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

Twenty-ninth session
Geneva, 27 January 2023

Report of the Administrative Committee of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways on its twenty-ninth session*

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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-ninth session in Geneva on 27 January 2023.
2. Representatives of the following Contracting Parties took part in the work of the session: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands, 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. Following the global recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Nations Office in Geneva opted to return back to “Business As Usual”. Therefore, the Administrative Committee sessions in 2023 were organized as in-person meetings only. The twenty-ninth session of the Administrative Committee was held as an in-person meeting.

II. Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

Documents: ECE/ADN/64 and Add.1

6. The Administrative Committee adopted the agenda prepared by the secretariat.

III. Election of officers for 2023 (agenda item 2)

7. On the proposal of the representative of France, the Administrative Committee re-elected Mr. H. Langenberg (Netherlands) as Chair and Mr. B. Birkhuber (Austria) as Vice-Chair for its sessions in 2023.

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 two previous sessions (ECE/ADN/61 and ECE/ADN/61/Add.1) had entered into force on 1 January 2023 (depositary notifications C.N.325.2022.TREATIES-XI-D-6 and C.N.272.2022.TREATIES-XI-D-6). It also noted that the proposed corrections in ECE/ADN/61/Corr.1, and

ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/82 (Annex IV) had been carried out (depository notifications C.N.292.2022.TREATIES-XI.D.6 and C.N.293.2022.TREATIES-XI.D.6).

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

A. Recognition of classification societies

10. The Administrative Committee did not receive any information or recommendation on recognised classification societies.

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

B. Special authorizations, derogations and equivalents

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

13. 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/special-authorizations>.

C. Miscellaneous notifications

14. The Administrative Committee did not receive any update of the examination statistics.

15. 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.

16. 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/country-information-competent-authoritiesnotifications-according-194>.

17. 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.

18. The representative of France informed the Administrative Committee that he had sent the explanatory notes required in ADN 8.2.2.8.7, supplementing the model expert certificate, to the secretariat. The explanatory notes and the model expert certificate are available on the UNECE website.

D. Other matters

19. No other matters were raised under this item.

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

20. The Administrative Committee took note of the work of the Safety Committee as reflected in the report on its forty-first session which it approved on the basis of the draft report prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2023/R.1 and Add. 1-4 and ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2023/R.2 and Add.1) and adopted during the report reading (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/84).

21. 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 forty-second session in January 2024 for formal adoption and subsequent submission to Contracting Parties for acceptance and entry into force on 1 January 2025, as contained in annex I of that report. It also approved the proposed corrections to the Regulations annexed to ADN listed in annex II (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, as well as the corrections to the ADN 2023 publication (not requiring acceptance by Contracting Parties) listed in annex III.

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

22. The Administrative Committee decided to hold its next session on 25 August 2023 (from 12.00 to 13:00) and noted that the deadline for submission of documents is 26 May 2023.

VIII. Any other business (agenda item 7)

A. Work of the Inland Transport Committee

23. The Administrative Committee was informed that the eighty-fifth session of the Inland Transport Committee will be held in Geneva from 21 to 24 February 2023. It was noted that, in addition to questions relating to its work and that of its subsidiary bodies, the Committee will have the opportunity to consider the aim to turn inland transport into a catalyst of climate solutions. The conference's high-level segment will take place on 21 February 2023. The theme of the conference is: "Actions of the inland transport sector to join the global fight against climate change." The annotated provisional agenda (ECE/TRANS/327/Add.1) as well as the documentation for the session is available at the UNECE secretariat's website¹.

24. In this respect, the Administrative Committee noted with satisfaction that the Safety Committee had already organized a workshop on sustainable development and climate change from the perspective of the transport of dangerous goods on inland waterways that was held during the forty-first session of the Safety Committee (for the outcome of the workshop see report ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/84, paragraphs 56-67).

¹ <https://unece.org/info/Transport/Inland-Transport-Committee/events/366210>

B. 2023 edition of the ADN

25. The Administrative Committee noted with satisfaction that the secretariat had issued the 2023 edition of ADN and that the electronic versions were available on the website².

IX. Adoption of the report (agenda item 8)

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

² <https://unece.org/transport/dangerous-goods/adn-2023>