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Working Party on Inland Water Transport

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Item 7 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation:
Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical
Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61)**

Amendments to Resolution No. 61

Note by the secretariat

I. Mandate

1. At its fiftieth session, the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) agreed to ask the Group of Volunteers on the amendments of Resolution No. 17, revised, (now, the Group of Volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61) to consider possible ways for elaborating specific requirements to sea-river vessels and to suggest any other possible modifications to the resolution in order to keep it harmonized with Directive 2006/87/EC laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels in the Community (hereafter Directive 2006/87/EC) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, para. 33).

2. The first draft of technical requirements on river-sea navigation vessels had been submitted by the Group of Volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61 to the thirty-sixth session of the Working Party Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/72, paras. 35–37). After circulating the draft for comments and forwarding the document for further fine-tuning by the Group of Volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61, SC.3/WP.3 adopted the final draft at its thirty-ninth session and asked the secretariat to submit the official amendment proposal to the SC.3 fifty-fifth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, para. 28).

3. In parallel with this work, SC.3/WP.3 considered at its thirty-fifth session in June 2009 the proposal by Austria to amend Chapter 1–2 and other relevant sections of Resolution No. 61 in order to harmonize the definitions used in the resolution and in Directive 2006/87/EC (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/70, para. 27). Assisted by the Group of Volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61, SC.3/WP.3 continued its work on the proposed

amendments during its thirty-sixth, thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/72, paras. 21–25, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, paras. 22–23 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/76, paras. 39). At its thirty-ninth session, SC.3/WP.3 approved the revised proposal and asked the secretariat to submit the official amendment proposal to the fifty-fifth session of SC.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, para. 26).

4. The Working Party is, therefore, invited to adopt the draft resolution on additions and amendments to Resolution No. 61, as presented below.

II. Additions and amendments to Resolution No. 61 on Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels

Resolution No. ...

(adopted on... October 2011 by the Working Party on Inland Water Transport)

The Working Party on Inland Water Transport,

Considering Resolution No. 61 of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport on recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels, as amended (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172/Rev.1),

Bearing in mind the report of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation on its thirty-ninth sessions (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, paras. 26 and 28),

Acknowledging that river-sea navigation vessels can play an increasingly important role in providing transport for foreign trade and *responding* to the policy recommendations No. 2 of the UNECE White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/189, para. 208, (c)) to elaborate pan-European technical prescriptions for such vessels,

Observing that these requirements should take into account the constraints that they might face in terms of the navigational season, distance from the coast and from harbours, as well as the height of the waves envisaged,

Also reaffirming the desirability of further developing Resolution No. 61 with due regard to the latest amendments to the Directive 2006/87/EC of the European Union laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels,

Noting, in particular, that alignment of the definitions used in the resolution and in the directive would not only contribute to further harmonization of these instruments but would also facilitate the participation of countries outside of the European Union in the international data exchange, especially with the European hull database,

Decides to amend and supplement as follows the text of the annex to Resolution No. 61:

1. *Amend* the definitions used in the resolutions in accordance with the provisions of Appendix 1,¹
2. *Add* a new Chapter 20b on special provisions applicable to river-sea navigation vessels, as contained in Appendix 2.²

¹ The text of Appendix 1 is presented in Addendum 1 to this document.

² The text of Appendix 1 is presented in Addendum 2 to this document.