

**FINAL ACT OF THE DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE FOR THE
ADOPTION OF A EUROPEAN AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE
INTERNATIONAL CARRIAGE OF DANGEROUS GOODS
BY INLAND WATERWAYS (ADN)**

1. The Diplomatic Conference for the Adoption of a European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) was convened jointly by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) and the Secretary-General of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) pursuant to a decision of the UN/ECE Inland Transport Committee at its fifty-eighth session (12-16 January 1998) and CCNR Resolution 1994-II-6.
2. The Conference was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 22 to 26 May 2000.
3. Representatives of the following States took part in the work of the Conference: Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria; Croatia; Czech Republic; France; Germany; Hungary; Italy; Netherlands; Poland; Republic of Moldova; Romania; Russian Federation; Slovakia; Switzerland; Ukraine.
4. Representatives of Turkey took part as observers.
5. The European Commission also took part in the Conference.
6. The following intergovernmental organization sent observers to the Conference: Danube Commission.
7. The following non-governmental organizations also sent observers to the Conference: European Petroleum Industry Association (EUROPIA); International Association of Classification Societies (IACS); International Consortium of Rhine Inland Navigation (IAR); International Union for Inland Navigation (UINF).
8. Mr. R.J. van Dijk of the delegation of the Netherlands was elected President of the Conference.
9. The secretariat of UN/ECE and the secretariat of CCNR acted jointly as the secretariat of the Conference.
10. The Conference adopted its draft agenda (ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/1-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/1 and ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/1/Add.1-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/1/Add.1).
11. The Conference adopted document ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/2- CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/2 proposed by the secretariat as its rules of procedure, with an amendment to rule 7 where the words "or alternate representatives" were inserted after "representatives".
12. The Conference elected the following two Vice-Presidents:

Mr. M. Rak (Czech Republic);
Mr. G. Kafka (Austria).
13. In accordance with rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the Conference, the secretariat of the Conference examined the credentials and reported to the Conference. On the basis of this report, the Conference accepted the credentials of the States named in paragraph 3.
14. The Conference based its proceedings on the following documents:
 - Draft European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/3-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/3);
 - Annexes A, B.1 and B.2 of the annexed Regulations (TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/5 and TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/5/Corr.1-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/A, B.1, B.2);

- Annex C of the annexed Regulations (ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/4-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/4);
- Annexes D.1 and D.2 of the annexed Regulations (ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/5-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/5);
- Draft Conference resolution (ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/6-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/6).

15. The Conference also had before it a number of documents containing proposals and observations by Governments or the secretariat concerning the above-mentioned draft texts:

- ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/7-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/7 (France);
- ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/8-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/8 (Russian Federation);
- ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/2000/CRP.1-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/9 (Belgium);
- ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/2000/CRP.2-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/10 (France);
- ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/2000/CRP.3-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/11 (Germany and France);
- ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/2000/CRP.6-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/12 (Netherlands);
- ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/2000/CRP.7-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/13 (Netherlands);
- ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/2000/CRP.8-CCNR/MD/ADN/CONF/14 (Secretariat).

16. Following the debate, the Conference adopted the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) in English, French, German and Russian for the Agreement proper (document ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/2000/CRP.10) and in French only for the annexed Regulations (document TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/5 and -/Corr.1 for annexes A, B.1 and B.2 and document ECE/TRANS/ADN/CONF/2000/CRP.11 for annexes C, D.1 and D.2).

17. The Agreement will be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It will be open for signature in the Office of the Executive Secretary of UN/ECE in Geneva until 31 May 2001. Thereafter it will be open for accession.

18. The Conference also adopted a resolution contained in the document annexed to this Final Act.

19. Belgium made a declaration the text of which will be annexed to the Final Act.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have signed this Final Act.

DONE at Geneva, this twenty-sixth day of May two thousand, in a single original copy, in the English, French, German and Russian languages, which will be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

* *This declaration was withdrawn by Note verbale No 1718 of 5 June 2000 sent to the UNECE secretariat by the Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations Office and Specialized Agencies at Geneva.*