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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 9 of the provisional agenda
Inland waterway statistics

Proposal for an E Waterway Census

Transmitted by Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Romania and Russian Federation

At the sixty-fourth session of SC.3, the secretariat presented ways to realise an E waterway census, based on existing data sources such as the Eurostat data, identified challenges and next steps that required a guidance from the Working Party. It was mentioned that (a) the available statistical data would allow a large amount of geospatial visualisations of total freight volumes and origin-destination routes; (b) if regional data were available for non-Eurostat countries, a similar analysis could be conducted; (c) the data sources were public datasets and (d) further analyses were possible, depending on analytical need.

Governments have been invited to provide comments on what future analysis could focus on.

The present document contains answers transmitted by Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Germany, Romania and Russian Federation.

Country	*Answer*
Belarus	In the Republic of Belarus, the following official statistical information on transport by inland waterways is collected: - volume of cargo transportation by inland water transport in thousand tons; - freight turnover of inland water transport in million ton-kilometres; - volume of passenger transportation by inland water transport in million people; - passenger turnover of inland waterway transport in million passenger-kilometres. This data is available on the official website of the statistical committee at https://www.belstat.gov.by/. In order to accumulate statistical data on transport by inland waterways for the subsequent analysis, also by interested countries, this can be collected by the relevant

Country	*Answer*
	UNECE Working Parties and uploaded on the UNECE website. The data can be collected on a voluntary basis based on quarterly (annual) requests.
Belgium	In Flanders, statistical data is provided for the inland waterways network on https://www.vlaamsewaterweg.be/publicaties/statistieken. In Wallonia, statistical data is provided for the inland waterways network on http://voies-hydrauliques.wallonie.be/opencms/opencms/fr/nav/navstat/index.html. Information is collected by the federal government, which passes the information on to Eurostat. Interesting example of the analysis of inland waterways can be found on the website of the CCNR at www.ccr-zkr.org/13020800-nl.html. With the aim of realizing the modal shift to the waterway, it would certainly be interesting to be able to compare the different modes in an international context.
Bulgaria	The Republic of Bulgaria provides information on the transport of goods to Eurostat and the Danube Commission. Issues related to freight statistics and access to this data can be included in the agenda of the working groups of the Danube Commission and other River Commissions. At its fifty-eighth session, Working Party SC.3/WP.3 may wish to invite River Commissions to cooperate on this issue.
Croatia	We believe that visualisation by type of good could be useful. Since there are 16 type of goods groups, maybe if similar groups of products could be summarized and grouped together (as it was shown at the session of SC.3), it would be possible to get more useful data without clogging the graphical representation. Definitely, there is a need to have the possibility of graphical representation for the total volume carried out. The question what will the graphics look like must be discussed with statisticians and designers in order to get most of the data provided.
Germany	In order to visualise statistical data we prefer GIS representations, as from page 16 of the online document. Different data sources (number of transport, type of goods, freight volumes between nodes) can be brought into a standardised, clear form with such GIS applications. If there is to be an online platform, Travis might be an approach (www.travis.baw.de). The data base of Travis is the traffic interconnection forecasts of the Federal Transport Infrastructure Plan. There, criteria such as year, figures and data types can be adjusted, compared and exported. The majority of our questions would be addressed with the evaluations outlined in the online document. These would be quantities of goods, streams and interconnections. Some statistics are freely available on the homepage (see https://w3.unece.org/PXWeb/en), but these are highly aggregated. It would be desirable to analyse smaller traffic relations.
Romania	Data on the freight volumes and prices is outside our area of jurisdiction.
Russian Federation	It is proposed to continue discussions on this issue.