

FOREWORD

The European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) done at Geneva on 26 May 2000 under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Central Commission for Navigation on the Rhine (CCNR) entered into force on 28 February 2008.

The Agreement itself and the annexed Regulations, in their original version, were published in 2001 under the symbol ECE/TRANS/150. That publication also contains the Final Act of the Diplomatic Conference held in Geneva from 22 to 26 May 2000 during which the Agreement was adopted as well as the text of a Resolution adopted by the Conference.

At the time of the publication of the present publication, the Agreement had nine Contracting Parties: Austria, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Republic of Moldova and Russian Federation. The following signatory States had so far still not deposited instruments of acceptance, approval or ratification: Croatia, Czech Republic, Italy and Slovakia. Other Member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe whose territory contains inland waterways, other than those forming a coastal route, may also become Contracting Parties to the Agreement by acceding to it, on condition that the inland waterways are part of the network of inland waterways of international importance as defined in the European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN).

The Regulations annexed to the ADN contain provisions concerning dangerous substances and articles, provisions concerning their carriage in packages and in bulk on board inland navigation vessels or tank vessels, as well as provisions concerning the construction and operation of such vessels. They also address requirements and procedures for inspections, the issue of certificates of approval, recognition of classification societies, monitoring, and training and examination of experts.

With the exception of the provisions relating to the recognition of classification societies, which have been applicable since the entry into force of the Agreement, the annexed Regulations do not become applicable until twelve months after the entry into force of the Agreement, namely on 28 February 2009 (see Article 11 (1) of the Agreement).

Before the entry into force of the Agreement, updates of the annexed Regulations have been carried out regularly by a Joint Meeting of Experts of the UNECE and CCNR. These updates were adopted by the Administrative Committee of the ADN at its first session which was held in Geneva on 19 June 2008 (see document ECE/ADN/2, paragraphs 13 to 16). The Committee decided unanimously to replace the original Regulations by those contained in documents ECE/TRANS/190 and -/Corr.1 ("ADN 2007") as modified by the following documents:

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/26
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/26/Corr.1
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/26/Add.1
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/26/Add.2

The annexed Regulations contained in the present publication are a consolidated version which takes account of these updates and which is applicable from 28 February 2009.

It should be noted that, according to Directive 2008/68/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 September 2008 on the inland transport of dangerous goods, Member States of the European Union, shall, with the exclusion of the derogation provided for in Article 1, paragraph 3 of the Directive, apply these annexed Regulations as well as Article 3 (f) and (h) and Article 8, paragraphs 1 and 3 of the Agreement to the transport of dangerous goods by inland waterways from 1 July 2009 and at the latest by 30 June 2011.

All requests for information relating to the application of the ADN should be addressed to the relevant competent authority.

Additional information can be found on the website of the UNECE Transport Division at the following address:

<http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/adn-agree.html>

This site, updated on a continuous basis, contains links to the following information:

- ADN Agreement (excluding the annexed Regulations);
- Status of the Agreement;
- Depositary notifications;
- Classification societies;
- Country information (competent authorities, notifications);
- Bilateral and multilateral agreements;
- Special authorisations;
- Publication details (Corrigenda);
- ADN 2009 (files);
- Modifications to the 2007 annexed Regulations;
- 2007 annexed Regulations ("ADN 2007");
- Original annexed Regulations (2000).