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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation

Thirty-eighth session

Geneva, 16–18 February 2011

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session^{1, 2}

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 16 February 2011

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Results of the fifty-fourth session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport.

¹ For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website <<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/sc3/wp3/wp3age.html>>. During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

² Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website <<http://www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html>>. It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by email (sc.3@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22-917 0039). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext. 74030). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website <<http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>>.

4. Special editorial session on the White Paper on efficient and sustainable inland water transport in Europe:
 - (a) Chapter 1: Importance and performance of inland water transport in the ECE region;
 - (b) Chapter 2: Current state of the European network of inland waterways of international importance;
 - (c) Chapter 3: Institutional and regulatory framework of inland navigation in Europe;
 - (d) Chapter 4: A pan-European vision for efficient and sustainable inland water transport;
 - (e) Follow-up to the White Paper: implications for the work of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation.
5. Mutual recognition of boatmasters' certificates.
6. European Code for Inland Waterways.
7. Resolution No. 61, "Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels":
 - (a) Amendments to Chapter 1–2, "Definitions";
 - (b) Special provisions applicable to river-sea navigation vessels;
 - (c) Minimum technical requirements for computers installed on vessels;
 - (d) Other amendments to Resolution No. 61.
8. Resolution No. 59, "Guidelines for Waterway Signs and Markings".
9. Pan-European Rules on General Average and Limitation of Liability in Inland Navigation.
10. Recreational navigation.
11. Other business.
12. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/75

2. Election of officers

In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation, hereafter, the Working Party or SC.3/WP.3, may wish to elect a Chair and, possibly, a Vice-Chair for its thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions.

3. Results of the fifty-fourth session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport

The Working Party will be informed of the results of the fifty-fourth session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3), which took place from 13 to 15 October 2010.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/187

4. Special editorial session on the White Paper on efficient and sustainable inland water transport in Europe

At its fifty-fourth session, SC.3 approved, in principle, the draft White Paper on efficient and sustainable inland water transport in Europe of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), but noted that some additional comments from the delegations would be forwarded to the secretariat by 15 November 2010. SC.3, therefore, requested SC.3/WP.3 to hold a special editorial segment during its thirty-eighth session to finalize the paper in time for the seventy-third session of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee (ITC) to be held from 1 to 3 March 2011 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/187, para. 12). The final draft, established by the secretariat based on the comments received from the delegations, will be presented to the Working Party as follows:

(a) Chapter 1: Importance and performance of inland water transport in the ECE region

In accordance with the request of SC.3, the Working Party may wish to consider any last editorial corrections, to the text of Introduction and Chapter 1 on the current state of the European network of inland waterways of international importance.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/1

(b) **Chapter 2: Current state of the European network of inland waterways of international importance**

In accordance with the request of SC.3, the Working Party may wish to consider any last editorial corrections, to the text of Chapter 2 on the current state of the European network of inland waterways of international importance.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/2

(c) **Chapter 3: Institutional and regulatory framework of inland navigation in Europe**

In accordance with the request of SC.3, the Working Party may wish to consider any last editorial corrections, to the text of Chapter 3 on the institutional and regulatory framework of inland navigation in Europe.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/3

(d) **Chapter 4: A pan-European vision for efficient and sustainable inland water transport**

In accordance with the request of SC.3, the Working Party may wish to consider any last editorial corrections, to the text of Chapter 4 on a pan-European vision for efficient and sustainable inland water transport.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/4

(e) **Follow-up to the White Paper: implications for the work of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation**

In the light of the policy recommendations contained in Chapter IV of the White Paper on efficient and sustainable inland water transport in Europe, the Working Party may wish to discuss its future activities and, if appropriate, submit a proposal to SC.3 on streamlining and strengthening the work of SC.3/WP.3, taking into account the work carried out by the River Commissions and relevant international expert groups.

In this context and in accordance with the decision of the fifty-fourth session of SC.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/187, para. 12), the Working Party will also be informed of the results of the consultations between the secretariat and the delegation of the European Union on the possible UNECE role in the operation of the future European vessel/Hull database.

5. Mutual recognition of boatmasters' certificates

At its thirty-fifth session, the Working Party finalized the amendment proposal to Resolution No. 31 on Recommendations on Minimum Requirements for the Issuance of Boatmaster's Licences in Inland Navigation with a view to their Reciprocal Recognition for International Traffic (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/70, paras. 23–24). The amendment proposal was adopted at the SC.3 fifty-third session in November 2009. During the session SC.3 expressed the opinion that the revised resolution would constitute useful input to the ongoing discussions on the amendment of the EU Directive 96/50/EC on the harmonization of the conditions for obtaining national boatmaster's certificates for the carriage of goods and passengers by Inland Waterway in the Community. SC.3 also recognized the special role of River Commissions in providing more detailed regulations on boatmasters'

certificates, such as additional rules on different types of certificates, models for boatmasters' certificates, medical certificates and radar certificates (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183, para. 15).

