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EUROPEAN RECREATIONAL NAVIGATION NETWORK

Transmitted by the Governments of Belarus, Lithuania, the Republic of Moldova, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ukraine, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, and the Danube Commission

Note: At its forty-sixth session, the Working Party considered the draft resolution on the establishment of the European recreational navigation network (TRANS/SC.3/2003/2) together with a draft schematic map and had a detailed exchange of views on this issue. Delegates made a number of remarks of an editorial nature concerning the text of the draft resolution. Views were split with regard to the draft reference map reflecting in a schematic way the European recreational navigation network, which is to be annexed to the draft resolution. The Working Party invited Governments to study both the draft resolution and the map and transmit to the secretariat their written comments and proposals on their content. The secretariat was instructed to circulate the draft map to delegations (TRANS/SC.3/161, para. 34).

The draft map of the recreational navigation network has been posted on the Working Party's web site at <http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2003/sc3/TRANS-SC3-2003-02e.doc>. Reproduced below are comments on document TRANS/SC.3/2003/2 received from a number of delegations.

BELARUS

1. Belarusian citizens engage in recreational navigation in the Republic of Belarus using small rowing and motor boats. Belarus is taking the first steps to incorporate its inland waterways into the European recreational navigation network. A sailing boat carrying tourists made an inaugural journey from Gomel to the coast of Bulgaria in 2003.

LITHUANIA

2. Lithuania has submitted a map of its national recreational navigation network to the secretariat to be taken into account when modifying the map annexed to document TRANS/SC.3/2003/2.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

3. In drafting the map, the competent authorities of the Republic of Moldova propose that attention be given to the inland waterway of the Republic of Moldova - the river Dniester from its mouth to the resort area of Vadul-lui-Voda (333 km) and Dubasari (357 km), and that the port complex at Giurgiulesti should be indicated on the map at the confluence of the Prut and the Danube.

4. We have no other comments on the proposed draft resolution and map of the European recreational navigation network.

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

5. The United Kingdom would support the draft resolution contained in document TRANS/SC.3/2003/2 subject to the following amendments:

6. Delete “unique and” and replace “standards” by “**classifications**” in the last line of the fifth preambular paragraph. This paragraph would then read:

“**Believing** that public authorities can contribute significantly to the development of tourism by inland waterway through their engagement in the provision and maintenance of an appropriate recreational inland navigation network based on internationally agreed **classifications and parameters.**”

7. Replace “comply” by “**be identified as complying**” in the first line of the seventh preambular paragraph. This paragraph would then read:

“**Agrees further** that the inland waterways used by recreational craft should **be identified as complying** with the Classification established by resolution No. 30 of 1992 extended to specific recreational classes RA, RB, RC and RD as set out in annex 2 to this resolution.”

UKRAINE

8. The following changes are proposed to the draft resolution on the European recreational inland navigation network (TRANS/SC.3/2003/2).

9. The fourth preambular paragraph should be modified to read: “**Desirous** of encouraging the development of tourism by inland waterway on the European continent.”

10. The sixth preambular paragraph should be amended to read: “**Recommends** building a unique pan-European recreational inland navigation network based on the map (or: in accordance with the map) reproduced in annex 1 to this resolution.”

11. The main shortcomings of the proposed reference map of the recreational navigation network are as follows:

- (i) The representation of arterial waterways, State borders and coastlines is oversimplified (linear), thus distorting the scale and making it much harder to recognize geographical features;
- (ii) The names of rivers, seas and large lakes do not appear and the number of named cities (ports) is extremely restricted, which renders the map even more difficult to use.

12. The proposed map, while in multiple colour, is less beneficial even than the black and white map of the most important E-category inland waterways contained in the European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN Agreement), although the latter is also in schematic form.

13. To eliminate these shortcomings, the proposed map could serve as a reference tool for the purposes of the resolution under consideration.

CZECH REPUBLIC

14. The Czech Republic has submitted amendments concerning its national recreational navigation network to the secretariat to be taken into account when modifying the map annexed to document TRANS/SC.3/2003/2.

SWITZERLAND

15. Switzerland has no comments either on the text of the draft resolution or on the map of the recreational navigation network.
