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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Fifty-sixth session

Geneva, 10–12 October 2012

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the fifty-sixth session^{1,2}

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 10 October 2012

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) bodies of interest to the Working Party.
3. Current situation and trends in inland water transport.
4. Development of the European inland waterway network:

¹ Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html. It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by e-mail (sc.3@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0039). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext. 740 30). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm.

² For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website www.unece.org/trans/main/sc3/sc3/sc3age.html. On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail (sc.3@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0039). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations)

- (a) European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN);
 - (b) Inventory of Main Standards and Parameters of the E Waterway Network (“Blue Book”);
 - (c) Inventory of Most Important Bottlenecks and Missing Links in the E Waterway Network (Resolution No. 49);
 - (d) UNECE online database of the E Waterway Network;
 - (e) Map of the European inland waterway network.
5. Mutual recognition of boatmasters’ certificates and harmonization of professional requirements in inland navigation.
6. Standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation:
 - (a) European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) (Resolution No. 24);
 - (b) Guidelines for Waterway Signs and Marking (Resolution No. 59);
 - (c) Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61).
7. Promotion of River Information Services (RIS) as well as other information and communication technologies (ICT) in inland navigation:
 - (a) Recommendation on Electronic Chart Display and Information System for Inland Navigation (Inland ECDIS) (Resolution No. 48);
 - (b) International Standard for Tracking and Tracing on Inland Waterways (VTT) (Resolution No. 63);
 - (c) UNECE recommendations on Maritime Mobile Service Identifiers (MMSI);
 - (d) Establishment and operation of a pan-European vessel/hull database.
8. Harmonization of the pan-European legal framework for inland navigation:
 - (a) Status of international conventions and agreements affecting inland navigation;
 - (b) Application of UNECE resolutions relating to inland navigation;
 - (c) Bilateral and multilateral agreements between UNECE member States affecting inland navigation;
 - (d) Local knowledge requirements in UNECE member States.
9. Recreational navigation:
 - (a) National legal acts governing navigation of recreational craft;
 - (b) International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft (Resolution No. 40, second revision);
 - (c) Map of the European recreational inland navigation network (AGNP) (annex of Resolution No. 52).
10. Inland water transport and security.
11. Election of officers.
12. Tentative list of meetings for 2013.
13. Other business.

14. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

The first item to be considered is the adoption of the agenda.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/192

2. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) bodies of interest to the Working Party

The Working Party on Inland Water Transport, hereafter the Working Party or SC.3, will be informed about relevant decisions of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee (ITC) taken at its seventy-fourth session (28 February – 1 March 2012).

SC.3 will also be informed about the activities and results of work of the Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) and of the ADN Administrative Committee.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/224, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/42, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/44, ECE/ADN/18, ECE/ADN/18/Corr.1 and ECE/ADN/20

3. Current situation and trends in inland water transport

The Working Party may wish to exchange information on the current situation and trends in inland navigation in the ECE region, including recent developments within the European Union and River Commissions, based on a report prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/1).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/1

4. Development of the European inland waterway network

This agenda item is based on Policy Recommendation No. 1 of the UNECE White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe (2011).

During its fifty-fifth session, SC.3 discussed the strategic development of inland waterway infrastructure set out in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/4 and decided to focus, for the time being, on maintenance of pan-European instruments on the coordinated development of network of E waterways and ports. SC.3 also agreed that one of the indicators of achievement for 2012–2013 would be promoting the second edition of the Blue Book and updating the AGN Agreement (and, if needed, other relevant UNECE instruments) based on the latest revision of the Blue Book (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/191, para. 20).

