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|  | United Nations | ECE/ADN/56 | |
| _unlogo | **Economic and Social Council** | | Distr.: General  18 February 2021  Original: English |

**Economic Commission for Europe**

**Administrative Committee of the European Agreement  
concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous  
Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)**

**Twenty-fifth session**

Geneva, 29 January 2021

Report of the Administrative Committee of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways on its twenty-fifth session[[1]](#footnote-2)\*

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I. Attendance

1. The Administrative Committee of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) held its twenty-fifth session in Geneva on 29 January 2021.

2. Representatives of the following Contracting Parties took part in the work of the session: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation and Switzerland.

3. The Administrative Committee noted that the representatives of Contracting Parties attending the session had been accredited and that the quorum of not less than half of the Contracting Parties required for the purpose of taking decisions had been reached.

4. In accordance with article 17, paragraph 2 of ADN, and following a decision by the Committee (ECE/ADN/2, para. 8), a representative of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) took part in the session as observer.

Organizational matters

5. As a result of the coronavirus pandemic and the measures implemented by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and ADN Contracting Parties to protect public health, such as travel restrictions, it was decided to postpone the twenty-fifth session of the ADN Administrative Committee. The session, initially scheduled on 28 August 2020, was held on 29 January 2021 in place of the twenty-sixth session and in a hybrid format allowing the participation in person or remotely.

II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

*Documents:* ECE/ADN/55/Rev.1 and Add.1/Rev.1

6. The Administrative Committee adopted the agenda prepared by the secretariat after amending it to take account of informal documents INF.1 to INF.6.

III. Election of officers for 2021 (agenda item 2)

7. On the proposals of the representatives of France and Switzerland, the Administrative Committee re-elected Mr. H. Langenberg (Netherlands) as chair and Mr. B. Birklhuber (Austria) and as vice-chair for its sessions in 2021.

IV. Status of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (agenda item 3)

8. The Administrative Committee noted that the number of Contracting Parties to ADN remained at 18: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg, Republic of Moldova, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland and Ukraine.

9. The Committee noted that the proposed amendments adopted at its previous session (ECE/ADN/54) were communicated to Contracting Parties on 1 July 2020 for acceptance (C.N.273.2020.TREATIES-XI-D-6) and were deemed accepted on 1 October 2020 had entered into force on 1 January 2021 (C.N.461.2020.TREATIES-XI-D-6).

10. Proposed amendments adopted by silence procedure (ECE/ADN/54/Add.1) were communicated to Contracting Parties on 1 September 2020 for acceptance under depositary notification C.N.367.2020.TREATIES-XI-D-6 and were deemed accepted on 1 December 2020, had entered into force on 1 January 2021.

11. Proposed correction contained in ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/25 was communicated to Contracting Parties on 16 July 2020 for acceptance (C.N.309.2020.TREATIES-XI-D-6). Correction was deemed to be accepted on 14 October 2020 (C.N.504.2020.TREATIES-XI-D-6).

12. Proposed corrections contained in ECE/ADN/54/Corr.1, were communicated to Contracting Parties on 1 October 2020 for acceptance (C.N.420.2020.TREATIES-XI-D-6). As no objections were received by 30 December 2020, they were deemed accepted on 1 January 2021.

V. Matters relating to the implementation of ADN   
(agenda item 4)

A. Classification societies

*Informal documents:* INF.1 (Austria) and INF.5 (Bulgaria)

13. The Administrative Committee took note of the information provided by Austria and Bulgaria in informal documents INF.1 and INF.5 which were also available on the UNECE website.

14. The Administrative Committee invited countries to check the contact information for their competent authority and, if necessary, to recognise classification societies from the recommended list in accordance with 1.15.2.4 of the annexed Regulations if they had not already done so.

15. It was noted that the lists of recommended and recognised classification societies were available on the secretariat's website at the following address: <https://unece.org/classification-societies>.

B. Special authorizations, derogations and equivalents

16. The Administrative Committee did not receive any requests for special authorizations, derogations and equivalents for consideration at this session.

