

Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee**

22 December 2022

Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

English

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)

Forty-first session

Geneva, 23-27 January 2023

Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda

Implementation of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN): interpretation of the Regulations annexed to ADN

Discussion on Cargo transfer operations into another vessel**Transmitted by the Government of the Netherlands****Introduction**

1. The ADN contains multiple safety requirements for loading and unloading. However, surprisingly little can be found regarding requirements for cargo transfer into another vessel. Recently, discussions regarding this stark contrast have arisen in the Netherlands. While, at least in the Netherlands, loading and unloading operations take place more often than cargo transfers into another vessel, cargo transfers do also occur regularly.
2. Cargo transfer operations into another vessel contain many similarities to loading and unloading operations. Vessels should be well connected before cargo transfer may commence, piping should be fitting, loading/unloading velocities should be agreed upon, etc.
3. It seems therefore that a lot of the safety requirements for loading and unloading could also apply for cargo transfer operations. For instance, the measures to be taken before loading (7.2.4.13) could also be useful in the case of cargo transfer operations. Similarly, the use of a checklist before cargo transfer operations take place could lead to a significant safety increase.
4. National and sometimes local provisions have been developed to deal with the lack of international provisions in the ADN, leading to different provisions for cargo transfer into another vessel from place to place.

Discussion

5. The Dutch delegation would like to invite the Safety Committee to discuss whether it is preferable to maintain the current situation, which gives a certain degree of freedom to

take local circumstances into account for the development of requirements of cargo transfer operations, or whether the Committee could consider amending the ADN to include more requirements for cargo transfer operations.
