



We will modernize the Gabčíkovo locks thanks to EU funds

Bratislava (8 November 2016) – Operation of the Danube water transport will be more fluent and without obstacles. The Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic gained an European grant for reconstruction of the Gabčíkovo hydraulic structure's locks.

Minister of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Arpád Érsek, has already signed a grant agreement amounting to more than 122 million € from the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF).

„I am convinced that it will be a meaningful use of the money, which makes this international waterway more fluent and without delays. The locks modernization will mean an elimination of persistent barrier and more than the standard operating parameters of the locks will be ensured with safety and lasting reliability during their parallel use guaranteed“, said the Minister A. Ersék. As he added: *„This project is not the only one that we are preparing on the Danube. The Slovak Republic will apply for additional European funds for water transport's projects: whether it is improvement of navigability on the Danube in Bratislava, or modernization of the fairway on the Hrušov reservoir“.*

Within the project, a feasibility study, which is a prerequisite for funding through EU funds, is currently being prepared. The study will define the work that must be done in context of the modernization of the Gabčíkovo locks and it will ensure technical specifications of all infrastructure components that will be modernized. Assumption of the beginning of building renovations is in the middle of the next year and the work will be carried out during continuous operation. Both locks should be modernized by the end of the 2020th.

The Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development is the beneficiary of the CEF grant. The Waterborne Transport Development Agency and the Water Management Construction, state enterprise, are implementing authorities.

Project budget: 144 665 000 EUR

Grant amount: 122 965 250 EUR (85 %)

Co-financing: 21 699 750 EUR (15 %)