



Brussels, March 7 2014.

*To the First Delegates
of the Qualifying Members of PIANC
To the National Sections' Secretaries of PIANC
The Sister Associations of PIANC*

Subject: Setting up of a new **joint IAPH-PIANC Working Group 174 on "sustainability reporting for ports"**.

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,
Dear Colleague,

Following the green port philosophy the International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH) and PIANC agreed to set up a new joint working group on "Sustainability reporting for ports" to give more guidance to this upcoming topic. Reporting about relevant corporate social responsibility issues forms an essential basis for the license to operate for a port, the basis for development and operations of ports. Several ports already publish a sustainability report or have it integrated in their yearly report in various ways. Despite the different approaches, reports in general are based on the guidelines for sustainability reporting provided by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI). The background, goals and scope of the intended product are explained in the attached Terms of References.

IAPH is ready to lead this working group in close connection with PIANC and has already nominated experts from its membership. To support this interesting topic PIANC is looking forward to receiving the **nomination of an expert on behalf of PIANC from your country**. May we ask you to **inform PIANC HQ by April 15th, 2014** including the name, qualifications and (e-mail) address of the expert proposed by your country/organization. Please enclose a brief curriculum vitae of the proposed expert together with some details about his professional experiences. **Note that a second expert per country/organization, being a young professional, can also participate in the working group activities.**

An informal, initial meeting of the Working Group (for those members who can attend) is planned to coincide with the PIANC World Congress in San Francisco, June 1-5, 2014. The official kick off meeting for the Working Group will be scheduled later in the year.

We remind you that in accordance with PIANC rules, the costs incurred in taking part in Working Group activities are borne by the member countries/organizations.

We thank you beforehand for your collaboration.

Yours sincerely,

*Eng. L. Van Schel
Secretary-General*