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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

Item 3 (c) (vii) of the provisional agenda

**EUROPEAN CODE FOR INLAND WATERWAYS (CEVNI)**

Amendments to CEVNI

Amendments to Chapter 6 "Rules of the Road"

Proposal submitted by the Chairman of the informal working group on CEVNI

**Note by the secretariat**

At its thirty-second session, the Working Party took note of the creation of an informal working group on CEVNI, composed of the representatives of Austria, Netherlands, Danube Commission, the International Sava River Basin Commission and the UNECE secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/64, para. 8). The aim of the group was to prepare amendment proposals to CEVNI, Police Regulations for the Navigation of the Rhine, Basic Rules of Navigation on the Danube and Rules for the Navigation on Sava River, based on the analysis of the differences between these four documents, prepared by Austria (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2008/6). The preliminary results of this work (proposals on Chapters 1-3) were presented at the thirty-third session of the Working Party, where it was decided to consider all the proposals from the group at the thirty-fourth session with a view to preparing a substantive revision of CEVNI (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/66, paras. 9-10).

The present document contains the proposals related to Chapter 6 “Rules of the road”. The additions to the original text are highlighted in bold and the text to eliminate is highlighted in strike-through.

The Working Party may wish to decide whether to recommend that the Working Party on Inland Water Transport adopt these proposals at its fifty-third session. . In doing so, the Working Party may wish to take into account the comments received from the Russian Federation, presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2008/14. The reference to these comments is provided in footnotes.

## AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 6 “RULES OF THE ROAD”

### 1. Amendments to Article 6.01 - Application and definitions

#### (a) Amend article 6.01 to read

“1. For the purposes of this chapter, the following definitions are used:

(a) “Upstream” on a navigational channel means the direction towards the source of the river, including sections where the current changes with the tide. On canals, the direction shall be determined by the competent authorities and the term “in the direction from point A to point B” shall be used;<sup>1</sup>

(b) “Meeting”: where two vessels are proceeding on courses directly or almost directly opposite;

(c) “Overtaking”: where a vessel (the overtaking vessel) comes up to another vessel (the vessel being overtaken) from a direction more than 22.5° abaft the latter vessel’s beam and overtakes it;

(d) “Crossing”: where two vessels are approaching in a situation other than the cases referred to under (a) and (b).

2. For the purpose of this chapter, the following waterways are in class I:<sup>2</sup> All other waterways are in Class II.”.

<sup>1</sup> The competent authorities may group the particulars given in paragraphs 1 and 2 above in a single table such as the following:

1. The following are Class I waterways:

<i>Waterways</i>	<i>“Upstream”</i>
River A	Towards source
River B	Towards source; but downstream from ... against tidal current
Canal C-D	Towards C

All other waterways are in Class II.

2. On the following Class II waterways, the upstream direction for the purposes of articles 6.08, paragraph 1, and 6.12 is as follows:

River A	Towards source
Canal B-C (canal with summit-level section)	From B and C towards ... lock on summit level section.

<sup>2</sup> Class I normally comprises rivers, and Class II canals, lakes and broad waterways.

2. Amendments to Article 6.03 - General principles
  - (a) In paragraph 1 replace “crossing” with “meeting”;
  - (b) In paragraph 2 delete “6.05”;
  - (c) Delete paragraph 4;
  - (d) Add a new paragraph 4 to read  
“A boatmaster seeing any danger of collision shall sound a series of very short blasts”;
  - (e) Delete footnote 58.
3. Amendments to Article 6.04 - Meeting: Normal rules
  - (a) Amend paragraph 7 to read  
“When two small crafts are meeting and there may be a risk of collision, each vessel shall veer to starboard so as to pass on the port side of the other”.
4. Amendments to Article 6.05 - **Meeting: Departures from normal rules**
  - (a) In paragraph 1 delete “vessels or towed convoys in one of the following categories”;
5. Amendments to Article 6.06 - **Meeting boats towed from the bank**
  - (a) Replace the current article 6.06 with the following article:  
**“Meeting: high speed vessels.**  
The provisions referred to in article 6.04 and 6.05 shall not apply in the event of a meeting between high-speed vessels and between a high-speed vessel and any other vessel. However, high-speed vessels shall agree on their meeting using radiotelephony.”
6. Amendments to Article 6.07 - Meeting in narrow channels
  - (a) In paragraph 2 delete the words “A boatmaster seeing any danger of collision shall sound a series of very short blasts”
7. Amendments to Article 6.08 - **Meeting prohibited by waterway signs**
  - (a) Delete paragraph 3.<sup>3</sup>
8. Amendments to Article 6.10 - **Overtaking**
  - (a) In paragraph 1 replace the second sentence with “When overtaking is possible without danger of a collision, the overtaking vessel is allowed to pass also on starboard side of the vessel being overtaken.”;
  - (b) Move the current paragraph 3 at the end of paragraph 1;

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<sup>3</sup> The comments from the Russian Federation on this proposal are presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/14, para.11.

- (c) Put the current paragraph 2 as paragraph 6;
  - (d) Renumber the current paragraph 4 as paragraph 2;
  - (e) Renumber the current paragraph 5 as paragraph 3;
  - (f) Renumber the current paragraph 6 as paragraph 4;
  - (g) Renumber the current paragraph 7 as paragraph 5;
  - (h) Renumber the current paragraph 8 as paragraph 7;
  - (i) Replace in the new paragraph 7 “4 to 7” by “2 to 6”;
  - (j) Delete footnote 63.
9. Amendments to Article 6.11 - Overtaking prohibited by waterway signs
- (a) Add at the end of the last sentence “or side by side formation whose maximum dimensions do not exceed 110 m x 23 m”.<sup>4</sup>
10. Amendments to Article 6.12 - Navigation on sections where the course is prescribed
- (a) Delete footnote 64.
11. Amendments to Article 6.16 - Harbours and tributary waterways: entering and leaving; leaving followed by crossing the waterway
- (a) In paragraph 2 add after the words “course, or speed, vessels” words “except ferryboats”.<sup>5</sup>
12. Amendments to Article 6.17 - Sailing abreast
- (a) Add in title “and prohibition to approach vessels”.
13. Amendments to Article 6.19 - Drifting
- (a) In paragraph 1 add at the end of the first sentence “prohibited without permission from the competent authorities”;
  - (b) Delete the second sentence of the first paragraph.
14. Amendments to Article 6.21 - Convoy
- (a) In paragraph 3 add at the beginning “Motorized vessels may not, except for rescue or assistance to a vessel in distress, be used for towing, pushing or propelling a side by side formation, unless such a use is allowed in their ship’s certificate.”<sup>6</sup>
  - (b) Delete footnote 65.

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<sup>4</sup> The comments from the Russian Federation on this proposal are presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/14, para. 12.

<sup>5</sup> The comments from the Russian Federation on this proposal are presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/14, para. 13.

<sup>6</sup> The comments from the Russian Federation on this proposal are presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/14, para. 14.

15. Amendments to Article 6.21 bis - Relocation of pushed barges outside a pushed convoy
  - (a) Add a new provision (c) to read  
“(c) Being coupled side-by-side with vessel which has a steering device and a sufficient crew.”
16. Amendments to Article 6.23 - Rules applicable to ferry-boats
  - (a) Delete footnote 66.
17. Amendments to Article 6.25- Passage under fixed bridges
  - (a) In paragraph 1 replace “bays” with “openings”;
  - (b) At the end of paragraph 2 add “In this case, the entrance of the other side is marked with the sign A.1 (Annex 7)”.
18. Amendments to Article 6.26 - Passage under movable bridges
  - (a) In the title and the text of the article replace “passage under movable bridges” with “passage through movable bridges”;
  - (b) At the end of paragraph 1 add a new sentence to read  
“The boatmaster of a vessel shall announce his intention to navigate through the bridge to the bridge operators by means of a long blast and radiotelephone”;<sup>7</sup>
  - (c) Add a new paragraph 6 to read  
“The bridge operator is obliged to have on or near the bridge a radiotelephone device corresponding to the provisions of Article 4.05. For the entire duration of the navigation through the bridge, the radiotelephone device must be turned on.”.
19. Amendments to Article 6.27 - Passage through weirs
  - (a) Delete paragraph 1;
  - (b) Delete paragraph 4;
  - (c) Renumber the paragraphs accordingly.
20. Amendments to Article 6.28 - Passage through locks
  - (a) Delete footnote 67.
21. Amendments to Article 6.30 - General rules for navigation in reduced visibility; use of radar
  - (a) Amend paragraph 1 to read  
“In reduced visibility, all vessels shall navigate by radar”;

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<sup>7</sup> The comments from the Russian Federation on this proposal are presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2009/14, para. 15.

- (b) Amend paragraph 2 as follows:

“Vessels under way in reduced visibility shall proceed at a safe speed as required by the reduced visibility and the presence and movements of other vessels and local circumstances. ~~The radiotelephone installation shall be placed on listening watch on the channel allocated to the ship to ship network and~~ They shall use the radiotelephone to give other vessels the necessary information for safety of navigation. **Small vessels under way in reduced visibility shall use ship to ship channel or the channel prescribed by the competent authorities.**”;

- (c) Delete footnote 68;

- (d) Add a new paragraph 5 to read

“5. Towed convoys shall stop on the next possibility, if a communication with visual sign, between the towed vessel and the motorized vessel, is not possible. For towed convoys proceeding downstream, navigation using the radar installation is prohibited. For such towed convoys provisions of the Article 6.33 are applicable”.

22. Amendments to Article 6.31 - Sound signals when stationary

- (a) Move the current paragraph 2 at the end of paragraph 1;

- (b) Move paragraph 3 to paragraph 2 and replace “provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2” by “provisions of paragraph 1”;

- (c) Renumber paragraph 5 as paragraph 3.

23. Amendments to Article 6.32 - Navigation by radar

- (a) Move the definition in paragraph 1 to Article 1.01 amended as follows “Navigation by radar - navigation, in conditions of reduced visibility, using the radar”;

- (b) Delete paragraph 1;

- (c) Renumber paragraph 2 as paragraph 1 and replace “diploma” by “certificates” and “4.05” by “4.06”;

- (d) Renumber the following paragraphs;

- (e) Delete footnote 70;

- (f) Amend the old paragraph 7 as follows

“In convoys ~~and side by side formations~~, the requirements of paragraphs 1-6 above shall apply only to the vessel carrying the boatmaster of the convoy ~~or formation~~”.

24. Amendments to Article 6.33 - Provisions for vessels not navigating by radar

- (a) Replace the first sentence in paragraph 1 with the following sentence “Vessels and convoys not navigating by radar shall immediately proceed to the nearest safe berth.”;

- (b) Delete footnote 71;

- (c) Renumber second (b) and (c) as, respectively, (c) and (d).

25. Amendments to Article 6.34 - Special priorities

- (a) Amend paragraph 1 as follows
  - “1. When meeting or crossing the course of:
    - (a) A vessel showing the marking referred to in article 3.34;
    - (b) A vessel showing the marking referred to in article 3.35; ~~other vessels shall give way.~~  
other vessels shall give way.”.

26. Amendments to Article 6.35 - Water skiing and similar activities

- (a) At the end of paragraph 1 add the following sentence  
“The competent authorities may mark the sections in which such activities are permitted or prohibited”;
- (b) Delete footnote 72;
- (c) Delete footnote 73.

27. Amendments to Article 6.36 - Conduct of, and in respect of, fishing vessels

- (a) In paragraph 1 after words “several vessels abreast” add the following words “and setting of fishing equipment in or near a fairway and on berthing areas”;
- (b) Delete footnote 74.

28. Amendments to Article 6.37 - Conduct of, and in respect of, underwater divers for sport

- (a) Amend the title as follows :  
“Conduct of, and in respect of, underwater divers ~~for sport~~”;
- (b) Amend the paragraph 1 as follows  
“Underwater diving ~~for sport~~ shall be prohibited, **without a special permission**, in areas where navigation might be hindered, particularly:
  - (a) On the normal course of vessels showing the marking referred to in article 3.16;
  - (b) At entrances to harbours;
  - (c) Near **and on** berthing areas;
  - (d) In areas reserved for water skiing or similar activities;
  - (e) **On fairways;**
  - (f) **In ports**”.
- (c) Delete footnote 75.

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