(a) European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN)

The Working Party will have before it a set of draft amendments to the AGN (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/2) that emanate from the updates identified in the course of revising the Inventory of Main Standards and Parameters of the E Waterway Network (“Blue Book”). The draft amendments had been considered and provisionally approved by

the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) at its forty-first session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 10). SC.3 may wish to consider and formally adopt the draft amendments to annexes I and II of the Agreement as reflected in the above document and request the secretariat to transmit it to the depositary.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/120/Rev.4, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/2

(b) Inventory of Main Standards and Parameters of the E Waterway Network (“Blue Book”)

The Working Party may wish to take note of the second revised edition of the Blue Book published by the secretariat.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/144/Rev.2

(c) Inventory of Most Important Bottlenecks and Missing Links in the E Waterway Network (Resolution No. 49)

As requested by SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 17) the secretariat prepared a revised list of most important bottlenecks and missing links, as set out in the annex to Resolution No. 49, based on the second revised edition of the Blue Book (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/3). SC.3 is invited to consider a revised Resolution No. 49 presented in the above document and decide as appropriate.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/3

(d) UNECE online database of the E Waterway Network

The secretariat will report on progress made in developing a web-based application collating data from the main standards and parameters of the E Waterway Network (Blue Book), the AGN and the Protocol on Combined Transport on Inland Waterways to the European Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) (Informal document SC.3 No. 1 (2012)).

Documentation: Informal document SC.3 No. 1 (2012)

(e) Map of the European inland waterway network

The Working Party will be presented with the updated map of the European inland waterway network based on information from Governments and on data from the second revised edition of the Blue Book. SC.3 may wish to take note of the new edition of the map provisionally approved by SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 20).

5. Mutual recognition of boatmasters’ certificates and harmonization of professional requirements in inland navigation

This agenda item is based on Policy Recommendation No. 5 of the UNECE White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe (2011).

It is recalled that SC.3/WP.3, at its fortieth session, recommended the establishment of an International Expert Group (IEG) on modernizing boatmasters’ certificates and professional requirements in inland navigation (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/80, paras. 9–16). The Working Party will have before it draft terms of reference of the IEG (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/4). The Working Party may wish to approve this document drafted by the secretariat at the request of SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 32) and exchange information on possible functioning of the IEG.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/4

6. Standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation

This agenda item is based on Policy Recommendation No. 3 of the UNECE White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe (2011).

SC.3/WP.3 held two sessions in 2012: the fortieth session on 15–17 February 2012 and the forty-first session on 20–22 June 2012 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/80 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82). The Working Party may wish to consider and endorse the activities carried out by SC.3/WP.3 in 2012 and provide guidance as appropriate.

(a) European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) (Resolution No. 24)

The Working Party will be informed about new responses by Governments and River Commissions to the questionnaire on implementing CEVNI, with a view to complementing the second edition of the CEVNI status document as set out in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/7. Governments and River Commissions who have not yet done so may be invited to complete the questionnaire and transmit responses to the secretariat as soon as possible.³

The Working Party is also invited to approve as pending amendments to CEVNI (to be formally adopted during its next revision) a consolidated text established by SC.3/WP.3 and comprising the draft amendments to CEVNI already provisionally agreed by SC.3 at its fifty-fifth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/191, para. 30). The text will include minor rectifications (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/80, para. 24 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 22 (a)) and new amendment proposals by SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/5).

Finally, the Working Party will be informed about progress made in the joint work of UNECE and River Commissions on the German version of CEVNI.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.4 and Corr.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/5

(b) Guidelines for Waterway Signs and Marking (Resolution No. 59)

The Working Party is invited to consider and adopt a resolution amending Resolution No. 59 contained in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/6 and in Informal document SC.3 No. 2 (2012), as agreed by SC.3/WP.3 at its fortieth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/80, para. 40).

Documentation: TRANS/SC.3/165 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/6, Informal document SC.3 No. 2 (2012)

(c) Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61)

The Working Party is invited to consider and adopt a new set of amendments to Resolution No. 61, revised, finalized by SC.3/WP.3 at its fortieth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/80, paras. 32–37) and set out in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/7.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172/Rev.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/7

³ This concerns, in particular, Governments of Austria, Croatia, France, Hungary, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation (concerning deviations of national regulations from CEVNI rules beyond those mentioned in Chapter 9), CCNR, DC and Sava Commission.

7. Promotion of River Information Services (RIS) as well as other information and communication technologies (ICT) in inland navigation

This agenda item is based on Policy Recommendation No. 3 of the UNECE White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe (2011).

At its fifty-first session, the Working Party recognized that international expert groups continuously update technical standards for river information services (RIS) and asked SC.3/WP.3 to notify SC.3 of any developments that would make it necessary to amend the UNECE resolutions related to RIS (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 27).

