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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the
European Agreement concerning the International Carriage
of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)
(ADN Safety Committee)*

Thirteenth session,
Geneva, 17-18 June 2008
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**MATTERS RELATING TO THE RECOGNITION OF
CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES**

**Report of the Meeting of Experts for the recognition
of classification societies****

**Communication from the Central Commission for
the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR)*****

* This meeting is organized jointly by the Economic Commission for Europe and the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR).

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Participation

1. The Meeting of Experts for the recognition of classification societies under the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways was held in Bonn on 13 March 2008 at the invitation of the delegation of Germany. Representatives of the following countries took part in its work: Austria, France and Germany. The Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) was also represented. Two representatives of the Russian Maritime Register of Shipping (RS) attended the meeting.
2. The secretariat was ensured jointly by Germany and CCNR.
3. Mr. Rein (Germany) chaired the meeting. The report was written by Mr. Fessman (CCNR) and Mr. Laufhütte (Germany).

Recognition of the classification society Russian Maritime Register of Shipping (RS)

4. The Chair welcomed all participants and briefly summarized the situation. No new application for recognition of a classification society had been submitted. As for RS, the documents sent to UNECE on 20 November 2006 were available. Informal document INF.12, distributed at the twelfth session of the Joint Meeting of Experts, was the subject of discussion.
5. The Chair expressed his regret that only three States were present to take part in the work. He also noted that on the day of the meeting, in the morning, the delegation of the Netherlands had sent an e-mail message to the German delegation.
6. Following the previous meeting of the Group of Experts, held in May 2006 (see ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2007/1), certain points needed to be clarified by RS. Regarding points 7.1, 7.4, 7.6 and 7.11, the Chair noted, following a discussion, that they had been clarified satisfactorily by RS.
7. Regarding item 7.3, "Rules for double-hull vessels", the document addressing this (INF.12) was presented by the representatives of RS and was considered in detail by the Group of Experts.
8. The additional questions posed by the experts and relating to a better understanding of the rules were answered satisfactorily by RS.
9. Returning to the e-mail sent by the delegation of the Netherlands, the Chair noted that the message contained only general observations that did not suggest any different outcome.

Conclusion

10. The Group of Experts considered that RS was able to show not only that it had extensive experience in the field of sea and inland-sea navigation, but also that it had sufficient experience in the field of inland navigation per se, and that the construction rules were appropriate.

RS should thus be recommended for recognition as a classification society.