



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
24 August 2016

Original: English

---

## Economic Commission for Europe

### Inland Transport Committee

#### Working Party on Inland Water Transport

##### Sixtieth session

Geneva, 2–4 November 2016

Item 7 (c) of the provisional agenda

**Standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation:  
Signs and Signals on Inland Waterways (SIGNI) (Resolution No. 22, revised)**

### **Signs and Signals on Inland Waterways (SIGNI) (Resolution No. 22)**

#### Note by the secretariat

#### **I. Mandate**

1. This document is submitted in line with Cluster 5: Inland Waterway Transport, paragraph 5.1 of the programme of work 2016–2017 (ECE/TRANS/2016/28/Add.1) adopted by the Inland Transport Committee at its seventy-eighth session on 26 February 2016.
2. It is recalled that the Working Party on Inland Water Transport (SC.3) at its fifty-fourth session considered possible discontinuation of Resolution No. 22 “Signs and Signals on Inland Waterways” (SIGNI), given its overlap with annexes 7 and 8 to the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/187, para. 26). SC.3 decided to come back to this discussion after the publication of the fifth edition of CEVNI.
3. Following this decision, the secretariat prepared an overview of overlaps between SIGNI, CEVNI and Resolution No. 59 on Guidelines for Waterway Signs and Marking<sup>1</sup> and possible scenarios on how to avoid this overlap. SC.3 may wish to come back to this issue and give instructions to SC.3/WP.3 for further work on SIGNI.

---

<sup>1</sup> Draft of the second revised edition of Resolution No. 59 approved by SC.3/WP.3 at its forty-ninth session is reproduced in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2016/9.

## II. Overlap between provisions of SIGNI, CEVNI and Resolution No. 59 on Guidelines for Waterway Signs and Marking

4. Overlap between the first revision of SIGNI, the fifth revision of CEVNI and the draft second revision of Resolution No. 59 on Guidelines for Waterway Signs and Marking are shown in the table below.

<i>SIGNI</i>	<i>CEVNI</i>	<i>Resolution No. 59</i>
1 Principles		
1.1.2 Definitions of “right” and “left”	Chapter 1, terms 14 and 14bis, annex 8 (the fifth edition)	–
1.1.3–1.1.6 Use of day and night marking, rhythmic and fixed lights, lighting	No general provisions. Definitions of fixed and rhythmic lights are given in annex 8	No general provisions. Reference to para. 1.1.6 of SIGNI, the second alinea, is made in para.3.15
1.1.7 Intensity and range of lights	–	Para. 1.7, appendix 2
1.1.8, 1.1.11 Colours of lights, buoys and boards	–	Para. 1.8, appendices 2 and 3. Reference is made to the standard of the International Commission on Illumination “Colours of Light Signals”, CIE S 004/ E-2001, class A
1.1.9 Boards bearing special signs	–	–
1.1.10 Dimensions of buoys and boards	–	Para. 3.8, appendix 1. Reference is made to para. 1.1.10 of SIGNI in para. 3.9
1.1.12 Semaphores	–	–
1.1.13 Warning posts	–	–
1.1.14 Geographical applicability of the marking system	–	–
1.2 Rhythmic lights	–	–
1.3 Fixed lights	Annex 7 contains only examples of fixed lights	–
1.4 Additional luminous signal	Reproduced in annex 7, Part II, section B	
1.5 Buoyage and marking system	–	–
2 Buoyage and marking of the waterway		
2.1 Buoyage of fairway limits in the waterway	Reproduced in annex 8, Part II	Minimal dimensions are given in Appendix 1

<i>SIGNI</i>	<i>CEVNI</i>	<i>Resolution No. 59</i>
2.2 Buoyage and marking of danger points and obstacles	Reproduced in annex 8, Part IV (not in full scope)	Minimal dimensions are given in Appendix 1
2.3 Marks on land indicating the position of the fairway	Reproduced in annex 8, Part III	-“-
2.4 Buoyage and marking of lakes and broad waterways	Reproduced in annex 8, Part VI (not in full scope)	-“-
3 Marking of permanent structures (fixed and movable bridges, locks)	Articles 6.24– 6.28 (description), examples are given in annex 7	Section 4.4
4 Blockage of the waterway	Examples are given in annex 7	–
5 Waterway signs and markings	Reproduced in annex 7	Minimal dimensions are given in Appendix 1
6 Miscellaneous		
6.1 Entrances to harbours	Reproduced in annex 8, Part IX	–
6.2 Distance marks	–	–
7 Marking of prohibited or restricted zones	Reproduced in annex 8, Part VII	–
8 Buoys for miscellaneous purposes	Reproduced in annex 8, Part VIII	–
Annex 1 Rhythmic lights	Annex 8 contains only examples of the rhythm of lights	–
Annex 2 Buoyage and marking of lakes and broad waterways	Reproduced in annex 8, fig. 25	–

### III. Possible scenarios

5. SC.3 may consider the following options to avoid the overlap between the above-mentioned documents:

(a) discontinue *SIGNI* and include the relevant information in *CEVNI* and/or *Resolution No. 59*;

(b) combine *Resolution No. 59* and *SIGNI* in a single document under the name “*SIGNI*”;

(c) keep maintaining all three documents provided that they are harmonized and regularly updated.

6. In the two latter cases provisions of *SIGNI* shall be revised to be brought in line with *CEVNI* and *Resolution No. 59*; in particular, provisions for radar reflectors could be introduced. Furthermore, *SIGNI* could be updated taking into account the progress and

recent documents of international bodies in the field of the maritime buoyage systems and other Aids to Navigation relevant to inland waterways, in particular:

(a) The International Association of Marine Aids to Navigation and Lighthouse Authorities (IALA): the Maritime Buoyage System, 2010 revision; IALA Recommendation A-126 “On the Use of the Automatic Identification System (AIS) in Marine Aids to Navigation Services”;

(b) International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC): IEC 62288 Edition 2: Maritime navigation and radiocommunication equipment and systems – Presentation of navigation-related information on shipborne navigational displays – General requirements, methods of testing and required test results;

(c) proposals and conclusions of the Inland Electronic Chart Display and Information Systems (Inland ECDIS) and Vessel Tracking and Tracing Expert Groups relevant to signs and signals for inland waterways (Informal document SC.3/WP.3 No.3 (2015)).

---