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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Inland Water Transport
(Forty-ninth session, 18-20 October 2005
agenda item 7 (g))

**ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMON PRINCIPLES AND TECHNICAL
REQUIREMENTS FOR A PAN-EUROPEAN RIVER
INFORMATION SERVICE (RIS)**

Note by the secretariat

With a view to implementing the decisions of the Pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport held in Rotterdam on 5 and 6 September 2001, the Working Party, at its forty-fifth session, added a new item to its Programme of Work, namely “Establishment of common principles and technical requirements for a Pan-European River Information Service (RIS)” (TRANS/SC.3/155, para. 47). Pursuant to this decision, the Working Party SC.3/WP.3, at its twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth sessions, considered draft international standards for notices to skippers and for electronic ship reporting in inland navigation, as transmitted by the delegation of the Netherlands (TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2004/21 and TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2004/22, respectively), and agreed to submit both draft standards to the Working Party on Inland Water Transport for further consideration and approval. The secretariat was requested to prepare a draft resolution to this effect (TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/58, para. 45).

The text of the draft resolution on the standards referred to above is reproduced below for consideration by the Working Party.

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**International Standards for Notices to Skippers and for Electronic
Ship Reporting in Inland Navigation**

Resolution No. ...

(adopted on ... [date] by the Working Party on Inland Water Transport)

The Working Party on Inland Water Transport,

Considering its resolution No. 57 on River Information Services (TRANS/SC.3/165) and desiring to promote the rapid establishment of harmonized river information services on the European inland waterway network,

Believing that the adoption within the UNECE of single pan-European standards for notices to skippers and electronic ship reporting in inland navigation will serve to achieve this goal, help to overcome language difficulties, facilitate the electronic exchange of data between all partners involved in transport by inland navigation vessels and increase the efficiency and safety of such transport,

Taking into account that relevant international standards were adopted recently by the member States of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine and that the Danube Commission is also considering their use,

Bearing in mind the report of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation on its twenty-ninth session (TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/58, para. 45),

Recommends Governments to base the development and introduction of systems for the dissemination of notices to skippers and for electronic ship reporting in inland navigation on the international standards reproduced in annexes 1 and 2, respectively, to this resolution.

Requests Governments to inform the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe whether they accept this resolution,

Requests the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe to place the question of the application of this resolution periodically on the agenda of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport.

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Annex 1
Notices to Skippers for Inland Navigation¹

¹ *Note by the secretariat:* The Standard for Notices to Skippers for Inland Navigation may be consulted in document TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2004/21. The text of this international standard is not reproduced here for reasons of economy, but will be issued by the secretariat as a separate document following the adoption of the resolution.

Annex 2

Standard for Electronic Ship Reporting in Inland Navigation²

² *Note by the secretariat:* The Standard for Electronic Ship Reporting in Inland Navigation may be consulted in document TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2004/22. The text of this international standard is not reproduced here for reasons of economy, but will be issued by the secretariat as a separate document following the adoption of the resolution.