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Working Party on Inland Water Transport

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

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Item 4(a) of the provisional agenda

Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation: European Code for Inland Waterways (Resolution No. 24, Revision 6)

National Provisions for the Prevention of Pollution from Vessels

Transmitted by the Government of Belarus

I. Mandate

1. This document is submitted in line with the proposed Programme Budget for 2024, part V, Regional cooperation for development, section 20, Economic Development in Europe, Programme 17, Economic Development in Europe (A/78/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.5).
2. The Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation at its sixty-fourth session invited delegations to transmit information about their national provisions relevant to the amendment proposals for articles 10.04 and 10.05 of the European Code for Inland Waterways to the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/128, paragraph 48).
3. This document contains information about national provisions for the discharge and treatment of wastewater generated on-board vessels applied on inland waterways of Belarus.

II. Legislative Framework and Provisions for the Discharge and Treatment of Wastewater Generated On-Board Vessels on Inland Waterways of Belarus

4. Requirements for the discharge, purification and treatment of wastewater from vessels on inland waterways of the Republic of Belarus are set out by the Inland Water Transport Code, the Water Code and a number of technical regulations.
5. In accordance with the Code of Inland Water Transport of the Republic of Belarus, shipowners are obliged to ensure the environmental safety of navigation of inland vessels, combined (river-sea) navigation vessels, prevention of pollution of the aquatic environment

from inland navigation vessels and combined (river-sea) navigation vessels with domestic water, waste, oil, petroleum products and other substances harmful to the health of people and wildlife in water bodies. Equipment of inland navigation vessels and combined (river-sea) navigation vessels with appropriate technical means is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the environmental protection legislation of the Republic of Belarus.

6. If equipment and devices for the reception, processing and purification of domestic and oily water and waste, the collection of oil products from the water surface in the event of emergency spills from inland navigation vessels and combined (river-sea) navigation vessels are not available, the shipowner must conclude a contract for performing the respective works with specialized organizations in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Belarus.

7. Technical supervision over the environmental safety of inland navigation vessels and combined (river-sea) navigation vessels is carried out by a classification organization.

8. Requirements for ensuring environmental safety of navigation, equipping inland navigation vessels of all types and purposes with appropriate technical means to prevent pollution of inland waterways of the Republic of Belarus with waste and oily water are established by the Technical Code of Practice TKP 270-2010 “Rules for the prevention of pollution of inland waterways of the Republic of Belarus with waste and oily water from ships” adopted by the Ministry of Transport and Communications of the Republic of Belarus. According to the Code, the discharge of non-treated waste and oily water from ships is not allowed.

9. Purification and treatment of waste and oily water can be carried out:

- At onshore treatment facilities
- On water protection equipment installed on specialized self-propelled and non-self-propelled vessels
- On water protection equipment installed on vessels for waste and oily water discharge.

10. The environmental safety of navigation and the prevention of pollution of water bodies from vessels should be ensured by shipowners.

11. The Rules for the prevention of pollution of inland waterways of the Republic of Belarus by sewage and oily waters from vessels establish:

- Requirements for the vessel’s documents and on-board registration of operations related to the prevention of pollution from vessels
- Provisions for the organization of work to prevent pollution from vessels
- Requirements for the on-board water protection equipment and works related to the prevention of pollution from vessels
- Requirements for operations to prevent pollution from vessels
- Provisions for the transfer of waste and oil-containing water to collection stations.

12. Other requirements for wastewater discharge are set out in the Water Code of the Republic of Belarus.
