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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

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

Thirty-fourth session
Geneva, 11-13 February 2009

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION^{1, 2}

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 11 February 2009

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Election of officers.

¹ For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation available in the conference room. Before the session, documents may be downloaded from the UNECE Transport Division's website <<http://www.unece.org/trans/main/sc3/wp3/wp3age.html>>. During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations).

² Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website <<http://www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html>>. It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by email (sc.3@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22-917 0039). Upon arrival at the Palais des Nations, delegates should obtain an identification badge at the UNOG Security and Safety Section, located at the Pregny Gate (14, Avenue de la Paix). In case of difficulty, please contact the secretariat by telephone (ext. 74030). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website <<http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>>.

3. Further European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI).
 - (a) Status of CEVNI;
 - (b) Comparison of the inland navigation traffic regulations in Europe;
 - (c) Amendments to CEVNI;
 - (i) General amendments;
 - (ii) Amendments to Chapter 1, "General Provisions";
 - (iii) Amendments to Chapter 2, "Marks and Draught Scales on Vessels; Tonnage Measurement"
 - (iv) Amendments to Chapter 3 "Visual Signals (Marking) on Vessels";
 - (v) Amendments to Chapter 4, "Sound signals on vessels - radiotelephony";
 - (vi) Amendments to Chapter 5 "Waterway Signs and Marking";
 - (vii) Amendments to Chapter 6 "Rules of the Road";
 - (viii) Other amendments to CEVNI.
4. Resolution No. 31 "Minimum requirements for the Issuance of Boatmasters' Licences in Inland Navigation with a view to their Reciprocal Recognition for International Traffic".
 - (a) Status of Resolution No. 31;
 - (b) Amendments to Resolution No. 31;
 - (c) Other measures related to the mutual recognition of boatmasters' licenses.
5. Resolution No. 61 "Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels".
 - (a) Status of Resolution No. 61;
 - (b) Amendments to Resolution No. 61;
 - (c) Further harmonization of technical prescriptions on the pan-European level.
6. Strasbourg Convention on Limitation of Liability in Inland Navigation (CLNI).
7. White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe.
8. Adoption of the report.

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

1. In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the first item on the provisional agenda is the adoption of the agenda.

Item 2 Election of officers

2. In accordance with the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) (hereafter, the Working Party or SC.3/WP.3) may wish to elect a Chairman and, possibly, a Vice-Chairman.

Item 3 European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI)

(a) Status of CEVNI

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.3; ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/1

3. The last published edition of CEVNI is its revision 3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.3), which includes the amendments contained in Resolutions Nos. 54 and 62 as approved by the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) at its forty-ninth and fiftieth sessions. At its fifty-first and fifty-second sessions, the Working Party on Inland Water Transport, following the recommendations of SC.3/WP.3, approved, in principle, several new amendments to CEVNI, but decided that they would be adopted at the time of its next substantial revision (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, paras. 21-24 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/181, paras. 22-23).

4. All of these amendments are reproduced in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/1.

(b) Comparison of the inland navigation traffic regulations in Europe

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/6

5. Following a decision of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport at its fifty-first session, Austria prepared a document on the differences between the provisions of CEVNI, the Police Regulations for the Navigation of the Rhine, the Basic Rules of Navigation on the Danube and the Rules for the Navigation on the Sava River (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/6). A preliminary version of the document was considered at the thirty-third session of SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/66, paras. 7-8) and the results of this work were reviewed by the Working Party on Inland Water Transport at its fifty-second session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/181, paras. 24-26).

6. Based on this comparison document, an informal working group, composed of the representatives of Austria, Netherlands, Danube Commission, the International Sava River Basin Commission and the UNECE secretariat (hereafter, the informal working group), prepared amendment proposals to CEVNI as well as to the relevant regulations of the River Commissions with the goal to facilitate their future harmonization.

7. On the basis of document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/6, the Working Party may wish to review the differences between regulations identified in the comparison document before considering the amendment proposals prepared by the informal working group and presented in subsections (i) to (vii) below. The Working Party may also want to discuss with River Commissions their plans on bringing corresponding amendments to their regulations.

(c) Amendments to CEVNI

(i) General amendments

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/2

8. The Working Party may wish to consider the general amendments to the terminology and the structure of CEVNI, submitted by the informal working group as contained in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/2, taking into account the comments of Governments, if any that will be reproduced in an addendum to this document.

(ii) Amendments to Chapter 1, “General Provisions”

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/15

9. The Working Party may wish to consider amendment proposals to Chapter 1 of CEVNI, prepared by the informal working group as contained in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/15.

**(iii) Amendments to Chapter 2, “Marks and Draught Scales on Vessels;
Tonnage Measurement”**

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/16

10. The Working Party may wish to consider amendment proposals to Chapter 2 of CEVNI, prepared by the informal working group as contained in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/16.

(iv) Amendments to Chapter 3 “Visual Signals (Marking) on Vessels”

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/3

11. The Working Party may wish to consider amendment proposals to Chapter 3 of CEVNI, prepared by the informal working group as contained in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/3, taking into account the comments of other Governments, if any, that will be reproduced in an addendum to this document.

**(v) Amendments to Chapter 4, “Sound signals on vessels -
radiotelephony”**

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/4

12. The Working Party may wish to consider amendment proposals to Chapter 4 of CEVNI, prepared by the informal working group as contained in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/4, taking into account of the comments of other Governments, if any that will be reproduced in an addendum to this document.

(vi) Amendments to Chapter 5 “Waterway Signs and Marking”

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/5

13. The Working Party may wish to consider the amendment proposals to Chapter 5 of CEVNI, prepared by the informal working group as contained in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/5, taking into account the comments of Governments, if any that will be reproduced in the addendum to this document.

