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**Economic Commission for Europe****Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on Inland Water Transport****Fifty-seventh session**

Geneva, 16–18 October 2013

Item 10 (a) of the provisional agenda

**Recreational navigation****National legal acts governing navigation of recreational craft****Note by the secretariat****I. Mandate**

1. At its thirty-seventh session, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) asked the secretariat to collect information on the national rules governing access to inland waterways by recreational craft and where these acts could be found (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, para. 11). Following a request circulated to member Governments, the secretariat issued a list of legal acts governing navigation of recreational craft in the ECE region (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2011/17, paras. 5–19).
2. The secretariat reproduces below updated information on national rules governing access to inland waterways by recreational craft in the ECE region.
3. The Working Party may wish to consider this information and invite Governments which have not yet done so<sup>1</sup> to submit this information to the secretariat by 6 November 2013.

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<sup>1</sup> The Governments concerned are Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Switzerland and Ukraine.

## **II. National legal acts governing navigation of recreational craft on national waterways of the UNECE member States**

### **A. Belarus**

4. Recreational navigation on inland waterways of the Republic of Belarus is regulated by the following legal acts:

(a) Rules of the Road on Inland Waterways of the Republic of Belarus (Decree No. 60 of 25 October 2005 of the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Belarus, National Register of Regulations of the Republic of Belarus No. 61, 8/14238 of 7 April 2006);

(b) Rules on the Use of Small-Sized Craft, Water Bikes and Vessels Fitted with Outboard Engines, and their Berthing Areas (Decision No. 812 of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus on 20 June 2007, National Register of Regulations of the Republic of Belarus No. 157, 5/25408 of 22 June 2007).

5. These documents can be found in the National Register of Regulations of the Republic of Belarus, Belarus State Inspection for Inland Navigation, State Inspectorate for Small Craft. They may be downloaded in Russian from:

(a) [www.pravo.by/pdf/2006-61/2006-61%28017-079%29.pdf](http://www.pravo.by/pdf/2006-61/2006-61%28017-079%29.pdf);

(b) [www.pravo.by/pdf/2007-157/2007-157%28043-088%29.pdf](http://www.pravo.by/pdf/2007-157/2007-157%28043-088%29.pdf).

### **B. Bulgaria**

6. In Bulgaria, certificates for recreational navigation are regulated by Ordinance No. 6 on Seafarers' Competence in the Republic of Bulgaria of the Minister of Transport, issued in SG No. 101 of 4 December 2007.

7. The text of the ordinance is available in Bulgarian and English at: [www.marad.bg](http://www.marad.bg). Annex 24 to the ordinance contains a model of the international certificate for operators of pleasure craft in accordance with Resolution No. 40.

### **C. Czech Republic**

8. The Czech Act No. 114/1995 Coll., "On Inland Navigation" and Decree No. 224/1995 Coll. "On Operators' Qualification" may be downloaded in Czech from: [www.mdcz.cz/cs/Legislativa/Legislativa/Legislativa+CR+-+vodni/](http://www.mdcz.cz/cs/Legislativa/Legislativa/Legislativa+CR+-+vodni/).

### **D. Hungary**

9. There are three regulations in effect in Hungary affecting recreational watercraft and their use:

(a) decree 2/2000. (VII. 26.) KoViM on the design, construction and certification of recreational watercraft;

(b) decree 15/2001. (IV. 27.) KoViM on navigation qualifications;

(c) decree 57/2011. (XI. 22.) NFM on the rules of transport by water.

## **E. Lithuania**

10. The navigation of recreational craft on the inland waterways of Lithuania is governed by the following legal acts:

(a) Order No. 3-327 of 10 September 2008 of the Minister of Transport of Lithuania “Rules of the Road of the State Maritime Port of Klaipeda”;

(b) Order No. V-72 of 7 June 2010 of the Director of the Administration for the Safety of Navigation of Lithuania;

(c) Order No. 3-13 of 18 January 2006 of the Minister of Transport of Lithuania “Regulations on the Registration of Inland Water Transport Vessels”;

(d) Order No. 3-335 of 1 July 2002 of the Minister of Transport of Lithuania “Regulations on the Investigation of Incidents involving Inland Water Transport Vessels”.

11. These legal acts may be downloaded in Lithuanian from:  
[http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.forma\\_1](http://www3.lrs.lt/pls/inter3/dokpaieska.forma_1).

## **F. Netherlands**

12. In the Netherlands the applicable legislation depends on the geographical area. The Dutch authorities publish a special leaflet describing the geographical scope of their different regulations.

13. The main regulations for recreational craft are as follows:

(a) Regulations concerning recreational craft that apply in most areas in the Netherlands are included in the Dutch Police Regulation (Binnenvaartpolitiereglement (BPR));

(b) The main provisions are contained in article 1.09 and chapter 8 of BPR;

(c) Article 8.06 of BPR regulates the navigation by small craft capable of travelling at a speed greater than 20 km/h in relation to water. In general it is prohibited to travel faster than 20 km/h on all fairways except those indicated in a special regulation for high-speed vessels (“Regeling snelle motorboten”).

