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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)**

**Twenty-fifth session**

Geneva, 25–29 August 2014

Item 3 (d) of the provisional agenda

**Implementation of ADN: Training of experts****Report of the 12th meeting of the informal working group on the training of experts****Transmitted by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR)<sup>1,2</sup>**

1. The informal working group on the training of experts held its 12th meeting on 19 and 20 March 2014 in Strasbourg, chaired by Mr. Bölker (Germany). Representatives of the following States took part in the meeting: Austria, Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: the European Barge Union (EBU), the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC), the European River-Sea-Transport Union (ERSTU), and Binnenschiffer-Ausbildungszentrum (BAZ) (Germany), STC B.V. (Netherlands) and Maritimes Kompetenzzentrum (Ma-Co) (Germany).

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<sup>1</sup> In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2012–2016 (ECE/TRANS/224, para. 94, ECE/TRANS/2012/12, programme activity 02.7, (A1b)).

<sup>2</sup> Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2014/49.



## **I. Adoption of the agenda**

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2014/7 a (Agenda)

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2013/17 (Report of the 11th meeting)

2. The agenda and report were adopted without amendment.

## **II. Calendar of work**

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2013/5 (Calendar of work)

3. The informal working group revised the calendar of work and invited the CCNR secretariat to submit the revised version to the ADN Safety Committee.

4. The participants noted that the substantive questions for the C and G examinations needed to be updated as soon as possible. Training institutions had indicated that it was difficult to prepare the substantive questions as they were not yet known. The chair recalled that examples of substantive questions were to be found in the guidelines of the ADN Administrative Committee on the ECE website ([http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adn/catalog\\_of\\_questions.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/adn/catalog_of_questions.html)).

## **III. Continuous alignment of the ADN 2015 catalogue of questions (item 1 of the calendar of work)**

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/22/INF.5 – Com. Secr. (ADN 2013 catalogue of questions on general issues)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/22/INF.4 – Com. Secr. (ADN 2013 catalogue of questions on chemicals)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/22/INF.3 – Com. Secr. (ADN 2013 catalogue of questions on gases)

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2011/4 to 17 – Com. Secr. (Confidential documents, ADN 2011 substantive questions)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/22/INF.13 – Com. Secr. (Synopsis, 2013 catalogue of questions on general issues)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/22/INF.14 – Com. Secr. (Synopsis, 2013 catalogue of questions on chemicals)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/22/INF.15 – Com. Secr. (Synopsis, 2013 catalogue of questions on gases)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2013/5 – Com. Pres. (Proposed amendments to the catalogue of questions on general issues)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2013/6 – Com. Pres. (Proposed amendments to the catalogue of questions on chemicals)

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2013/7 – Com. Pres. (Proposed amendments to the catalogue of questions on gases)

5. The current catalogue of questions is accessible in electronic form on the CCNR and ECE Internet sites. Management is carried out on the basis of documents CCNR-

ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2013/5, CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2013/6 and CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2013/7.

**A. Comparison of the French and German versions (item 1.1 of the calendar of work)**

6. The substantive questions and answers still needed to be aligned as they diverged in one or two places. The Chairperson and the secretariat of CCNR would carry out the alignment together.

**B. Comparison of the English and German versions of questions relating to stability**

7. The ECE secretariat had requested a verification of the wording of the English translation of the sections on stability that had been newly inserted into the 2013 catalogue of questions. The German representative from the Ministry of Transport said that he would carry out that verification. Any changes to the English version would be communicated directly to the ECE secretariat.

**C. ADN 2015 (item 1.3 (new) of the calendar of work)**

8. The group looked at the ... In the catalogue of general questions. No amendment requests had been submitted in respect of the amendments proposed by the informal working group at its 11th meeting (documents CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2013/5, CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2013/6 and CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2013/7).

9. The group considered the new questions proposed by the delegation of the Netherlands on the transport of refrigerated gases, and notably LNG, and accepted the questions for use in examinations. The new questions were included in the catalogue of general questions.

10. The group agreed on action to be taken to adapt the 2013 catalogue of questions to the changes made by the Administrative Committee to ADN 2015. After the meeting on translation, Mr. Weiner would send the outcome to the participants. The questions for the basic examination in gas and chemistry, and for further training, had been shared among the members of the informal working group. The questions would be updated in light of the amendments. Mr. Weiner suggested adding new questions on “means of evacuation”. The members would submit their proposals to Mr. Bölker by 30 June. Once the updated catalogue of questions was ready it would be sent to the informal working group ahead of the next meeting and by 30 July at the latest. The next meeting of the group could be held during week 38 in Hamburg.

**IV. ADN expert examination (item 2 of the calendar of work)**

**A. Recognition of training courses in accordance with 8.2**

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2014/1 – Com. DE

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/48, para. 25

11. The ADN Safety Committee had invited the working group to consider possible minimum requirements and standards for trainers.

12. In its communication, the German delegation recalled ISO standard 29990:2010, “Learning services for non-formal education and training – Basic requirements for service providers”. The delegation suggested requiring training centres to demonstrate compliance with ISO standard 29990:2010, along the lines of the procedure for recognition of classification societies.