(a) Recommendation on Electronic Chart Display and Information System for Inland Navigation (Inland ECDIS) (Resolution No. 48)

The Working Party is invited to consider and adopt a resolution on revising Resolution No. 48 as approved by SC.3/WP.3 at its fortieth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/80, para. 46), and reflected in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2012/8.

Documentation: TRANS/SC.3/165/Rev.1 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/8

(b) International Standard for Tracking and Tracing on Inland Waterways (VTT) (Resolution No. 63)

The Working Party may wish to consider a proposal by the Chair of the VTT Expert Group (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/9) and decide to adapt Resolution No. 63 accordingly. This proposal had been rectified by SC.3/WP.3 at its forty-first session (ECE/TRANS/WP.3/82, para. 40). SC.3 may wish, in particular, to request the secretariat in cooperation with the Chair of the VTT Expert Group, to formulate an amendment proposal of Resolution No. 63 allowing the use of type B transponders by small craft on inland waterways.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/176, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/9

(c) UNECE recommendations on Maritime Mobile Service Identifiers (MMSI)

The Working Party is invited to consider a proposal of the Russian Federation to elaborate special recommendations on Maritime Mobile Service Identifiers (MMSI) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/10) as considered by SC.3/WP.3 at its forty-first session (ECE/TRANS/WP.3/82, paras. 38–39) and decide as appropriate. In particular, consideration may focus on the possible amendments of chapters 2–7.3.1 and 2–7.3.2 of the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61) as suggested in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/10.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172/Rev.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/10

(d) Establishment and operation of a pan-European vessel/hull database

The Working Party may wish to note that the Inland Transport Committee, at its seventy-fourth session (28 February – 1 March 2012), had reviewed a summary note by the secretariat on ways and means how UNECE could assist in the operation of a European vessel/hull database that would include all European inland navigation vessels (ECE/TRANS/2012/5). This note was based on the concept note approved earlier by SC.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/2). Taking account of UNECE Resolution No. 61 providing for the issuance of a unique identification number of inland navigation vessels in all UNECE member States, SC.3 may wish to be informed of the latest developments of a pilot project

on the European Hull Database (EHDB) launched in 2010 and involving 9 EU member countries and 9,300 vessels.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/2, ECE/TRANS/2012/5

8. Harmonization of the pan-European legal framework for inland navigation

This agenda item is based on Policy Recommendation No. 7 of the UNECE White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe (2011).

(a) Status of international conventions and agreements affecting inland navigation

SC.3 may wish to note information on the current status of legal instruments on inland navigation questions, adopted both within and outside UNECE, as well as the progress in a number of their Contracting Parties since the Bucharest Pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport of 2006 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/11). The Working Party may wish to invite Governments to keep the secretariat informed of any further rectifications or additions to the document.

The Working Party may also wish to note that the up-to-date texts and status of all UNECE Agreements and Conventions on transport issues may be consulted at the Inland Transport Committee's website: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/conventn/agree_e.pdf. The Working Party may wish to invite UNECE member Governments to accede to the legal instruments of relevance in inland navigation if they have not yet done so.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/11

(b) Application of UNECE resolutions relating to inland navigation

The Working Party may also wish to consider the situation of Governments applying its resolutions on the basis of document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/12 and invite Governments to accept the resolutions if they have not yet done so.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/12

(c) Bilateral and multilateral agreements between UNECE member States affecting inland navigation

The secretariat intends to update a document on the status of bilateral and multilateral agreements between UNECE member Governments on inland navigation matters depending on the response by Governments and the European Union. It had last been circulated in 2008 as ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/15.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/15

(d) Local knowledge requirements in UNECE member States

At its fifty-fourth session, the Working Party took note of an overview of local knowledge requirements existing in UNECE member States (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12) and asked the secretariat to inform SC.3 of any additions and/or updates to information contained therein (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/187, para. 39). As recommended by SC.3/WP.3 at its thirty-fourth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/68, paras. 26–27), this overview aims at rationalizing and unifying the requirements on verifying the knowledge and navigating skills of boatmasters on specific stretches of inland waterways.

