Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

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Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (ADN Safety Committee)

Thirty-eighth session

Geneva, 23–27 August 2021 Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda

Implementation of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN): special authorizations, derogations and equivalents

Request for recommendation for Invotis IX on the basis of 9.1.0.40.2.16 – Fixed fire-extinguishing system for physical protection

Transmitted by the Government of the Netherlands

Introduction

- 1. According to ADN section 9.1.0.40.2.16, physical protection by permanently fixed fire-extinguishing systems in the engine rooms, boiler rooms and pump rooms are accepted solely on the basis of recommendations by the Administrative Committee.
- 2. ES-TRIN 2021 is amended to allow for fire-extinguishing installations protecting objects under Article 10.11, sub 17, a, second option (relevant text underlined):
 - 17. Rooms in which lithium-ion accumulators are stored shall comply with the following requirements:
 - (a) These rooms shall be protected against fire of one or several lithium-ion accumulators on the basis of a fire protection concept developed by an expert
 - i) having regard to the other equipment located in the same room,
 - ii) having regard to instructions of the manufacturer of the lithium-ion accumulators.
 - iii) including provisions for alarm systems.
 - A fire protection concept may be dispensed with if the lithium-ion accumulators are stored in a fireproof enclosure, which is equipped
 - i) with at least one monitoring device (fire and thermal runaway) and
 - ii) by derogation from article 13.06, with one suitable fixed fireextinguishing installation for protecting objects.
 - (b) In the case referred to in (a) first sentence, these rooms shall be shielded with A60 partitions.
 - (c) These rooms or the lithium-ion accumulators housed in a fireproof enclosure shall be mechanically ventilated to the open deck. The exhaust outlet of the ventilation shall be located in such a way that the safety of persons on board is not endangered. These requirements do not apply if the cumulative capacity of the lithium-ion accumulators in the room is below 20 kWh.

- 3. As a consequence, an exception to the current art. 13.06 ES-TRIN, prohibiting permanently installed firefighting systems for protecting objects, is introduced in ES-TRIN. It seems that the prohibition of art. 13.06 ES-TRIN and 9.1.0.40.2.16 ADN were related.
- 4. The Dutch delegation has received a request for a recommendation pursuant 9.1.0.40.2.16, and intents to request that recommendation at the next session of the ADN Safety Committee. The requirements of the derogation will be similar to the ES-TRIN requirements (above) which will enter into force on 1 January 2022, taking into account the conclusion from the Group of Recommended ADN Classification Societies in its latest report (Point III, e from ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2021/18)
- 5. However, if a recommendation is granted by the ADN Administrative Committee, the provisions regarding fixed fire-extinguisher systems for lithium-ion accumulators stored in fireproof enclosures should also be incorporated into ADN.
- 6. Alternatively, the Safety Committee could discuss whether it is still relevant to incorporate entire sections of ES-TRIN Articles into the ADN. The annex to Resolution 61 is regularly harmonized with ES-TRIN by the work of the "Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation" (SC.3/WP.3). If the Safety Committee should come to the conclusion that the inclusion of provisions for fixed fire-extinguisher installations is no longer relevant in ADN, the Dutch delegation is willing to coordinate the work to remove these provisions.

Action to be taken

7. The Dutch delegation requests the Safety Committee to discuss the above considerations in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 and to take action as it deems appropriate.