13. The working group noted that not all participants were familiar with this ISO standard. Some States used a checklist as a basis for evaluating trainer qualifications. Participants were unanimously agreed that high-quality training for experts was of great importance. The representatives of Switzerland, the Netherlands and Austria nevertheless queried the advantages of a requirement to apply the ISO standard, not least because there would be major financial implications. The Chairperson believed it would be useful for the various criteria used in granting recognition to be communicated to the CCNR secretariat for circulation to members.

## **B. Format of the expert certificate under 8.2**

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2014/2 – Com. DE

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/48, para. 24

14. The ADN Safety Committee had invited the informal working group to consider divergences from the format and colour of the expert certificate.

15. The German delegation circulated the model certificate under symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2014/2. It drew attention to the fact that the certificates in some Contracting States diverged from the requirements of section 8.6.2 of ADN in respect of format and colour. Germany was planning to introduce new secure certificates containing authentication features.

16. After the meeting the Austrian delegation transmitted the Austrian certificate, which is the same as the German certificate. The Serbian certificate also contains the same features (format and colour).

17. The participants invited all ADN Contracting States to submit their current model expert certificate. This would give an indication of the certificates now in use. The models could be published on the ECE website.

18. In principle, renewal of ADN expert certificates should be carried out by the competent authority that issued the original document, following successful completion of a refresher course. In that regard, it would be useful if the appointed competent authorities were published on the ECE website.

## **C. Procedures for and duration of examinations under 8.2 of ADN**

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2014/3 – Com. DE

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/48, para. 22

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2013/17

19. The ADN Safety Committee had invited the informal working group to review the procedures for and duration of examinations and the working group began its consideration of the topic. Discussion focused in particular on the length of the examination and a very lively debate revealed a number of differences of opinion. Because of the high failure rate, some participants suggested making the examination 15 minutes longer. For a multiple-

choice test, that would mean allowing 2.5 minutes per question instead of the 2 minutes currently allowed.

20. The participants agreed that the quality of the examination should not be diminished by a change in duration. It was essential to maintain the standard of safety that had now been reached.

21. The group agreed to look in more detail at two options. One way to improve the examination results might be to make the training courses longer in order to have more time to teach everything it was required to know. Another way might be to increase the examination time from 60 to 75 minutes. Again, ADN Contracting States were asked to make available their latest statistics on the examinations.

22. The working group then discussed the possibility of taking the examination on computer and the amendments to the rules that might be required. In that regard, the German delegation had submitted a proposed amendment to ADR that might also be used for ADN.

#### **D. Harmonization of Chapter 8.2 “Requirements concerning training” with 8.2 of ADR**

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2014/3 – Com. DE

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/48, para. 22

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2013/17

23. The German delegation recalled its comparison of the training requirements of ADN and ADR. No comments had been submitted on that exercise, aside from a position statement by the Austrian representative. The German delegation again asked those concerned to give their views on the comparison. Statements of position could be taken into account in a new version prepared for the 13th meeting of the working group.

24. The participants agreed that any comments should be sent to the CCNR secretariat. The CCNR secretariat was invited to circulate such comments to those on the “Training” mailing list.

#### **E. Proof of training as a requirement for award of the expert certificate**

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2014/5 – Com. DE

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/48, paras. 24–25

25. The working group considered the question of whether an ADN expert certificate could be renewed if the required refresher course had been taken in another ADN Contracting State and if the course had not yet been recognized by the relevant competent authority.

26. The working group considered that it was important in this regard to maintain the flexibility desired by the industry. Thus training courses offered should be of comparable standard. In order to make comparison possible, training centres, like the recognized classification societies, should exchange information on a regular basis. As with the classification societies, the procedure for recognition of training centres should be set out in the regulations so as to create uniform conditions of accreditation.

27. The participants agreed that the perceived need for uniform accreditation did not justify the administrative constraints that an amendment to the regulations would impose.

The informal working group was of the view that the general requirements that currently applied made it unnecessary to amend the regulation and that a training centre could, if necessary, ask for the courses it offered to be recognized by other competent authorities.

## **F. Renewal of gas/chemicals expert certificates**

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2014/6 – Com. DE

28. For renewal of gas and chemicals expert certificates, the German delegation noted that, in parallel with a recognized training course, it was also possible to provide proof of time spent working on a vessel carrying the relevant dangerous goods. In Germany the number of certificates renewed without training was substantially higher than renewals after training. Germany suggested that the equivalence of the two options should be discussed.

29. The group considered that the current regulations provided sufficient guarantees of the quality of training. Experience acquired in day-to-day work on a tank vessel of the appropriate type helped keep knowledge up-to-date. Knowledge of new developments in the regulations on dangerous goods was adequately transmitted by the refresher course required after the initial training; the refresher course could not be replaced by a period of work on board.

## **V. General issues concerning the catalogue of questions (item 3 of the calendar of work)**

30. No other general points were raised.

## **VI. Calendar**

31. The group decided to hold its next meeting in Hamburg on 29 and 30 September 2014. It would start at 10 a.m. and finish at 4 p.m.

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