(vii) Amendments to Chapter 6 “Rules of the Road”

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/6

14. The Working Party may wish to consider the amendment proposals to Chapter 6 of CEVNI, prepared by the informal working group and presented in Document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/6, taking into account the comments from other Governments, if any that will be reproduced by the secretariat in the addendum to the document.

(viii) Other amendments to CEVNI

15. The Working Party may wish to consider any other proposals for amendment of CEVNI presented by Governments or River Commissions.

Item 4 Resolution No. 31 “Minimum Requirements for the issuance of Boatmaster’s Licenses in Inland Navigation with a view to their Reciprocal Recognition for International Traffic”

(a) Status of Resolution No. 31

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/13

16. The Working Party may take into account the information on the status of Resolution No. 31 and the modalities of its application, provided in the report to the fifty-second session of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/13).

(b) Amendments to Resolution No. 31

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/7; ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/8

17. Following the decision of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport at its fifty-first session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 26) and the subsequent decision of SC.3/WP.3 at its thirty-third session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/66, para. 24), on 18 September 2008, the secretariat has convened a meeting of a group of volunteer experts on the mutual recognition of boatmasters’ licenses. As requested by SC.3/WP.3, the group of volunteer experts reviewed the 1992 “Recommendations on Minimum Requirements for the issuance of Boatmaster's Licenses in Inland Navigation with a view to Their Reciprocal Recognition for International Traffic”, contained in Resolution No. 31, as well as exchanged information on their relevant recent activities. The Working Party may wish to take note of the report of the meeting, contained in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/7.

18. The Working Party may wish to consider the amendment proposals to Resolution No.31, prepared by the volunteer experts and presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/8. Additional comments from Governments, if any, will be reproduced in an addendum to this document.

(c) Other measures related to the mutual recognition of boatmasters’ licenses

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/9

19. The Working Party will be informed about the results of the European Commission’s impact assessment study on legislative harmonization of boatmasters’ certificates across the European Union as well as about relevant activities of River Commissions.

20. As recommended during the above-mentioned meeting on the mutual recognition of boatmasters' licenses on 18 September 2008, the Working Party may wish to discuss the modalities of the collection of information on the local knowledge required for the recognition of boatmasters' licenses. The secretariat's proposal on this issue is presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/9.

Item 5 Resolution No. 61 "Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels"

(a) Status of Resolution No. 61

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/162; ECE/TRANS/SC.3/162/Amend.1; ECE/TRANS/SC.3/162/Amend.2

21. The Working Party may wish to note that the amendments to section 2-7 ("Official Number") and chapters 20 and 21 on special requirements for sea-going vessels and recreational vessels, prepared by the group of volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61 and recommended for approval during the SC.3/WP.3 thirty-third session, were approved by the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) at its fifty-second session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/181, paras. 28-29)

22. These amendments will be published by the secretariat as the second amendment to Resolution No. 61 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/162/Amend.2). The first amendment had been approved at the SC.3 fifty-first session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 19) and published by the secretariat as document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/162/Amend.1.

(b) Amendments to Resolution No. 61

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/10

23. The Working Party may wish to note that in 2008-2009 EC Directive 2006/87/EC of 12 December 2006 laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels and repealing Council Directive 82/714/EEC (2006/87/EC) will undergo a series of modifications. The Working Party may wish to instruct its group of volunteer experts on Resolution No. 61 to study the amendments to the directive in order to identify which of them should be inserted into Resolution No. 61. The text of the amendments to Directive 2006/87/EC is contained in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/10.

(c) Further harmonization of technical prescriptions on the pan-European level

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/11

24. The Working Party may wish to further discuss the issue of harmonization of Resolution No. 61 and the EC Directive, as well as relevant regulations and recommendations of River Commissions. Background information on this issue will be provided in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/11.

Item 6 Strasbourg Convention on Limitation of Liability in Inland Navigation (CLNI)

Documentation: TRANS/SC.3/R.130; ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/12

25. It is recalled that the Action Plan for the implementation of the decisions taken by the Bucharest pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport, endorsed by Resolution No. 258 of the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/192) requested that the UNECE cooperate with River Commissions on the issue of the limitation of liability in inland navigation. The revised programme of work of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport, endorsed at its fifty-first session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/12), includes the task of following the developments relating to the possible accession of Central and Eastern European countries to the 1988 Strasbourg Convention on Limitation of Liability in Inland Navigation (CLNI) with a view to deciding whether this may ensure the establishment in Europe of a unique regime of liability of owners of inland navigation vessels.

26. In this context and for the benefit of those countries, which are not members of the Central Commission for Navigation of the Rhine, the secretariat will invite the CCNR to present the latest development in the elaboration of the draft protocol to the convention, aimed at opening this legal instrument to non-CCNR member states. The background information and the draft text of the protocol will be provided in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/12.

27. The Working Party may wish to discuss the issues related to the extension of the scope of CLNI and recommend follow-up actions in this area.

Item 7 White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe

Documentation: TRANS/SC.3/R.130; ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/13

28. The Working Party will be informed about progress in the preparation of the second edition of the White Paper on trends in and development of inland navigation and its infrastructure (TRANS/SC.3/138), which will be entitled: “White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe”. The Working Party may wish to review a preliminary note on the situation of inland water transport in non-EU countries (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/13), which will be used in the preparation of the final paper.

29. The Working Party may wish to invite UNECE member countries, particularly non-EU member states, to assist the secretariat in the collection of information required to undertake a comprehensive and accurate analysis of the situation of inland navigation in the UNECE region.

Item 8 Adoption of the report

30. In accordance with established practice, the Working Party will adopt the report of its thirty-fourth session on the basis of a draft to be prepared by the secretariat.
