Economic Commission for Europe
Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

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

Sixty-second session
Geneva, 15–17 February 2023

Item 6 (d) of the provisional agenda

Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation: Prevention of Pollution of Inland Waterways by Vessels (Resolution No. 21, Revision 2)

Amendments to the Annex to Resolution No. 21, “Prevention of Pollution of Inland Waterways by Vessels”

Note by the secretariat

I. Mandate

1. This document is submitted in line with the Proposed Programme Budget for 2023, part V, Regional cooperation for development, section 20, Economic Development in Europe, Programme 17, Economic Development in Europe (A/77/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.6).

2. At its sixty-first session, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) took note of the information about the adoption of the revised Recommendations on organizing the collection of waste from vessels navigating on the Danube and mentioned that this document could be used in future work on updating the annex to resolution No. 21 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2022/8 and Article 9.03 of the Convention on Collection, Deposit and Reception of Waste Produced during Navigation on the Rhine and Inland Waterways,1 as given below.

3. SC.3/WP.3 may wish to consider amendment proposals to the annex to resolution No. 21, revision 2, prepared by the secretariat based on the above-mentioned recommendations available in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2022/8 and Article 9.03 of the Convention on Collection, Deposit and Reception of Waste Produced during Navigation on the Rhine and Inland Waterways,1 as given below.

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II. Amendment Proposals to the Annex to Resolution No. 21

4. Paragraph 8, modify

8. The on-board collection of waste and its transfer to shore for treatment should be considered the preferable option for preventing pollution of inland waterways from vessels. To that end, where economically viable and practically feasible, a sufficiently extensive network of stationary on-shore waste reception facilities and/or mobile services (self-propelled waste collection vessels) of the necessary capacity should be made available at appropriate distances from one another. Countries must ensure that reception stations fulfill the obligation to collect waste from vessels in accordance with national regulations. The list of reception facilities on the E waterway network is given in the appendix to this annex.

5. Add new paragraphs 21a and 21b

21a. It is recommended that domestic waste is collected and deposited separately, if possible, after it has been sorted, in accordance with the following categories:

- Paper (wastepaper)
- Glass (possibly sorted as coloured and clear)
- Rigid plastics/synthetic materials
- Metal
- Other waste, including packaging waste, residual waste, food waste and other waste.

21b. It is recommended that the collected waste referred to in paragraph 21a above is stored on-board in appropriate collection receptacles displaying the relevant colours/symbols.

6. Paragraph 22, modify

22. Reception facilities of the ports open for international traffic must be equipped with connecting flanges on the pipeline for the reception of (a) oily and greasy waste and (b) the bilge and household waste water in accordance with a recognized European standard. They must also be equipped and with containers for the reception of waste oil, waste grease and household refuse.

7. Add new paragraphs 23 to 25

23. It is recommended that the competent authorities indicate in an appropriate format the locations of reception stations for waste from vessels, the timetable for waste-collecting vessels and any changes to this information.

24. Competent authorities are encouraged to take measures to ensure that reception facilities collect waste without causing excessive vessel downtime.

25. The proper deposit of slops and cleansing slurry must be documented according to the applicable international or national regulations.