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INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Fifty-first session

Geneva, 17-19 October 2007

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FIFTY-FIRST SESSION ^{1/}

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 17 October 2007

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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| 2. Activities of UNECE bodies of interest to the Working Party | ECE/TRANS/192
ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/23 |
| 3. Transport and security | ECE/TRANS/192 |

^{1/} For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. Only informal documentation will be 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/sc3.html>). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations). Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website (<http://www.unece.org/trans/registerfr.html>). It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by email (Violet.Yee@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. 73263). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see <http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>.

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http://www.unece.org/env/eia/eia.htm |
| (b) Inventory of main standards and parameters of the E waterway network (“blue book”) | ECE/TRANS/SC.3/144/Rev.1
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| (c) Requirements for prevention of water pollution from vessels | ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/7 |
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| 8. | Establishment of common principles and technical requirements for Pan-European river information services (RIS) | ECE/TRANS/SC.3/156/Rev.1
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| | (c) Convention on the Registration of Inland Navigation Vessels of 1965 | E/ECE/579; E/ECE/TRANS/540 |
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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. Activities of UNECE bodies of interest to the Working Party

2. The Working Party will be informed of the decisions of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) taken at its sixty-ninth session (6-8 February 2007) as they relate to the work of the Working Party (ECE/TRANS/192, paras. 19 (transport and security); 79-84 (inland water transport); 98-102 (European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)); 110 (Biennial evaluation for the 2008-2009), and Annex II: "Resolution No. 258 on "Supporting further development of Inland Water Transport"). The Working Party will also be informed of changes to the structure of the ITC annual session introduced by the ITC Bureau.

3. The Working Party will be informed of the pertinent activities and results of work of the Joint Meeting of Experts on the Regulations annexed to the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN) (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/23).

Item 3. Transport and security

4. The Working Party will be informed of recent developments in the Inland Transport Committee's activities related to the transport and security issues and, in particular, of the creation of a Multidisciplinary group of experts on inland transport security (ECE/TRANS/192, para. 19). It may wish to link this discussion to the on-going consideration of the proposal on further amendment of AGN Agreement with security related provisions under item 6.

Item 4. Study of the current situation and trends in inland water transport in member countries

5. The Working Party may wish to have an exchange of views on the current situation and prospects for inland navigation in the UNECE region and give to the secretariat further instructions regarding the preparation of the 2008 biannual report on current situation and trends in inland navigation in member countries.

Item 5. Exchange of information on measures aimed at promoting transport by inland waterway

6. It is recalled that at its fiftieth session, the Working Party had a preliminary exchange of views on possible follow-up by UNECE to the 2006 Bucharest Pan-European Conference on Inland Waterway Transport (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, para.14). Based on this discussion and on the subsequent input from Governments, the UNECE Inland Transport Committee adopted at its sixty-ninth session, resolution No. 258 on "Supporting Further Development of Inland Water Transport" (ECE/TRANS/192, annex II). The annex to this resolution contains a Plan of Action for the implementation of the decisions taken by the pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport. At the request of the Committee (ECE/TRANS/192, para. 82) and based on the comments received from Governments, if any, the Working Party will be invited to bring further clarifications to the Plan of Action and consider relevant adaptation of its Programme of Work on the basis of a draft proposal submitted by the secretariat under item 12 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/12).

Item 6. Inland waterway infrastructure

(a) European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN)

7. The Working Party will be informed of the status of the AGN agreement with regard to the amendments adopted at its forty-ninth (TRANS/SC.3/168/Add.1) and fiftieth (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174/Add.1) sessions. The text of the AGN agreement including its latest amendments is presented by the secretariat in document ECE/TRANS/120/Rev.1 and is available at the SC.3 Website: http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/sc3_legalinst.html. The Working Party may wish to approve further amendments to the annexes of the agreement, and, in particular, to the lists of inland waterways and ports of international importance, as recommended by the Working Party SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/2).

8. Further to the SC.3 discussions during its fiftieth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, paras. 19-22), the Working Party will be invited to discuss in greater detail the possible content of annex IV of the AGN, concerning the protection of the E waterway network from intentional external influence. The background information for this discussion appears in documents ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2006/7 and Add.1 (proposal by the secretariat) and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2007/7 (comments from Governments). In doing so, SC.3 may wish to take into account the instructions by the Inland Transport Committee (ECE/TRANS/166, para.15) as well as comments made by SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/62, para. 25).

9. Finally, the Working Party will be informed that the ITC Bureau discussed the feasibility and implications of aligning the various UNECE transport infrastructure agreements (AGR, AGC, AGTC, AGN) with the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (ESPOO, 1991), (TRANS/BUR.2007/5, para. 10). The Working Party may wish to give the secretariat preliminary instructions on how this could be done with respect to the AGN agreement.

(b) Inventory of main standards and parameters of the E waterway network ("blue book")

10. The Working Party will be presented with the publication of the first revised edition of the "Blue book", approved at its fiftieth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/144/Rev.1). In this context, the Working Party may wish to discuss the measures aimed at the elimination of bottlenecks and the completion of missing links identified in the "Blue book". To that effect, the Working Party will be informed of the progress in the work of the informal group of experts on the revision of document TRANS/WP.5/R.60 "Methodological basis for the definition of common criteria regarding bottlenecks, missing links and quality of service of infrastructure networks" and will be invited to consider what contribution the Working Party may bring to this initiative.

