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INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT; ITS SUBJECT AND RELATIONS WITH MARITIME NAVIGATION

ABSTRACT

In this paper, an attempt has been made to present and discuss the process called the Integrated Coastal Zone Management and its relation with the maritime navigation tasks and activities. Coastal natural processes, and even shore line management are not new and therefore, they are commonly known. However, the notion: Integrated Coastal Zone Management and its subject are considerably new; hence, the necessity and propriety to present and discuss not only the subject of this term but also the scope of the maritime human activities constituting the meaning of this term.

INTRODUCTION

The coastal processes, called also as the geomorphological processes, result in the permanent change of the shape and run of the shore line. These processes are centuries old, i.e. immemorial. They comprise:

- sediment transportation;
- coast erosion;
- coast accretion (deposition);
- permanent change of the seabed depths;
- flooding of the wetland, i.e. the saltmarsh coastal areas.

These processes were and are the reason of the permanent troubles, and sometimes also the calamities for the seacoast inhabitants, as well as for the authorities being responsible for coast protection and sea defence. Therefore, the above situation resulted in the development of the very many and very different coast protection and sea defence methods. However today, besides the harmful influence on the coastal zone, the destructive influence on this zone exert also the social and

economic processes as well as the processes resulted from the climate change. Therefore, the above situation resulted in the necessity of development of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management.

Below, the following issues are being presented and shortly discussed:

- subject of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management;
- issues of the Coastal Zone Management in the European Union;
- relations of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management with the maritime navigation and its activities.

SUBJECT OF THE INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT

The Coastal zone is usually defined as follows: a strip of land and sea of the varying width depending on the nature of environment and management needs. The meaning of the term: Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is defined in the following way:

Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is a process for management of the coast using an integrated approach regarding all aspects of the coastal zone, including geographical and political boundaries in an attempt to achieve sustainability.

As was already mentioned, in the coastal zone takes place the permanent re-actualization, beside the natural processes, also the following kinds of processes:

- social;
- economic;
- processes resulted from the climate change.

The main feature of the social processes is the permanent growth of the population density in the coastal zone areas. Now, between 50 and 70% of world population lives in the coastal zone areas, and this index of population density in these areas is growing permanently.

The main components of the economic processes, that take place in the coastal zone, are the following: permanent growth of sand maining, dredging, fishing, aquaculture farming, increase of the wind-generating electricity plants, ships and craft traffic, sports and leizures activities, and others.

The climate change, but especially the permanent increase of the temperature, results in:

- melting glaciers and land ice (and therefore, in thermal expansion of the ocean waters);
- sea level rise;

- changes in the intensity, frequency and directions of storms;
- changes in the rainfall and evaporation;
- increasing the intensity of all the natural processes, etc.

The above natural, social, economic and climate changes taking place in the coastal zone, result in the permanent growth of the following coastal zone problems:

- increase of pollution;
- erosion or accretion of the shore and changing run of the shoreline;
- salt intrusion; flooding calamities and what is the most dangerous and harmful;
- degradation of the habitat, expressing itself in the loss of biodiversity.

All the above reasons resulted in the arising of the idea and concept of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). The concept of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) was borne during the Earth Summit in 1992. The United Nation Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the Earth Summit, was the major United Nation Conference held in Rio de Janeiro from June 3 to June 14, 1992.

The above Earth Summit resulted in the five documents. Among these documents was also the document called as 'Agenda 21'. It should be stressed that the number 21 refers to the 21 century. Agenda 21 is the programme run by the United Nation, related to the sustainable development. It is comprehensible (over 900 pages) blueprint of actions to be taken globally, nationally and locally by the organizations of the UN, governments and the major groups in every areas in which the humans impact on the environment.

The full text of the 'Agenda 21' programme was revealed at the 1992 United Nation Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit) held in Rio de Janeiro on June 14th where 179 governments voted to accept the programme (Agenda 21). The final text was the result of drafting, consultation and negotiation begun in 1989 and culminated in two weeks conference in 1992.

