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 4 (d) of the provisional agenda
Implementation of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN): Training of experts

Report of the nineteenth meeting of the informal working group on the training of experts

Transmitted by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR)*, **

1. The informal working group on the training of experts, chaired by Mr. Bölker (Germany), held its nineteenth meeting in Strasbourg, France, from 18 to 20 September 2018. Representatives of Austria, Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland took part in the meeting. The following non-governmental organizations and training bodies were represented: the European Barge Union (EBU) and Atlas Schifffahrt (Germany).

I. Adoption of the agenda

CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WG/CQ/2018/8 a (Agenda)
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2018/43 (Report of the eighteenth meeting)

2. The informal working group adopted the agenda after the inclusion of an additional item for a presentation by the representatives of the Netherlands on the lessons learned in connection with the examination for experts.

* Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2019/8.
** In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2018–2019 (ECE/TRANS/2018/21/Add.1, cluster 9.3).
3. The Chair noted that, at the most recent meeting of the ADN Safety Committee, a proposal to rotate the answers to the examination questions had been adopted and that the interpretation according to which at most two points could be awarded, in increments of half a point, for answers to substantive questions, had been confirmed. A proposal to extend the time given to complete the examination, on the other hand, had not been adopted.

II. Work schedule

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2017/8 (work schedule)

4. The Chair said that the revision of the catalogue of questions was likely to take the whole meeting and that there was therefore unlikely to be enough time to put together a work schedule for 2019–2020. Finalizing the catalogue of questions was a priority.

5. The informal working group agreed to put together the 2019–2020 work schedule at its following meeting, which would be held in the spring of 2019, and submit it to the Safety Committee at that Committee’s meeting in August 2019.

III. Ongoing adaptation of the ADN catalogue of questions 2019 (item 1 of the work schedule)

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2019/1 — Com. Secr. (ADN catalogue of questions 2019: General)


ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2011/4-17 — Com. Secr. (Confidential documents, ADN 2011 substantive questions; may be made available during the meeting)

A. ADN 2019 (item 1.3 of the work schedule)

6. The informal working group considered the ADN 2017 catalogues of questions on general matters, gas and chemistry and brought them into line with the amendments adopted for ADN 2019. The secretariat of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) would distribute the catalogues of questions as revised versions (Rev. 2).

7. The informal working group agreed to consider the newly proposed questions 110 01.0–21, 110 01.0–24 and 110 01.0–28, continue making the questions impersonal and replace the words “electrical installations” with “electrical installations and equipment” at its next meeting.

8. The informal working group discussed the extent to which there were too many similar questions on some subjects — instructions in writing, for example. The Chair noted that those questions should not be eliminated, as the examiners needed a variety of question from which to choose those that would appear on the examination.

9. The informal working group also considered the questions on first aid. Some members were of the view that the answers no longer reflected the current state of medical knowledge. The representative of Germany, who had announced that those questions would be revised, said that, after a comprehensive review of the situation, he had not carried out the revision, as Germany could not assume responsibility for the accuracy and relevance of the answers. After an exchange of views, the informal working group acknowledged that the questions and answers should be checked by a doctor. Those questions would nonetheless remain in the 2019 catalogue. In the event of any obvious contradictions, the relevant questions would not be used.

10. The representative of Austria was of the view that basic training in first aid for shipboard personnel was inadequate. In the basic training provided, it was assumed that it
would take at most 30 minutes for the rescue services to intervene. However, it could take longer for them to arrive on board — for example, if there was no parking in the immediate vicinity or if firefighting and police vessels were too far away. The usual training was generally limited to the immediate measures to be taken at the scene of an accident. First-aid training for shipboard personnel should take greater account of those delays and the measures that should be taken.

11. As part of the discussion on first aid, the informal working group encouraged the ADN Safety Committee to clarify who was responsible for first-aid training for shipboard personnel and, where appropriate, to indicate whether additional requirements were needed.

12. The informal working group asked the ADN Safety Committee to verify whether the definition of the term “rescue winch” in 1.2.1 was still necessary, as the term “protective and rescue equipment” was used in ADN 7.1.3.1.5, 7.1.3.1.7 and 7.2.3.1.6, while “rescue winch” was used only in 7.2.3.1.6.

13. The informal working group informed the ADN Safety Committee of inconsistencies in the requirements concerning fire and naked light. 7.1.3.41.1, 7.2.3.41.1, 8.3.4 and 7.x.3.41.1 stated that fire and naked light were prohibited. That prohibition did not apply to accommodations or the wheelhouse.

B. Adaptation of the directive on the use of the catalogue of questions for the ADN expert examination (item 2.1 of the work schedule)

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2019/7

14. The informal working group revised the directive on the use of the catalogue of questions for the ADN expert examination. The CCNR secretariat would provide the translation into French and circulate the revised version.

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

A. Recognition of training courses in accordance with chapter 8.2

15. The Chair said that there had been not been any submissions concerning that item.

B. Analysis of statistics relating to examinations

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/62, para. 42

16. The Chair said that there had not been any submissions concerning that item.

V. General issues concerning the catalogue of questions (item 3 of the work schedule)

17. The representatives of the Netherlands provided information on how the examinations for the specialization courses on gases and chemicals had been given. They gave a presentation describing the part of the examination with substantive questions.

VI. Calendar

18. The informal working group decided that its next meetings would be held in Strasbourg from 2 to 4 April 2019. The meetings would begin at 2 p.m. and finish at 1 p.m.