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Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation

Fifty-eighth session

Geneva, 17–19 February 2021

Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Workshop “Climate change and the extreme water situation on European waterways and its impact on inland water transport”

Programme of the workshop and the background

In the recent years, the impact of climate change and associated events on a smooth and reliable operation of inland water transport has become one of the priority issues for the sector. Low water situation on some European rivers, in particular, on the Rhine, as it was mentioned in the press-release of the Central Commission of the Navigation of the Rhine of 30 October 2018, has brought to considerable negative consequences in the sector.

The impact of climate change on transport networks and the need for adaptation and resilience-building was highlighted at the workshop “Sustainable Development Goals and how they can be achieved in inland waterways”, held on 12 February 2020 at the fifty-sixth session of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) when addressing the activities of the sector in relation to Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

The purpose of the workshop “Climate change and the extreme water situation on European waterways and its impact on inland water transport” is to:

- (a) Highlight the impact of climate change on the sector and identify the main climate change phenomena and associated events on European waterways, ports and the operation of the inland fleet;
- (b) Address the existing methodologies for climate projections and their use for planning;
- (c) Share experience in risk assessment methodologies, actions, measures and strategies aimed to cope with climate change impacts on inland navigation, and
- (d) Consider actions that could be undertaken by SC.3 to assist countries in addressing this challenge.

The participants are invited to fill out an online questionnaire available at <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=2zWeD09UYE-9zF6kFubccAyLWY8uBhNhrqx8CQ1XespUQUFJRDE5TVIUOFRUSDhTNIBVNIQzSEtSVC4u>.

Programme of the workshop

<i>Time</i>	<i>Presentation</i>
10:10	Opening of the workshop
10:10–10:30	Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for International Transport Networks Mr. Lukasz WYROWSKI, secretary of the Group of Experts on Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation for Inland Transport, UNECE secretariat
10:30–10:50	Enhancing resilience to climate change through Copernicus climate change impact indicators and forecasts Mr. Stijn VERMOOTE, European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
10:50–11:20	Economic damage effects of low water on the Rhine, coping strategies and mitigation measures Mr. Norbert KRIEDEL, Central Commission of the Navigation of the Rhine
11:20–11:40	Climate impact research for the inland waterway transport sector in central Europe: results and applications Mr. Enno NILSON, Federal Institute of Hydrology, Germany
11:40–12:00	Climate change impact and mitigation measures in the Dniester region Mr. Ilya TROMBITSKY, International Environmental Association of River Keepers Eco-Tiras
12:00–14:00	LUNCH BREAK
14:00–14:20	Overview of the climate change impact on maritime transport Ms. Regina ASARIOTIS, UNCTAD
14:20–14:40	Climate Change Adaptation Planning for Ports and Inland Waterways Ms. Jan BROOKE, PIANC EnviCom WG 178
14:40–15:00	DriDanube project: Managing drought related risks in the Danube region Ms. Andreja SUSNIK, Slovenian Environment Agency
15:00–15:15	Questions and answers
15:15–16:00	Issues for further consideration