The 'Agenda 21' programme contains 40 chapters divided in the four sections; these are:

1. Social and Economic Dimension.
2. Conservation and Management of Resources for Development.
3. Strengthening the Role of Major Groups.
4. Means of Implementation.

It should be mentioned that among these five documents accepted by the Earth Summit, there was also the first international convention on the climate change (United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change).

ISSUE OF THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Below, there have been presented and discussed two issues of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the European Union; these are:

- development of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the European Union;
- maritime spatial planning and ICZM as the tools of the Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union.

The subject of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is defined by the European Commission in the following way:

Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) is a dynamic and interactive process to promote sustainable management of coastal zones. It covers a full cycle of information collection, planning, decision making and monitoring of implementation. ICZM uses informed participation and cooperation of stakeholders to assess the societal goals in a given coastal areas and to take action towards meeting these objectives. ICZM seeks over the long-term to balance environmental, economic, social, cultural and recreational objectives. The word 'Integrated' in the ICZM refers to integration of all relevant policy areas, sectors and levels of administration. It means integration of the terrestrial and marine components of the target territory, in both time and space.

Many of the Europe's coastal zones face problems of deterioration of their environment, socio-economic and cultural resources. Since 1996, the European Commission has been working to identify and promote measures to remedy this deterioration and to improve the overall situation in coastal zones.

From 1996 to 1999, the Commission operated a Demonstration Programme on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) designed around a series of 35 demonstration projects and 6 thematic studies. In 2000, based on the experiences and outputs of the Demonstration Programme, the Commission adopted two documents:

1. A Communication from the Commission to the Council and European Parliament on 'Integrated Coastal Zone Management: A Strategy for Europe', on September 2000.
2. A proposed Recommendation for European Parliament and Council concerning the implementation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe. This Recommendation was adopted by Council and Parliament on 30 May 2002.

The Communication explained how the Commission will be working to promote ICZM through the use of Community instruments and programmes. The Recommendation outlined the steps which the Member States should take to develop the national strategies for ICZM. The national strategies were due for 2006 and should involve all the coastal stakeholders.

On 7 June 2007 the European Commission presented a Communication to the European Parliament and Council on the evaluation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in Europe.

On 10 October 2007, the European Commission presented its vision on the 'Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union'. The vision document — also called as Blue book — is accompanied by the detailed Action Plan. The programme of the Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union provides the realization of 10 projects. One of this projects regards the Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management. This project is considered as one of three main tools of realization of the Integrated Maritime Policy.

The Commission points out and emphasizes the special attention on the issue of the maritime spatial planning. In the past, and even now, the spatial planning had mainly the terrestrial focus. It means that until now the spatial planning contained only the terrestrial component. But now, such issues as maritime transport, fishing, aquaculture, leisure activities, offshore energy production, and other forms of sea bed exploitation demand development of maritime spatial planning and consider this planning as one of the components of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

Maritime spatial planning is now a fundamental tool for the sustainable development of maritime areas and coastal regions, and for restoration of Europe's seas to environmental health. Especially, the following issues should be considered in maritime spatial plans:

- environmental protection;
- protection of sustainable management of natural resources;
- industrial issues, e.g. wind energy plants, etc.;
- main shipping routes;
- cables and pipelines;
- fishing;
- tourism, etc.

The above mentioned Action Plan being the supplement to the programme of the Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union, provides that the road map of realization of the project of Maritime Spatial Planning and Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) will be presented in 2008 and 2009.

RELATION OF THE INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT WITH THE MARITIME NAVIGATION AND ITS ACTIVITIES

The subject of the maritime navigation is defined in the following way: it is the process of safe, secure and efficient conduct the craft from one place to another.

However, the coastal zones are not the basic sea areas where the maritime navigation is being practised. Coastal areas are generally considered as the non-navigable or navigationally restricted areas for shipping industry.