(c) Establishment of sea-river and coastal routes in the context of the AGN Agreement

11. It is recalled that the Working Party had discussed at its forty-seventh and forty-ninth sessions, the proposal by the Russian Federation and Ukraine to establish the list of possible sea-river routes in the context of the AGN Agreement (TRANS/SC.3/2003/3). At its fiftieth session, Governments decided to keep this item on the agenda but postpone the decision until the outcome of the discussions on including specific requirements for sea-river vessels in the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (annex to resolution No. 61), (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, paras. 24-25). The Working Party will be informed on

the progress in the work of its Group of Volunteer experts and may wish to come back to this discussion.

(d) Updating the map of European inland waterways

12. The Working Party will be presented with the last edition of the Map of European Inland Waterways (ECE/TRANS/NONE/2006/5).

Item 7. Work of the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation

13. The report of the Working Party SC.3/WP.3 on its thirty-first session has been circulated as ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/62. The Working Party SC.3 may wish to consider the main activities carried out by SC.3/WP.3 as mentioned below, endorse or comment on them and give guidance where necessary.

(a) Amendment of the Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (annex to resolution No. 61)

14. It is recalled that the Working Party on Inland Water Transport at its special session in March 2006 and at its fiftieth session decided to proceed with further development of the annex to resolution No. 61. In particular, the Working Party considered bringing section 2-7 “official number” in line with Annex II to EC Directive 2006/87/EC as soon as the work on the provisions regarding the unique European Vessel Identification Number (ENI) was finalized (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/171, para. 6 (vi)). The Working Party may wish to consider and endorse the amendments to section 2-7 prepared by the secretariat in consultation with the European Commission (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/3).

15. At its fiftieth session, the Working Party asked its Group of Volunteer experts to draft missing chapters 20 “Sea-going ships” and 21 “Recreational craft” and to elaborate special requirements applicable to sea-river vessels (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, para. 33). In this context, the Working Party will be presented with the report of the first meeting of the group (29 May - 1 June 2007) and, if available, draft chapters 20 and 21 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/4). SC.3 may wish to continue its discussion on the elaboration of technical requirements for sea-river vessels, based on the discussion paper submitted by the Russian Federation on possible ways of and methodology for elaborating technical requirements for sea-river vessels (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2006/8) and comments received from Governments (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2007/5).

16. Finally, the Working Party will be invited to review and endorse updates to Appendix 1 of resolution No. 61, concerning the division of inland waterways into navigational zones, prepared by the secretariat, based on Annex I to EC Directive 2006/87/EC and communications from Governments (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/5).

(b) Updating the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI)

17. The Working Party will be presented with the third revised version of CEVNI incorporating the amendments introduced by resolutions Nos. 54 and 62 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.3). The Working Party will then be invited to consider further amendments to CEVNI, as proposed by the

SC.3/WP.3, Governments and the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/6). The Working Party may also wish to continue its discussions of the Austrian proposal to upgrade the CEVNI legal status (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/1) in light of communications received from Governments (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/2007/1 and Add.1) and comments made by SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/62, para.14).

(c) Requirements for prevention of water pollution from vessels

18. The Working Party may wish to endorse the changes proposed by SC.3/WP.3 to the draft revised resolution No. 21 on prevention of water pollution, submitted by the delegation of Hungary at its forty-seventh session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/7) and to approve the resolution.

(d) Elaboration of harmonized procedure for consideration of applications for recognition of ship's certificates and boatmasters' licenses

19. It is recalled that the Working Party SC.3, at its forty-ninth session, felt that the question of recognition of ship's certificates and boatmaster's licenses throughout Europe should be included into its Programme of Work (TRANS/SC.3/168, para. 15). During its thirty-first session, the Working Party SC.3/WP.3 considered document TRANS/SC.3/2005/5/Add.1 containing the draft procedures and conditions for the recognition of ship's certificates and boatmasters' licenses elaborated by the Central Commission for the Navigation on the Rhine. SC.3/WP.3 recommended that SC.3 set up a group of volunteer experts to initiate work on a possible UNECE instrument in this area (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/62, para. 21). The Working Party may wish to set-up such a group and give SC.3/WP.3 some preliminary instructions to this effect, based on the comments, if any, to be received from Governments and river commissions (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/8).

Item 8. Establishment of common principles and technical requirements for Pan-European river information services (RIS)

20. It is recalled that at its fiftieth session, the Working Party approved the updated versions of technical annexes to resolution No. 48 with Recommendation on Electronic Chart Display and Information System for Inland Navigation (Inland ECDIS) and to resolution No. 60 on International standards for notices to skippers and for electronic ship reporting in inland navigation (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, paras. 44-51). SC.3 also approved resolution No. 63 on International Standards for Tracking and Tracing in Inland Waterways (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/174, para. 52). These resolutions were published by the secretariat as documents: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/156/Rev.1 (Resolution No. 48), ECE/TRANS/SC.3/175 (Resolution No. 60) and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/176 (Resolution No. 63).