14. These regulations may be found at: [www.wetten.nl](http://www.wetten.nl).

## **G. Russian Federation**

15. Recreational navigation on inland waterways of the Russian Federation is regulated by the following main legal acts:

(a) Inland Water Transport Code of the Russian Federation (No. 24 – Φ3) of 7 March 2001, including amendments introduced by the Federal Law No. 36 – Φ3 of 23 April 2012 and Federal Law No. 131 – Φ3 of 28 July 2012, introducing a definition of pleasure craft, i.e. a vessel, in which the total number of people must not exceed 18, with no more than 12 passengers, and which is used for non-commercial purposes and is intended for recreation on bodies of water; the procedure and authorities responsible for the registration of pleasure craft are defined;

(b) Act No. 349 on “Approval of provisions regarding the certification of crew members of inland navigation vessels” of 31 May 2005, which defines the rules for the issuance of certificates to boatmasters of pleasure craft;

(c) Order No. 129 of 14 October 2002 of the Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation on “Approval of Rules of Navigation on the Inland Waterways of the Russian Federation”.

16. Navigation of pleasure craft under flags of foreign States is regulated by the following legal acts:

(a) Rules of Navigation on Inland Waterways of the Russian Federation for Sport Sail Vessels and Pleasure Craft under Flags of Foreign States, adopted by the Governmental Decree of the Russian Federation No. 472 on 12 May 2012;

(b) The list of ports open for calling of vessels under flags of foreign States and the list of inland waterways of the Russian Federation on which navigation of vessels under flags of foreign States is admitted, adopted by Governmental Decree of the Russian Federation No. 734-p on 5 May 2012.

17. Furthermore, the following legal acts apply to pleasure craft navigating on the territory of the Russian Federation:

(a) Technical Regulations concerning the “Safety of Inland Water Transport Objects” adopted by the Governmental Decree of the Russian Federation No. 633 of 12 August 2010, establishing requirements for vessels of projects which have been approved and construction contracts concluded from 23 February 2012, as well as materials and equipment for vessels, manufactured since 23 February 2012.

(b) Technical Regulations of the Customs Union concerning “The Safety of Small Craft” (TP TC 026/2012) adopted by the decision No. 33 of the Council of the Eurasian Economic Commission on 15 June 2012, which enters into force on 1 February 2014.

18. These documents are available at: [www.consultant.ru](http://www.consultant.ru).

19. The Russian River Register also publishes instructions on “Technical prescriptions for classification, construction and certification of pleasure craft”.

## **H. Serbia**

20. The navigation of recreational craft on the inland waterways of Serbia is governed by the following legal acts:

(a) Rulebook on determination of seaworthiness of boats and floating establishments (“Official Gazette” No. 28/96);

(b) Rulebook on the programme and training method of examining operators of pleasure craft (“Official Gazette” No. 18/97);

(c) Rulebook on manning for vessels other than inland navigation ships of the merchant marine (“Official Gazette” No. 49/06);

(d) Rulebook on register and licence for boats and floating establishments (“Official Gazette” No. 111/07);

(e) Rulebook on specific medical conditions to be met by persons authorized to perform work on vessels of the merchant marine (“Official Gazette” No. 23/83 and No. 27/83);

**I. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**

21. Information on the Regulations Applicable to Pleasure Vessels is published by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) is available at the following address: [www.dft.gov.uk/mca/mcga07-home/shipsandcargoes/mcga-shiptype/mcga-pleasurecraftand smallships/pleasurevessel.htm](http://www.dft.gov.uk/mca/mcga07-home/shipsandcargoes/mcga-shiptype/mcga-pleasurecraftand smallships/pleasurevessel.htm).

22. Craft which come under the European Union (EU) Directive 94/25/EC on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the member States relating to recreational craft (as amended by Directive 2003/44/EC) are subject to the Recreational Craft Regulations 2004. These regulations are not within the MCA's, or Department for Transport's responsibility. The text of the regulations is available at: [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/1464/contents/made](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/1464/contents/made).

**J. Turkey**

23. The navigation of recreational craft on the inland waterways of Turkey is governed by the following legal acts:

- (a) Regulation on Recreational Craft (Order No. 26390 of 28 December 2006);
- (b) Regulation on Water Vehicles and Vessels of Navigation on the Inland Waterways (Order No. 27745 31 October 2010).

24. These legal acts can be found on the website of the Republic of Turkey Ministry of Transport, Maritime and Communications (<https://atlantis.denizcilik.gov.tr/mevzuat/>) and Official Gazette ([www.resmigazete.gov.tr/default.aspx](http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/default.aspx)).

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