From the above definition of the subject of maritime navigation results that the main objective of maritime navigation is to ensure the safety and security of the conducted craft (ships, vessel, etc.). This objective of maritime navigation is being achieved mainly thanks to operation on the national maritime areas of many National Maritime Services.

Taking the above into consideration we should try to answer how the maritime safety and security of human activities being realized in the coastal areas can and should be ensured. We should remember that the very different kinds of human activities conducted by the very many stakeholders of the coastal zones, constitute the subject of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

The above consideration allow to conclude that the main objective of maritime navigation in relation to all activities realized in the coastal zones and, therefore, constituting the activities being the subject of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), constitute mainly these activities for whom the maritime safety and security should be ensured.

The more closer analysis of the maritime activities realized in the coastal zones which are also the subject of the ICZM, constitute mainly two kinds of these activities; these are:

- ship traffic in the coastal zones which are properly prepared, i.e. which possess the safe sea ways, running through these zones;
- recreational activities, but mainly sports and leisure activities, constituting one of the basic kind of activities realized in the coastal areas.

Of course, besides these activities in the coastal zones are also realized many other activities, called as the economic activities, for whom the maritime safety and security must be also ensured.

As was above mentioned, the maritime safety and security on national maritime areas are being achieved mainly by the mean of the National Maritime Services. To these services that operate mainly on the open maritime areas, including coastal zones belong mainly the following National Maritime Services:

- hydrographic service;
- aids to navigation service;
- Search and Rescue (SAR) Service;
- Pollution Response Service;
- Vessel Traffic Monitoring and Information System (Service);
- Boarder Guard, and some other National Maritime Services.

The above National Maritime Services are not only capable but also responsible for ensuring the maritime safety and security of the craft participated not only in the shipping but also in all the other economic activities being realized on the national maritime areas, including the coastal zones, when these zones are only accessible to these Services.

However, as was above mentioned, one of the main kind of human activities being realized in the coastal zones constitute the recreational activities, but mainly the sports and leisure activities such as wind surfing and many other similar sports and leisure's activities.

However, in the coastal zones operate very different stakeholders. Many of them are responsible and, manage the recreational activities. To such kind of stakeholders belong mainly the local, i.e. the municipal authorities, as well as organizations and institutions that organize and operate the recreational activities.

Taking into consideration all the above statements and conclusions regarding the ensuring the maritime safety and security of the maritime activities performed in the coastal zones, it is evident that for the safety and security of the recreational activities, including the protection of the marine environment and seashores, are and must be responsible the municipal authorities and institutions that operate these recreational activities. These authorities and institutions, according to the national strategy for the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), should and must very closely cooperate with the above mentioned National Maritime Services in ensuring the maritime safety and security in the national coastal zones.

CONCLUSIONS

The subject of this paper constitutes the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and its relations with the maritime navigation. As results from the presented subject, the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM), together with the maritime spatial planning, constitute now one of the main tools that should and must be used for realization of the Integrated Maritime Policy for European Union that was proclaimed by the European Commission last year (2007). The authors' main objective was to get known these new, interesting and very useful issues to our readers. The authors' belief is that this objective might be partially achieved.

REFERENCES

This paper has been written, mainly its 1 and 2 parts, basing on the Internet's data and information regarding the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM, its origin and its role in the European Union's Integrated Maritime Policy for the European Union that was proclaimed last year — 2007).

STRESZCZENIE

W referacie podjęto próbę przedstawienia problematyki Zintegrowanego Zarządzania Strefą Brzegową i jego relacje z nawigacją morską. Scharakteryzowano również rolę, jaką spełnia Zintegrowane Zarządzanie Strefą Brzegową wraz z morskim planowaniem przestrzennym w realizacji Zintegrowanej Polityki Morskiej Unii Europejskiej, która została proklamowana przez Komisję Europejską w 2007 roku.

Recenzent prof. dr Daniel Duda