

AINS 2026	MONDAY 20/apr	TUESDAY 21/apr	WEDNESDAY 22/apr	THURSDAY 23/apr	FRIDAY 24/apr	
Day topic	Introduction IWT fleet, market & crew	Policy & legislation	Economic research in IWT + excursion	Innovation Automation + excursion	Ports & infrastructure	
8:30	Daily registration, welcome and briefing (Edwin van Hassel & Verberght)			Excursion to SEAFAR	Daily registration, welcome and briefing (Edwin van Hassel & Verberght)	
9:00-10:00	Edwin van Hassel, UAntwerp Economic Research Overview in Inland Navigation and current projects	Edwin Verberght, UAntwerp, Inland Navigation Policy, Quadruple Helix and institutional setting: Case of innovation	Katelyn Tahaney, UAntwerp, Dennie Lockefer Chair, Mode Choice in Port-Hinterland Connections		Juan Manuel Pulido Guzmán, UAntwerp, Data-driven synchronicity in Inland Waterway Transport	
10:00-11:00	Marjan Beelen, CITBO, Inland tanker barge market	Tom Pauwels, POM East – Flanders, InnoWatr, City freight distribution via water. Case Ghent. Lessons learned.	Igor Bačkalov, DST, Safety in the inland navigation		Katrien D'Hert, Brigadier General, Ass.Chief of Staff, Readiness & Operations Belgian Armed Forces, Military mobility of multimodal transport & dual-use of inland waterways	
Coffee break					Camilla Domenighini, UAntwerp, World Café Risk distribution of remote-controlled & autonomous barges	Coffee break
11:15 - 12:15	Norbert Kriedel, CCNR, The European IWT Market Observation	Marc De Decker, Riverius, Mannheim Convention and social security of the Rhine	Kevin Lyen & Wouter van der Geest, Rebelgroup, Evaluating IWT Projects: Is a SCBA still Fit for the Job or Falling Short?		Karin De Schepper, INE, TEN-T and the European IWT	
Lunch break	Agora					
14:00-15:00	Charline Daloze, CESNI, Challenges of the Labour Market	Ingrid Vermeir, GO! De Scheepvaartschool & Jan Smalleganghe, STC group, Education and competences in Flanders & the Netherlands	Excursion to NK2 training center	Vincent Denis, BASF, Innovation management in IWT	Robert Tieman, former Dutch Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management, Supply chain in a changing world, decarbonisation & impact on IWT	
Coffee break				Coffee break		
15:15-16:15	Frank Hellebosch, CBO bv, Handbook of the IWT, perspective of investors & charterers	Kristijan Ležaić, DG Move, IWT policy of the European Commission		Evert Bulcke, CEO TRESKO nv, River Information Services and TGAIN	Panel: Filip Boelaert (De Vlaamse Waterweg NV), Jurjen Limburg (Naval NV), Melina Lê (Cabinet of the Minister) and Jacques Kerkhof (ETF, ABVV BTB)	
16:15-17:15	Jan D'haeyer, Shipit NV, De Vlaamse Waterweg Netwerk vzw, Inland dry cargo market	Kim Mylle, Royal ITB, Belgian IWT law		Erik Schrooyen, De Vlaamse Waterweg NV, Projects and Policy on automation	What does the IWT need? Presently and in the future?	
17:15	Daily closing remarks and briefings for tomorrow (Edwin & Edwin)			Daily closing remarks and briefings for tomorrow (Edwin & Edwin)	Closing reception	
Final program						