

Distr.: Restricted
9 February 2021

English only

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 5 (a) of the provisional agenda

Standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation:

European Code for Inland Waterways (resolution No. 24, revision 5)

Draft minutes of the thirty-sixth meeting of the CEVNI Expert Group, held on 8 February 2021

Transmitted by the CEVNI Expert Group*

1. The CEVNI Expert Group held its thirty-sixth meeting on 8 February 2021 as a virtual meeting.
2. The meeting was attended by Messrs. B. Birkhuber and A. Joch (Austria), Messrs. E. Brodsky and A. Zhegalin (Russian Federation), Ms. M. Hirtz (Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine), Messrs. I. Alexander and S. Tzarnakliyski (Danube Commission), Ms. P. Brückner (Mosel Commission), Mr. Z. Milkovic (International Sava River Basin Commission), Ms. C. Paddison (European Boating Association, hereafter EBA) and Ms. V. Ivanova (ECE secretariat).
3. The Group adopted the provisional agenda (CEVNI EG/2021/1/Rev.1):
 - I. Adoption of the minutes of the thirty-fifth meeting of the Expert Group.
Document: CEVNI EG/2020/24
 - II. The distress signals (article 3.30) and the prohibition signs (annex 3, sketches 66–67).
Document: CEVNI/EG/2021/3
 - III. Harmonization of CEVNI with Article 6.32 and provisions for marker posts in Annex 8 of DFND.
Documents: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2021/4, CEVNI/EG/2021/5
 - IV. Provisions of article 4.07 and chapter 6 applicable to recreational and small craft.
Documents: CEVNI EG/2020/12, CEVNI EG/2021/7

* CEVNI EG/2021/8.

- V. Consolidated text of amendments to CEVNI 5.
Documents: CEVNI/EG/2021/2, CEVNI/EG/2021/6
- VI. Preparation of the first draft of CEVNI 6.
Document: CEVNI/EG/2021/4
- VII. Other business.
- VIII. Next meeting.

I. Adoption of the minutes of the thirty-fifth meeting of the CEVNI Expert Group

Document: CEVNI EG/2020/24

- 4. The Group finalized and adopted the minutes of its thirty-fifth meeting held virtually on 27 November 2020 (CEVNI EG/2020/24).

II. The distress signals (article 3.30) and the prohibition signs (annex 3, sketches 66–67)

Document: CEVNI/EG/2021/3

- 5. Following its decision at its thirty-third meeting (CEVNI EG/2020/13, para. 16), the Group took note of the information from member States on the application of the distress signals prescribed in article 3.30 of CEVNI and the sketches used for the prohibition of boarding, smoking or using fires and naked light, prescribed in articles 3.31 and 3.32 (CEVNI/EG/2021/3), following the decision of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) at its sixty-fourth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/213, para. 40). The Group decided to keep the existing provisions in CEVNI 6 and stressed that they should only be deleted in CEVNI if it is ensured that they are no longer accepted in the technical regulations of any member State.

III. Harmonization of CEVNI with Article 6.32 and provisions for marker posts in Annex 8 of DFND

Documents: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2021/4, CEVNI/EG/2021/5

- 6. Following the decision at its thirty-fifth meeting (CEVNI EG/2020/24, para 15), the Group took note of article 6.32 in the Basic Rules of Navigation on the Danube (DFND) (CEVNI/EG/2021/5) and agreed to modify paragraphs 2 and 3 of article 6.32 of CEVNI as follows:

- 2. As soon as a vessel proceeding upstream **by radar** observes oncoming vessels on the radar screen, or when it is approaching a sector where there might be vessels not yet visible on the screen, it shall communicate by radiotelephone to the oncoming vessels its category (for example, pushed convoy, high-speed vessel), name, direction and position, and agree with these vessels on a procedure for passing.

- 3. As soon as a vessel proceeding downstream **by radar** observes on the radar screen a vessel whose position or course may cause a dangerous situation and which has not established contact by radiotelephone, **or if it approaches a section where there may be a such vessel not yet visible on the radar screen**, the vessel proceeding downstream shall draw the attention of this vessel to the dangerous situation by radiotelephone and agree on a procedure for passing.

- 7. The Group took note of the provisions for marker posts contained in annex 8 to DFND (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2021/4) and referred to various examples of marker posts used on inland waterways and coastal areas. The Group decided that no modifications were needed to CEVNI, as this has been already covered in annex 8, chapter III, paragraph 3.2.

8. The Group agreed to add “(bank marks)” after “marks on land” in annex 8, chapter III of CEVNI to bring this in line with the terminology used in the European Code for Signs and Signals on Inland Waterways (SIGNI) (resolution No. 90).