17. It was recalled that the text of special authorizations, special agreements, derogations and equivalents, as well as their status, and of notifications, could be found on the secretariat's website at the following link: <https://unece.org/transport/dangerous-goods>

C. Miscellaneous notifications

1. Examination statistics

*Informal document:* INF.2 (Romania)

18. The Administrative Committee took note of the examination statistics provided by Romania. The Committee recalled that examinations statistics were considered very useful and invited the informal working group on the training of experts to take into account the information provided by Romania.

2. Information on recognition of an inspection body within the framework of the ADN

*Informal document:* INF.3 (Poland)

19. The Administrative Committee took note of the information provided by Poland in informal documents INF.3 which was also available on the UNECE website.

20. It was recalled that, according to 1.16.4.3 of the Regulations annexed to ADN, the Administrative Committee is expected to maintain an updated list of the inspection bodies appointed. Information received so far is available on the secretariat’s website at <https://unece.org/inspection-bodies>.

3. Model expert certificates

*Informal documents:* INF.4 (Netherlands) and INF.6 (Poland)

21. The Administrative Committee took note of the information provided by the Netherlands and Poland in informal documents INF.4 and INF.6 which were also available on the UNECE website. The Committee confirmed only paragraph numbers on the backside of the certificates were sufficient but full texts, alongside paragraph numbers could be optionally included.

22. It was also recalled that model expert certificates received by the secretariat were available on the UNECE website at the following link: <https://unece.org/model-expert-certificates>. Contracting Parties that have not yet done so, were invited to send their model expert certificates and ADN examination statistics to the secretariat.

D. Other matters

23. No other matters were raised under this item.

VI. Work of the Safety Committee (agenda item 5)

24. The Administrative Committee took note of the work of the Safety Committee as reflected in the report on its thirty-seventh session which it approved on the basis of the draft report prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2021/R.1 and Adds. 1-5 and ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2021/R.2) adopted during the report reading (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/76).

25. It also approved the proposed amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN for incorporation in the draft set of amendments that it should consider at its twenty-seventh session in January 2022 for formal adoption and subsequent submission to Contracting Parties for acceptance and entry into force on 1 January 2023, as contained in annex I of that report. It also approved the corrections to the ADN 2021 publication (not requiring acceptance by Contracting Parties) listed in annex II as well as the proposed corrections to the Regulations annexed to ADN listed in annex III (requiring acceptance by Contracting Parties) and requested the secretariat to arrange for their communication to Contracting Parties so that the texts may be rectified as soon as possible in accordance with the usual procedure for corrections.

VII. Programme of work and calendar of sessions   
(agenda item 6)

26. The Administrative Committee decided to hold its next session on 27 August 2021 (from 12.00 to 13:00) and noted that the deadline for submission of documents is 28 May 2021.

VIII. Any other business (agenda item 7)

A. Work of the Inland Transport Committee

27. The Administrative Committee was informed that the eighty-third session of the Inland Transport Committee will be held in Geneva from 23 to 26 February 2021. It was noted that, in addition to questions relating to the its work and that of its subsidiary bodies, the Committee will have the opportunity to consider the progress in the implementation of its ITC strategy until 2030 and to review its Terms of Reference. The annotated provisional agenda (ECE/TRANS/303/Add.1) as well as the documentation for the session are available at the UNECE secretariat’s website[[2]](#footnote-3).

B. 2021 edition of the ADN

28. The Administrative Committee noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had issued the 2021 edition of ADN and that the electronic versions were available on the website[[3]](#footnote-4).

C. Special authorizations

29. The representatives of Belgium and the Netherlands informed the Committee of two requests for special authorization still under consideration at national level that would be submitted to the Administrative Committee at a future session in accordance with 1.5.2 of the ADN.

IX. Adoption of the report (agenda item 8)

30. The Administrative Committee adopted the report on its twenty-fifth session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat and sent to delegations for approval by e-mail after the session.

1. \* Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR-ZKR/ADN/56. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. https://unece.org/transport/events/itc-inland-transport-committee-83rd-session [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. https://unece.org/transport/dangerous-goods/adn-2021 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)