21. At its thirty-first session in June 2007, the Working Party SC.3/WP.3 took note of the publication by the secretariat of these recommendations and stressed the importance of continuing the work on further improvement of international standards related to RIS. The Working Party SC.3 may wish to review the text of its recommendations on Inland ECDIS, notices to skippers, electronic ship reporting and tracking and tracing in inland waterways, and consider whether any updates or corrections are required. It may also wish to specify the mechanisms for their regular updating in cooperation with EC, river commissions and relevant international expert groups.

Item 9. Harmonization of requirements concerning international inland water transport and facilitation of its operations, including the study of legal provisions

- (a) Budapest Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway (CMNI)

22. Based on the above-mentioned Plan of Action for the implementation of the decisions taken by the Pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport (ITC Resolution No. 258, item 3), the Working Party will be invited to study the question of practical implementation by member Governments of the Provisions of the Budapest Convention on the Contract for the Carriage of Goods by Inland Waterway.

- (b) Consideration of the possibility of introducing a common legal regime for the limitation of the liability of owners of inland navigation vessels on a Europe-wide basis

23. The Working Party will be informed of the progress in the elaboration of a Preliminary draft Protocol to the 1988 Strasbourg Convention on Limitation of Liability in Inland Navigation (TRANS/SC.3/R.130) under the auspices of the Central Commission for Navigation on the Rhine, in order to facilitate accession to the convention, as amended by the protocol, of non-signatory States (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/9). The Working Party may wish to discuss these developments taking into due account the recommendations by the Bucharest Pan-European Conference on Inland Waterway Transport and consider, in particular, the role and possible contribution of UNECE to this process.

- (c) Convention on the Registration of Inland Navigation Vessels of 1965

24. In the context of its discussion under item 7(a) on the unique European Vessel Identification Number (ENI), the Working Party may also wish to call upon the Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Registration of Inland Navigation Vessels of 1965 (E/ECE/579, E/ECE/TRANS/540) to consider a need for amending the Convention with relevant provisions concerning the assignment of an official number to vessels.

- (d) Circulation of information concerning existing bilateral and multilateral agreements for international inland water transport

25. The secretariat will present rectifications or additions, if any, brought, at the demand of Governments, to the table in document TRANS/SC.3/2004/12 describing the situation with regard to bilateral and multilateral agreements between UNECE member Governments on inland navigation matters (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/10).

Item 10. Implementation of conventions and application of resolutions relating to inland navigation

26. The Working Party may wish to note that the up-to-date status of all UNECE Agreements and Conventions on transport issues may be consulted at the Inland Transport Committee's website: http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/agree_e.pdf. The Working Party may wish to invite its member Governments to accede to the legal instruments of relevance to inland navigation if they have not yet done so.

27. The secretariat will present rectifications or additions, if any, brought, at the demand of Governments, to the status of the application by Governments of the SC.3 resolutions and inland navigation related instruments since its fiftieth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/11).

Item 11. Workshops on inland navigation matters

28. The Working Party may wish to consider the organization of further Workshops on subjects of inland navigation, which may need preliminary discussion in an informal atmosphere by all interested parties concerned.

Item 12. Draft Programme of Work for 2006-2010 and calendar of meetings

29. Based on its discussion under item 5, the Working Party may wish to examine and approve its draft programme of work for 2006-2010 and a tentative list of meetings for 2008 prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2007/12).

Item 13. Other business

(a) Main expected accomplishment and indicators of achievement for the UNECE activities in inland water transport

30. To help UNECE Inland Transport Committee prepare a biennial evaluation of its activities in 2008-2009, the Working Party will be invited to approve the following description of the main expected accomplishment in inland water transport and indicators of its achievement for the period 2008-2009:

Expected accomplishment: An improved and updated regulatory framework for inland water transport infrastructure and vessels in the ECE region

Indicators of achievement:

- Further development of Resolution No. 61, “Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-wide Technical requirements for Inland navigation vessels”, by initiating work on specific requirements for sea-going vessels and for recreational craft.
- Adoption of a White Paper on Trends in and Development of Inland Navigation.

(b) Future work priorities for SC.3 and SC.3/WP.3

31. Taking into account the discussions held by the SC.3/WP.3 at its thirty-first session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/62, para. 30), the Working Party may wish to seize this opportunity to discuss its future work priorities. In doing so, SC.3 may wish to take into account the request of the ITC that its subsidiary bodies give in their work, due priority to facilitating transport of disabled people (TRANS/BUR.2007/5, para. 24). In particular, the Working Party may wish to consider whether the provisions of its 1986 resolution No. 25, which contains Guidelines for Passenger Vessels also suited for carrying Disabled Persons (TRANS/SC.3/131), needs to be updated, taking into account relevant documents of the EC and river commissions.

Item 14. Adoption of the report

32. In accordance with established practice, the Working Party will adopt a list of decisions taken at its fifty-first session on the basis of a draft prepared by the secretariat.