IV. Provisions of article 4.07 and chapter 6 applicable to recreational and small craft

Documents: CEVNI EG/2020/12, CEVNI EG/2021/7

9. The Group came back to paragraphs 6, 7 and 36 of table 5 (CEVNI EG/2020/12) and recalled that, at its thirty-third meeting, it had decided to consider them as a separate item (CEVNI EG/2020/13, para. 19, third bullet point). The Group mentioned that the above-mentioned paragraphs related to the rules of the road for small craft, towed convoys and side-by-side formations and/or in relation to them and reflected the difference in the provisions of CEVNI. The Group was of the opinion that no critical issues had been identified in the existing text of CEVNI and no amendments were needed for CEVNI 6. However, the Group asked the secretariat to include this item in the future work after the adoption of CEVNI 6.

10. Following the proposal of EBA (CEVNI EG/2021/7), the Group came back to the revised article 4.07, paragraph 4 (see CEVNI EG/2021/4), in relation to an obligation for chart display devices with ENC^s in information mode, installed on board of pleasure craft, to comply with the International Inland ECDIS Standard (annex to resolution No. 48). The discussion went over the applicability of this requirement to pleasure craft with a length above 20 m in length, a possible impact on navigation safety in narrow sections and under bridges and the need for establishing the minimum requirements for this equipment. It was mentioned that, in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 4.07, small craft had been exempted from the scope of this article, and this fact could be reflected in paragraph 4. Ms. Hirtz referred to article 4.07 of the Police Regulations for the Navigation of the Rhine, where exemptions had been provided for small craft, except small police vessels and vessels with the Rhine certificate. Ms. Paddison expressed the concern of EBA members whether the competent authorities would accept the connections of the chart display devices installed on board pleasure craft as compliant with the Inland ECDIS Standard¹ in terms of a failsafe design. Messrs. Birkhuber and Milkovic stressed that paragraph 6.3 “Interfaces” of the Inland ECDIS standard does not exclude the application of the connections used in this equipment and therefore would not constitute a problem for recreational boaters.

11. The Group proposed to modify paragraph 4 as follows and agreed to finalize this at its next meeting:

4. Competent authorities may require on certain inland waterways for which official Inland ENC^s are available, that vessels that are equipped with Inland AIS devices [**in accordance with paragraph 1**], except ferries, shall also be equipped with Inland ECDIS devices in information mode, connected to the Inland AIS device.

V. Consolidated text of amendments to CEVNI 5

Document: CEVNI/EG/2021/2, CEVNI/EG/2021/6

12. The Group revised the consolidated text of amendments to CEVNI 5 (CEVNI/EG/2021/2), that had been approved by SC.3 in 2017–2020 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.5/Amends. 1 to 4) and proposed by the CEVNI Expert Group at its thirty-third, thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth meetings (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2020/4, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2021/1 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2021/2). The Group had no comments to the text and asked the secretariat to transmit this to SC.3/WP.3 with due regard of the modifications agreed at the present meeting.

¹ ECE/TRANS/SC.3/156/Rev.4.

VI. Preparation of the first draft of CEVNI 6

Document: CEVNI/EG/2021/4

13. The Group discussed the amendments to be introduced in the “zero” draft of CEVNI 6 as prepared by the secretariat (CEVNI/EG/2021/4) and agreed on the following modifications:

- (a) Article 1.01, part IV, at the end *add* a new definition 24

24. The term “ship’s certificate” means the ship’s certificate, issued in accordance with the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (annex to resolution No. 61), the inland navigation vessel certificate or other recognized ship’s certificate.

- (b) Article 1.07, *renumber* paragraphs 2a to 5 as 3 to 6;

- (c) Article 1.10:

- Paragraph 1 (a), *delete* (Inland Navigation Vessel certificate)
- Paragraph 1 (w), *replace* the certificates for liquefied natural gas experts *with* the certificate of qualification as an LNG expert;

- (d) Article 6.08, paragraph 3, *delete* due to some reasons;

- (e) Article 6.22, paragraph 2 (c), *replace* A.1g *with* A.1.1;

- (f) Article 7.05, paragraph 6, *modify*

6. If a berthing area adjacent to the fairway, in addition to the signs prescribed in paragraphs 1 to 5 above or in article 7.06, is separated from the fairway with buoys with lights, the buoys shall conform to the requirements laid down in chapter II D of annex 8 of these regulations.

- (g) Article 7.08, paragraph 4 (a), *delete* the square brackets and *replace* an expert certificate in the use of LNG as a fuel *with* the certificate of qualification as an LNG expert;

- (h) Article 8.02, *renumber* paragraphs 3a–7 as 4–9;

- (i) Article 9.07, *renumber* paragraphs 4a–14 as 4–16.

