



Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods****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-fourth session**

Geneva, 26-30 August 2024

Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda

**Proposals for amendments to the Regulations annexed to ADN:
other proposals****Escape devices supplied with compressed air****Submitted by the European Barge Union and the European Skippers Organization (EBU/ESO)*, ******Introduction**

1. The ADN specifies requirements for equipping vessels with escape devices. The exact type of escape devices used is not prescribed and can be selected by the vessel operator.
2. 1.3.2.2.4 of ADN also specifies requirements for the training of persons wearing self-contained breathing apparatus with compressed air. The training requirements for these persons are very high, as working with these devices poses particular risks.
3. Escape devices supplied with compressed air are now also used in inland navigation. These devices offer a higher level of protection compared to the conventionally used escape devices with filters.
4. A self-contained breathing apparatus, as currently defined, differs fundamentally in its technical design, handling and intended use from an escape device, despite the designation of the escape device itself as a breathing apparatus in the definition of "escape device". Unlike a self-contained breathing apparatus, a self-contained escape device is only put on before escaping from a dangerous area and then disposed of, if necessary. It is only used in an emergency and therefore only for a short time. A self-contained breathing apparatus, on the other hand, is worn while carrying out work in a dangerous atmosphere. As this work can take a long time, other handling skills are required of the person wearing this device. Self-contained breathing apparatus are not often found on board inland tankers.

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** A/78/6 (Sect. 20), table 20.5



5. In order to avoid an escape device being erroneously subsumed under the definition of "breathing apparatus (self-contained)" due to the "self-contained" characteristic, it should be made clear in 1.3.2.2.4 of ADN that persons wearing self-contained escape devices are not subject to the same training requirements as those applicable for to the handling of self-contained breathing apparatus, but that appropriate instruction is sufficient.

Proposal

6. EBU/ESO propose an addition to 1.3.2.2.4 of ADN (the changes are in ***bold, italics and underlined***):

1.3.2.2.4 Persons wearing self-contained breathing apparatus shall be physically able to bear the additional constraints.

They shall:

- Be instructed in the use of escape device that is supplied with compressed air. The instruction must be complemented by practical exercises.

Proposal from the secretariat:

- in the case of escape devices that are supplied with compressed air, be instructed in their use. The instruction shall be supplemented by practical exercises.