The Working Party will be informed about additional information, if any, to ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12

9. Recreational navigation

(a) National legal acts governing navigation of recreational craft

The Working Party may wish to note the updated compiled information on national legal acts governing navigation of recreational craft on national waterways and on where these acts could be found (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/13). The Working Party may wish to invite Governments to submit this information to the secretariat if they have not yet done so.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/13

(b) International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft (Resolution No. 40, second revision)

At its fifty-fifth session, SC.3 agreed on a number of updates to annex IV of Resolution No. 40 and asked the secretariat to reissue the Resolution accordingly. Noting the importance of further facilitating and ensuring the safety of recreational navigation, the Working Party asked the secretariat to draft a document on implementing Resolution No. 40 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/191, paras. 44–47). The Working Party may wish to consider the second revised edition of Resolution No. 40 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/147/Rev.2), as approved by SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 46), and adopt it. The Working Party may also consider allowing the secretariat to update annex IV when receiving relevant information from Governments. The Working Party will be informed of progress made in preparing the document on implementation of Resolution No. 40.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/147/Rev.2

(c) Map of the European recreational inland navigation network (AGNP) (annex of Resolution No. 52)

It is recalled that SC.3, at its fifty-fifth session, agreed to resume working on a map of the waterways used for recreational navigation (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/191, para. 47). The Working Party is invited to consider and approve the map of the European recreational waterway network (AGNP) prepared by the secretariat, reviewed by Governments and considered by SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 44). The map is available at: www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/doc/2012/sc3wp3/AGN_recreational.pdf.

The Working Party may wish also to note that SC.3/WP.3, at its forty-first session, requested the secretariat to amend Resolution No. 52 “European Recreational Inland Navigation Network” (TRANS/SC.3/164) by supplementing it with the AGNP map and transmit the draft revised resolution to SC.3 for consideration and adoption (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 46). The draft revised Resolution No. 52 has been issued under the symbol ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/14.

Documentation: TRANS/SC.3/164 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2012/14

10. Inland water transport and security

This agenda item is based on Policy Recommendation No. 4 of the UNECE White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe (2011).

It is recalled that the issue of “transport and security” was initially put on the agenda of SC.3 at its forty-sixth session in November 2002 at the request of the Inland Transport Committee. At its fiftieth, fifty-first and fifty-second sessions, the Working Party considered the secretariat's proposal on a draft annex IV to the AGN Agreement “Protection of the Network of Inland Waterways of International Importance from Intentional External Influence” (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2006/7 and Add.1), but failed to come to a concerted action on this issue, believing that it was premature to adopt either the new annex IV to the AGN or a resolution on protecting the E waterway network (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/181, para. 16). At the same time, SC.3 took note of the recommendations by the UNECE Multidisciplinary Group of Experts on Inland Transport Security (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/2) and, in particular, of the recommendation to integrate security provisions into existing legal agreements, including the AGN (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/181, para. 12).

In this connection, the Working Party may wish to note that SC.3/WP.3 had decided to revert, at its forthcoming session in February 2013, to the draft annex IV to the AGN Agreement on questions of security as set out in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2006/7 and Add.1 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/82, para. 13).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2006/7 and Add.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/2

11. Election of officers

The Working Party may wish to elect a Chair for its fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions to be held in 2013 and 2014.

12. Tentative list of meetings for 2013

The Working Party may wish to approve the following tentative list of meetings of for the year 2013:

13–15 February 2013	Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (forty-second session);
26–28 June 2013	Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (forty-third session);
16–18 October 2013	Working Party on Inland Water Transport (fifty-seventh session).

13. Other business

At the time of drafting this provisional agenda, there were no proposals under this item.

14. Adoption of the report

In accordance with established practice, the Working Party will adopt the decisions taken at its fifty-sixth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.

III. Tentative timetable

Wednesday, 10 October	10.30 – 13.00	Items 1 – 3
	15.00 – 17.30	Items 4 – 6
Thursday, 11 October	09.30 – 12.30	Items 7 – 8
	14.30 – 17.30	Items 9 – 13
Friday, 12 October	10.00 – 13.00	Item 14
