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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)****Eighteenth session**

Geneva, 24-27 January 2011

Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**Proposals for amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN****8.1.8.3 and 8.1.9.2 - Model for certificates of approval<sup>1, 2</sup>****Transmitted by the Government of Germany**

1. At the fifteenth meeting of the ADN Safety Committee in August 2009 it became clear that delegations had different views on the binding character of the models for (provisional) certificates of approval as set out in 8.6.1.1 and 8.6.1.3 or 8.6.1.2 and 8.6.1.4. It was not clear whether the certificates of approval had to conform to the model only in terms of their content or also in terms of their layout.
2. Paragraph 71 of ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/32 reads as follows:  
  
"71. For the certificate of origin of the vessel, the Safety Committee considered that the certificate was in conformity with the ADN regarding content but that it should also conform to the form of the model foreseen in 8.6.1.1, it being understood that the information could appear in more than one language but that, as shown in the model, items 1 to 12 had to appear on the first page in the order and layout shown."
3. If the layout of the certificates of approval issued by different Contracting Parties varies, control authorities could encounter comprehension problems when different languages are used in fields for free entry. This could delay carriage unnecessarily.

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<sup>1</sup> Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR/ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2011/19.

<sup>2</sup> In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/208, para. 106; ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.7 (b)).

## Proposal for amendments

4. As of 1 January 2013, amend 8.1.8.3 as follows (*new wording in italics*):

"8.1.8.3 The certificate of approval shall be issued in accordance with the requirements and procedures set out in Chapter 1.16.

~~It shall conform to the model in 8.6.1.1 or 8.6.1.3.~~ *The certificate of approval shall conform to the model in 8.6.1.1 or 8.6.1.3 with regard to content, form and layout. Its dimensions are 210 mm x 297 mm (A4). Front and back pages may be used.*

*It shall be issued in the official language or in one of the official languages of the issuing State. Should this language not be English, French or German, the title of the certificate of approval, as well as any remark under numbers 5, 9 and 10 of the certificate of approval for "dry cargo vessels" (8.6.1.1), or under numbers 12, 16 and 17 of the certificate of approval for "tank vessels" (8.6.1.3) shall also be provided in English, French or German."*

5. As of 1 January 2013, amend 8.1.9.2 as follows (*new wording in italics*):

"8.1.9.2 The provisional certificate of approval shall conform to the model in 8.6.1.2 or 8.6.1.4 of these Regulations *with regard to content, form and layout* or a single model certificate combining a provisional certificate of inspection and the provisional certificate of approval provided that the single model certificate contains the same information as 8.6.1.2 or 8.6.1.4 and is approved by the competent authority.

*It shall be issued in the official language or in one of the official languages of the issuing state. Should this language not be English, French or German, the title of the certificate of approval, as well as any remark under number 5 of the certificate of approval for "dry cargo vessels" (8.6.1.2), or under number 12 of the certificate of approval for "tank vessels" (8.6.1.4) shall also be provided in English, French or German."*

## Explanation

6. The opinion expressed in the report of the fifteenth session, paragraph 71, should be included in the Regulations annexed to ADN as a mandatory provision. The models for the certificates of approval should also be binding with regard to the layout of the entries in the document. This would allow control authorities to check the **freely formulated** entries during inspections when a language other than that of the inspecting country is used. This, as well as the additional use of English, French or German, should facilitate inspections and help to avoid unnecessary delays and obstacles during carriage.

7. The proposed amendments correspond to those for the certificates of approval for road vehicles according to 9.1.3.3 of the ADR. Consequently, they correspond to a proven method while simultaneously contributing to a further harmonization of the ADR/RID/ADN.

## Safety aspects

8. The mandatory use of one of the official languages of the ADN, and the standardized layout of the entries will facilitate understanding of these documents in any country. This will allow for quick and reliable recognition of possible derogations during inspections, thereby contributing to improved safety during carriage.

## **Feasibility**

9. There should be no problems. With the help of up-to-date word processing and printing applications it should be easy to adapt the documents in use. All existing certificates of approval have to be revised not later than the end of the transitional period set out in Article 8 (1) of the ADN (28 February 2014), or the end of the transitional period set out in Directive 2008/68/EC, annex III.2 no. 2 (30 June 2016).
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