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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on Inland Water Transport

##### Sixty-fourth session

Geneva, 7–9 October 2020

Item 7 (d) of the provisional agenda

**Standardization of technical and safety requirements  
in inland navigation: Prevention of pollution of inland  
waterways by vessels (resolution No. 21, revised)**

### **Revision of the list of reception facilities for transfer of waste from vessels**

#### **Note by the secretariat**

#### **I. Mandate**

1. This document is submitted in line with the programme of work of the Transport subprogramme for 2020 (ECE/TRANS/2020/21, chapter IV, table, section A, para. 11) adopted by the Inland Transport Committee at its eighty-second session (ECE/TRANS/294, para. 136).
2. At its sixty-second session, the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) decided to update the provisions of resolution No. 21, “Prevention of Pollution of inland Waterways by vessels” and the list of reception facilities for transfer of waste from vessels on European inland waterways (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/207, paras. 40–42).
3. At its virtual informal meeting held on 29 and 30 June 2020, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) asked the secretariat to complement the revised list of reception facilities with the missing information and finalize the draft for the adoption at the sixty-fourth session of SC.3.

#### **II. Background**

4. In 1999, the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) adopted the recommendations of the small group of experts with the task of identifying the purpose and scope of future ECE work on problems relating to the prevention of pollution from vessels:<sup>1</sup>
  - Collection of the polluting substances on board vessels and their delivery to the reception facilities for subsequent processing on the shore could be a definitive solution for the prevention of water pollution from inland navigation vessels.

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<sup>1</sup> See TRANS/SC.3/150.

- Reception facilities should have the necessary capacity and be located at appropriate distances from each other.
  - In its efforts to prevent water pollution from inland navigation vessels, each State should make use of the best available technology. Each State should also make provision for infrastructure development measures such as the construction of port waste reception and management facilities, incinerators, etc. These measures should be coordinated and harmonized throughout Europe.
  - Each State should apply the “polluter pays” principle. The cost of discharge into reception facilities should not be payable directly so that a vessel cannot make savings out of its waste disposal contributions by discharging its waste into inland waterways.
  - A transition period should be scheduled in order to bring the present inland navigation technical infrastructure up to the level required to ensure that inland waterways receive maximum protection.
  - During the transition period, each European State should be equipped with full waste reception facilities so as to prevent as far as possible pollution from inland navigation vessels.
5. On the basis of the above recommendations, SC.3 in 1999–2003 prepared a list of reception facilities available on the European inland waterway network for the transfer of waste generated on board vessels (TRANS/SC.3/150 and Add.1–3).

### **III. Updated list of reception facilities for the transfer of waste generated on board vessels**

6. In 2019–2020, SC.3/WP.3 collected information for updating the list of reception facilities for the transfer of waste generated on board vessels (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2020/27, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2020/28, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2020/10 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2020/11). It was proposed to complement the annex to resolution No. 21 with the updated list as an appendix. In the updated list, it is proposed to use the types and categories of waste applied in chapter 10 of the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI).
7. SC.3 may wish to adopt the updated list as an appendix to the annex to resolution No. 21, revision 2, adopted in 2019. The draft resolution of SC.3 (without the annex) is contained in the annex to this document. The consolidated list of reception facilities is contained in Informal document SC.3 No. 4 (2020).

## Annex

### **Addition to resolution No. 21, revised, “Prevention of pollution of inland waterways by vessels”**

#### **Resolution No. ...**

(adopted by the Working Party on Inland Water Transport on ...)

*The Working Party on Inland Water Transport,*

*Recalling* the main objectives and strategic actions set out in the Ministerial declaration “Inland Navigation in a Global Setting” adopted at the International Conference on Inland Water Transport in Wrocław, Poland, on 18 April 2018, in particular, on reducing the risk of accidents and minimizing environmental impact from inland navigation,

*Responding* to resolution No. 265 “Facilitating the Development of Inland Water Transport” of 22 February 2019 of the Inland Transport Committee,

*Responding also* to Policy recommendation No. 4 of the UNECE White Paper on the progress, accomplishment and future of sustainable inland water transport (ECE/TRANS/279) to encourage the modernization and greening of the fleet and infrastructure to better tackle environmental challenges,

*Emphasizing* the need for maintaining and developing a network of reception stations for the transfer of waste generated on board vessels and the necessary infrastructure on European inland waterways,

*Recognizing* the relevance of the ongoing work on the separate collection, processing and recycling of waste generated on board vessels, for the circular economy principles,

*Bearing in mind* the reports of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation on its fifty-fourth, fifty-fifth and fifty-seventh sessions (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/108, paras. 59–60, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/110, paras. 64–65, and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/114, para. ...),

1. *Decides* to complement the annex to resolution No. 21, revised, with the appendix contained in the annex to this resolution,
2. *Encourages* Governments to support the separated collection, delivery and processing of waste generated on board vessels;
3. *Invites* Governments and river commissions to inform the Working Party on updates to the information contained in the annex to this resolution;
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe to periodically include the question of application of this resolution in the agenda of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport.