ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation
(Twenty-fifth session, 19-21 March 2003, agenda item 8)

CONSIDERATION OF MEASURES AIMED AT PREVENTION OF AIR POLLUTION FROM INLAND NAVIGATION VESSELS

Transmitted by the Government of the Russian Federation and the European Commission

Note: At its twenty-third session, the Working Party had a detailed exchange of views on preventing air pollution from inland navigation vessels taking into account the information received from Governments and EUROMOT (TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2002/11 and Add.1). Having been informed that similar work was under way within a Group of Experts of the European Commission, the Working Party invited Governments, River Commissions and the group of volunteers to study the documentation available on this item, including in particular the paper presented by EUROMOT, and to submit their written proposals regarding the formulation of all-European recommendations on prevention of air pollution from inland navigation vessels with due regard for the work being done by the European Commission (TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/47, para. 26). Information received from the Government of the Russian Federation and the European Commission is reproduced below.
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1. By way of a supplement to the views of the Russian Federation on this matter (see document TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2002/11), and bearing in mind that the prevention of air pollution from inland navigation vessels is also being discussed in the Danube Commission, we wish to state the following.

2. The proposed text of the new chapter 8 bis contained in the document submitted by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) (TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2001/2) does not correspond to the format of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) Recommendations on Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels because it contains a section entitled “Definitions” and extensive addenda about the marking, construction and testing of engines which seem to have more to do with the manufacture of engines.

3. Consequently, it would be better to consider the material submitted by CCNR as a basis for specific ECE Recommendations.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

4. A European Union Group of Experts is currently considering whether to modify Directive 97/68/EC on non-road mobile machinery.

5. To that end, the Group of Experts is examining inter alia the proposal by EUROMOT, a copy of which is attached. It is anticipated that the European Commission will presently submit a proposal to modify the EU Directive referred to above by including therein provisions which will in all probability be based on the above-mentioned EUROMOT proposals.

Note by the secretariat: The EUROMOT proposals submitted to the European Commission are essentially those contained in document TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2002/11/Add.1, and to save space they are not reproduced here.