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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)

Thirty-fourth session

Geneva, 21–25 January 2019

Item 7 of the provisional agenda

Programme of work and calendar of meetings**Establishment of an informal working group on standards****Transmitted by the Governments of Germany and Luxembourg*, *****Summary*

Executive summary:	After consideration of a document submitted by the European Barge Union (EBU) at the twentieth session of the ADN Safety Committee in January 2012, Germany was given a mandate to establish an informal working group to be made responsible for developing a mechanism for the regular review of references to standards in the Regulations annexed to ADN.
Action to be taken:	Request for cooperation and invitation to the first meeting of the working group in the tenth calendar week of 2019 (4–8 March).
Related documents:	Informal document INF.30 (EBU) for the twentieth session of the Safety Committee. Report of the ADN Safety Committee on its twentieth session (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/42, paras. 44 and 45).

* Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) under the symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2019/5.

** In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018–2019 (ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1 (9.3)).



Introduction

1. In January 2012, at the twentieth session of the ADN Safety Committee, the European Barge Union (EBU) submitted informal document INF.30.
2. EBU drew attention to the fact that ADN refers to technical and other standards in more than 50 sets of rules to avoid detailed descriptions in the Regulations themselves. It was noted that many standards had in the meantime been replaced and given new numbers. The resulting problems included:
 - (a) The use of equipment that was no longer in conformity with the standard mentioned in ADN;
 - (b) The acquisition of equipment when the standard appearing in ADN was no longer valid.
3. EBU called for the development of a procedure that would make it possible to come up with an appropriate solution to the problem.
4. The conclusions of the Safety Committee's discussions, as reflected in the report of the meeting (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/42), were as follows:

“19. Standards

Informal document: INF.30 (EBU)

44. The Safety Committee noted that the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting had put in place a mechanism to ensure the updating of references to standards contained in the common requirements for the three modes of transport. The CCNR was also envisaging a global mechanism for the verification of references to standards in the various instruments for navigation on the Rhine.
 45. The Safety Committee considered that it would also be useful to put in place such a mechanism for references to standards in the Regulations annexed to ADN. An informal working group would meet at the invitation of the German Government to formulate proposals to this end.”
5. Germany finds it regrettable that no action has been taken in this respect in recent years. Other work done in the meantime, with regard to the stability of inland waterway tank vessels, the degassing of tank vessels, the training of experts and the revision of explosion protection, has, unfortunately, delayed this project. The project should therefore be taken up again in 2019. Luxembourg has already confirmed its participation.

Proposal

6. An informal working group on standards could take on this project on the basis of a mandate to:
 - (a) Obtain information on the methods of work of the working group on standards of the RID/ADR/ADN Joint Meeting;
 - (b) Obtain information on the mechanism set up within the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine for verifying and updating references to standards;
 - (c) Come to agreement on the participation of the consultant from the European Committee for Standardization with responsibility for the Joint Meeting;
 - (d) Take stock of references to standards in ADN, including by categorizing them (as specific to ADN, valid generally or managed by the working group on standards), tasks for which it will be possible to refer to the work of the Joint Meeting;
 - (e) Develop a proposal for a mechanism that will make it possible ensure that references to standards in ADN are updated;
 - (f) Implement the mechanism.

7. The first meeting of the informal working group could be held in the tenth week of 2019 — that is, from Tuesday, 5 March, to Friday, 8 March — in Germany or Luxembourg.
 8. The working group's activities could also be of interest to boating associations (for the acquisition of equipment that meets the standards) and classification societies (compliance with construction requirements, inspection reports).
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