gotved.dk

**EDITOR NEWSLETTER**  
Ole Vistrup, Denmark  
E-mail: ole.vistrup@sejlskib.dk

**ORGANISATION NR.:**  
SWE - 832801 - 0924

**BANK**  
EMH  
Rabobank, the Netherlands  
Account No: 1053 25 317  
BIC: RABONL2U  
IBAN: NL03RABO0105325317

[www.european-maritime-heritage.org](http://www.european-maritime-heritage.org)

---

Mr. R. Vila de Benavent  
Director of Short sea shipping, inland waterway transport and  
ports  
De Motstraat 28  
BE-1040 Brussel

Andijk, 15 June 2006

Dear Mr. de Benavent,

As you are responsible for the new EG guideline to replace the EG82/714, we would like to congratulate you on the imminent prospect of final approval after so many years of hard work.

We would also like to thank the European Commission for the serious attention it is giving to the amendment put forward by the European Parliament, and for its concern for the cultural values of traditional shipping..

We are aware of the provision of a Chapter 19 for traditional vessels in the new guideline and of the emptiness of this chapter. This means that there is a challenge for the near future to write a sensible content for traditional shipping.

We would like to offer EMH to you as the only European partner for this process. In the guideline itself the member states with listed inland waters are mentioned. Our organisation has full members in Belgium, France, Germany, Netherlands and UK. In our network we also have correspondents in the other countries Austria, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Poland, Slovakia and Czech Republic, and close links with national and local organisations for traditional ships in those countries..

Our mission is to keep traditional ships in operation. Where the cultural values of such operation come into conflict with modern safety regulations, we like to consider alternative procedures, so as, to safeguard both culture and safety. This means that safety for us remains a high principal, but if necessary we look for equivalences rather than a lower safety standard.

To inform you in detail about EMH we send as attachment some brochures and newsletters. Furthermore we suggest a visit to our website [www.european-maritime-heritage.org](http://www.european-maritime-heritage.org)

To start the process from our side we have already established an Inland Navigation Council and this council has started to make an

inventory of possible problems for traditional ships as soon as the guideline comes into force.

We hope you will accept our offer of collaboration and make a proposal how to work together in writing a useful Chapter 19.

We hope to receive a positive answer.

Yours truly,

Hendrik Boland, Vice President