As follow-up on this discussion, SC.3/WP.3 will be informed by the delegation of the European Union about the progress and the scope in the revision of the EU Directive 96/50/EC. The Working Party will also be presented with the reports of the River commissions about the latest developments in their relevant regulations. Based on this information, the Working Party may wish to discuss how it could further facilitate the mutual recognition of boatmasters' certificates at the pan-European level.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/184

6. European Code for Inland Waterways

The Working Party will be informed about the relevant activities of member States and River Commissions on the implementation of the fourth revised edition of the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.4), which complements the information contained in the first SC.3 status report on CEVNI (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/5 and Add.1). The Working Party will also be informed about the ongoing work of River Commissions and the secretariat on the German text of CEVNI, as well as improvements on the French version.

The Working Party will be invited to consider the list of future amendments to CEVNI, initially submitted by the Danube Commission in section IV of ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2010/15, taking into account the comments by the CEVNI expert group.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.4 and Corr.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/5

7. Resolution No. 61, "Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels"

Following the request of the fifty-third session of SC.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183, para. 18), the Working Party is invited to consider further amendments to Resolution No. 61 with due regard to the latest amendments to the EU Directive 2006/87/EC laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels (hereafter, Directive 2006/87/EC) and the work carried out by the Group of Volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172/Rev.1

(a) Amendments to Chapter 1–2, "Definitions"

At its thirty-seventh session the Working Party asked the Group of Volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61 to study the proposal of Austria on amendments to Chapter 1–2 "Definitions" (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2010/3) in light of the comments received from Governments (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2010/16 and Add.1) and to prepare the advanced proposal for the consideration by SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, para. 23).

The Working Party may wish to continue its deliberations on the amendments to Chapter 1–2, based on the updated proposal by the Group of Volunteer experts.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2010/16 and Add.1

(b) Special provisions applicable to river-sea navigation vessels

At its thirty-sixth session, the Working Party took note of the second draft of Chapter 20B “Special provisions applicable to river-sea navigation vessels”, prepared by the Group of volunteers (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2010/6/Add.1) and asked the Group of Volunteers on Resolution No. 61 to continue their work on the completion of this Chapter and prepare proposals on the need for further adaptation of the annex to Resolution No. 61 in view, in particular, of the evolving provisions of EU Directive 2006/87/EC (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/72, paras. 35–36). The Working Party may wish to continue its deliberations on the draft provisions applicable to river-sea vessels, based on the updated proposal by the Group of Volunteer experts, and decide as appropriate.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2010/6 and Add.1

(c) Minimum technical requirements for computers installed on vessels

The Working Party, at its thirty-sixth session, took note of document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2010/10 containing navigation computer requirements in the Rules of the Russian River Register and invited Governments and River Commissions to give their views on the substance of the provisions therein and indicate whether similar pan-European requirements should be elaborated in the framework of UNECE. The Working Party may wish to continue its deliberations on the draft provisions, based on additional comments from Governments and River Commissions, if any, as well as the recommendations by the group of volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61 to be circulated by the secretariat.

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2010/10

(d) Other amendments to Resolution No. 61

The Working Party will consider other amendment proposals, if any, to the resolution.

8. Resolution No. 59, “Guidelines for Waterway Signs and Markings”

The Working Party may wish to consider the amendment proposal to Resolution No. 59 (TRANS/SC.3/169), submitted by the International Sava River Basin Commission and the secretariat, in accordance with the decision of the thirty-seventh session of SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, para. 20).

Documentation

TRANS/SC.3/169, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/6

9. Pan-European Rules on General Average and Limitation of Liability in Inland Navigation

At its fifty-third session, SC.3 asked the delegation of Serbia, in consultation with the International Association for the Rhine Ships Register to examine the need and, if appropriate, the process for elaborating pan-European rules on General Average, and report

to SC.3/WP.3, so that SC.3/WP.3 could further evaluate the need for a UNECE instrument in this area (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183, para. 28). The Working Party may wish to consider the proposal on a special resolution on pan-European rules on general average, prepared by Serbia (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/7).

In this context and in the accordance with the decision of the SC.3 fifty-fourth session to follow-up on the results of the revision of the 1988 Strasbourg Convention on Limitation of Liability in Inland Navigation (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/187, para. 36), the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine will present to SC.3/WP.3 the results of the revision process (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/8).

Documentation

ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/7, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/8

10. Recreational navigation

The Working Party, at its thirty-seventh session, took note of the proposal by the European Boating Association to create a portal collecting information on the national rules governing access to inland waterways by recreational craft. The Working Party asked the secretariat to circulate to Governments, a proposal to compile information on the national legal acts govern navigation of recreational craft on their waterways and where these acts could be found, and to report on this issue at the next session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, para. 11). The Working Party will be informed about the results of the secretariat's consultations with the delegations on this issue.

11. Other business

At the time of drafting this provisional agenda, there were no proposals under this item.

12. Adoption of the report

In accordance with established practice, the Working Party will adopt the decisions taken at its thirty-eighth session on the basis of a draft to be prepared by the secretariat.