14. The Group agreed to introduce the following modifications to annexes 3–5 and 10:

- (a) Annex 3, sketch 41, *delete* the text below the sketch;

- (b) Annex 4, *modify* footnote 3

³ Requirements to lights and the colour of signal lights on vessels ~~shall be~~ **are** included in “Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels” (resolution No. 61), **appendix 7 “Requirements Concerning Lights and the Colour of Signal Lights on Vessels, Intensity and Range of Signal Lights on Vessels and General Technical Specifications Applicable to Radar Equipment”**;

- (c) Annex 5, *modify* footnote 4

⁴ Requirements to intensity and range of signal lights on vessels ~~shall be~~ **are** included in “Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels” (resolution No. 61), **appendix 7 “Requirements Concerning Lights and the Colour of Signal Lights on Vessels, Intensity and Range of Signal Lights on Vessels and General Technical Specifications Applicable to Radar Equipment”**;

- (d) Annex 10, *modify* footnote 7

⁷ Requirements applicable to radar equipment ~~shall be~~ **are** included in “Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels” (resolution No. 61), **appendix 7 “Requirements Concerning Lights and the Colour of Signal Lights on Vessels, Intensity and Range of Signal Lights on Vessels and General Technical Specifications Applicable to Radar Equipment”**.

15. The Group agreed to introduce the following modifications to annex 7:

- (a) Bring the sketches of navigation signs in line with figures in appendix 1 to SIGNI, except A.12 and E.15;
- (b) A.1, *modify*
(see articles 3.25, para. 2 (b), 6.08, **para. 2**, 6.16, **para. 5**, 6.22, 6.22 bis, 6.25, 6.26, 6.27, **para. 1** and 6.28 bis)
- (c) A.1.1, *delete* A.1g;
- (d) A.4 and A.4.1, *modify*
(see articles 6.08, para. 1, **and 6.11**)
- (e) A.12, at the end, *add* (see article 6.22, para. 2(b))
- (f) B.5, *replace* the Regulations *with* these regulations
- (g) E.1, *modify*
(see articles 6.08, **para. 2**, 6.16, **para. 6**, 6.26, 6.27, **para. 2**, and 6.28 bis)
- (h) E.5.1–E.5.15, E.7 and E.7.1, the text withing the brackets, at the end, *add* and article 7.02, para. 2
- (i) E.6, *modify*
(see articles 6.18, para. 3, **7.02, para. 2**, and **7.03, para. 2**)
- (j) E.6.1, *modify*
(see articles **7.02, para. 2**, and **7.03, para. 4**)
- (k) E.11, at the end, *add*
(see article 6.12, para. 1).

16. The Group agreed to introduce the following modifications to annex 8:

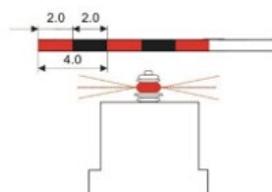
- (a) Chapter I C, the last line, *move* the existing footnote 6 to the end of the text in the left column and *modify*

⁶ ~~In this instance~~ **On the second sketch**, a long flash permits clear differentiation of the rhythm.

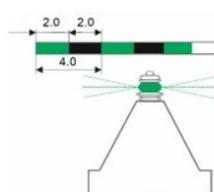
- (b) Chapter II D, *replace* figures 3 bis and 3 ter introduced in CEVNI EG/2020/24, para. 11 (b), the second bullet, *with* the following sketches

Example:

Right-hand side of the fairway



Left-hand side of the fairway



17. The Group approved the editorial changes proposed by the secretariat in CEVNI/EG/2021/4. The secretariat was asked to introduce the modifications agreed by the Group to the “zero” draft of CEVNI 6 and transmit this to the fifty-eighth session of SC.3/WP.3.

18. The Group found it desirable to modify sketches of signs A.12 and E.15 in appendix 1 to SIGNI in accordance with annex 7 to CEVNI.

19. Ms. Hirtz stressed that the German translation of CEVNI 6 would be desirable for German-speaking countries. The secretariat was asked to highlight this issue at the session of SC.3/WP.3 who might wish to invite member States to provide a financial support for the translation of CEVNI 6 into German.

VII. Other business

20. There were no topics proposed under this agenda item.

VIII. Next meeting

21. The Group agreed to hold its thirty-seventh meeting as a half-day virtual session in March–April 2021. The final date will be agreed later.

22. The Group decided to include in the agenda of its thirty-seventh meeting: (a) the finalization of article 4.07, paragraph 4 and article 9.02, paragraph 8; (b) the follow-up of the decisions of the fifty-eighth session of SC.3/WP.3 and guidance provided to the Group; (c) further editorial modifications to the English text of the draft CEVNI 6, if needed, and (d) and the preparation of other language versions.
