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Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Fifty-fourth session

Geneva, 13–15 October 2010

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda for the fifty-fourth session^{1,2}

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 13 October 2010

I. Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) bodies of interest to the Working Party.
3. Exchange of information on measures aimed at promoting transport by inland waterway.

¹ Delegates are requested to complete the registration form available for download at the UNECE Transport Division's website <<http://www.unece.org/trans/registfr.html>>. It should be transmitted to the UNECE secretariat no later than one week prior to the session by e-mail (sc.3@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. 740 30 or 734 57). For a map of the Palais des Nations and other useful information, see website <<http://www.unece.org/meetings/practical.htm>>.

² For reasons of economy, delegates are requested to bring copies of all relevant documents to the session. There will be no documentation 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/sc3sc3age.html>>. On an exceptional basis, documents may also be obtained by e-mail (sc.3@unece.org) or by fax (+41 22 917 0039). During the session, official documents may be obtained from the UNOG Documents Distribution Section (Room C.337, third floor, Palais des Nations)

4. White Paper on efficient and sustainable inland water transport in Europe.
5. Inland waterway infrastructure:
 - (a) European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN);
 - (b) Inventory of main standards and parameters of the E waterway network (“Blue Book”).
6. Standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation:
 - (a) European Code for Inland Waterways (Resolution No. 24);
 - (b) Signals and Signs on Inland Waterways (Resolution No. 22);
 - (c) Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61);
 - (d) Guidelines for Passenger Vessels also Suited for Carrying Persons with Reduced Mobility (Resolution No. 25).
7. Harmonization of the legal framework for international inland water transport:
 - (a) Status of international conventions and agreements on inland navigation issues;
 - (b) Application of UNECE resolutions relating to inland navigation;
 - (c) Exchange of information on local knowledge requirements in UNECE countries.
8. Establishment of common principles and technical requirements for pan-European river information service.
9. Recreational navigation.
10. Inland water transport and cross-sectoral issues:
 - (a) Inland water transport and security;
 - (b) Inland water transport and environment.
11. Election of officers.
12. Tentative list of meetings for 2011.
13. Other business.
14. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

The first item to be considered is the adoption of the agenda.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/186

2. Activities of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) bodies of interest to the Working Party

The Working Party on Inland Water Transport, hereafter the Working Party or SC.3, will be informed of the decisions of the Inland Transport Committee (ITC) taken at its seventy-second session (23–25 February 2010) as they relate to the work of the Working Party.

It will also be informed of the 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) (ADN Safety Committee), based on the report of the sixteenth session of WP.15/AC.2 (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/34) and the report of the fourth session of the ADN Administrative Committee (ECE/ADN/8).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/208, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/34, ECE/ADN/8

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

The Working Party may wish to discuss the relevant activities of the member States and the European Union, aimed at promoting transport by inland waterways. The Working Party may also wish to discuss the role and the activities of river commissions, based on a succinct report, prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/1).

The Working Party will also be presented with the draft report on the current state of the development of the European network of inland waterways of international importance, prepared in the course of the work on the White Paper on efficient and sustainable inland water transport in Europe (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/2). The text of the report will be published as Chapter I of the White Paper in accordance with the table of content approved by the Working Party at its fifty-third session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183, para.22). This report replaces the biannual report by the secretariat on current situation and trends in inland water transport in member countries.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/2

4. White Paper on efficient and sustainable inland water transport in Europe

The Working Party will be presented with the draft Chapters II and III of the White Paper on Efficient and Sustainable Inland Water Transport in Europe which describe, respectively, the institutional framework of inland navigation and the regulatory architecture for inland navigation in the UNECE region (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/3). The Working Party will also be presented with a discussion document on a Pan-European vision for efficient and sustainable inland water transport (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/4) which will be used as a basis for the concluding chapter of the White Paper.

The Working Party may wish to hold an exchange of opinions on the content of these documents and issue instructions to the secretariat on the finalization of the publication.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/3, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/4

5. Inland waterway infrastructure

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

The secretariat will present the consolidated text of the European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance (AGN) (ECE/TRANS/120/Rev.4) which includes the amendments to annexes I and II adopted at its fifty-second session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/181, para. 14). The secretariat will report on the latest developments, if any, related to the AGN.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/120/Rev.4

(b) Inventory of main standards and parameters of the E waterway network (“Blue Book”)

The secretariat will report on the progress in preparing the next edition of the Blue Book to be published in 2011. The Working Party will also be informed of the results of the PLATINA inventory of bottlenecks and missing links on the European waterway network.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/144/Rev.1

6. Standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation

The Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) held two sessions in 2010: the thirty-sixth session on 10–12 February 2010 and the thirty-seventh session on 16–18 June 2010. The reports of the sessions have been circulated as, respectively, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/72 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74. The Working Party 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) European Code for Inland Waterways (Resolution No. 24)

In accordance with the decision of the fifty-third session of the Working Party to monitor the implementation of the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183, para. 13), SC.3/WP.3 had circulated to the Governments and River Commissions a special questionnaire on the national and regional prescriptions different from CEVNI. SC.3/WP.3 considered the preliminary results of this exercise at its thirty-seventh session on 16–18 June 2010 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, para. 10). The Working Party may wish to consider the replies from the Governments and River Commissions presented in the CEVNI status document (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/5).

The Working Party may also wish to take note of the list of the future amendments to CEVNI, prepared by the CEVNI expert group and approved at the SC.3/WP.3 thirty-seventh session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/6). The document also includes a list of misprints in the published fourth revision of the code (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.4), identified by the CEVNI expert group and the secretariat.

The Working Party may wish to approve the proposed amendments as pending amendments to CEVNI to be formally adopted at the next substantial revision of the code. The Working Party may also wish to instruct the secretariat to issue a corrigendum to the fourth revised edition of CEVNI.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.4, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.4/Corr.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/5, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/6

(b) Signals and Signs on Inland Waterways (Resolution No. 22)

At its thirty-seventh session, SC.3/WP.3 adopted a proposal to amend Resolution No. 22, “Signals and Signs on Inland Waterways” (SIGNI) to bring it in line with the fourth revised edition of CEVNI (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.4). The draft resolution of the Working Party on Inland Water Transport on amendment of SIGNI is presented in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/7.

The Working Party may also wish to note that at its thirty-seventh session, SC.3/WP.3 discussed the possible ways to avoid duplication of the rules on waterway signs and marking, currently contained both in SIGNI and in annexes 7 and 8 of CEVNI and agreed to ask the CEVNI expert group to evaluate the current provisions in SIGNI in order to identify which provisions would need to be included in CEVNI, should SIGNI be discontinued (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, para. 19).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/108/Rev.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/7

(c) Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61)

At its fifty-third session the Working Party asked SC.3/WP.3 to continue its work on further developing Resolution No. 61 with due regard to the latest amendments to the EU Directive 2006/87/EC laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels (hereafter, Directive 2006/87/EC) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183, para. 18). The Working Party also decided to transfer former annexes 4, 5 and 10 of CEVNI to Resolution No. 61 (SC.3 Resolution No. 66, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.3/Amend.1, paras. 90–91 and 111). In accordance with these decisions, at its thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh sessions, SC.3/WP.3 considered and approved a series of amendment proposals to chapters 1, 2, 15 and to the appendix of the annex to Resolution No. 61 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/72, para. 27 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, paras. 24, 27 and 30). The Working Party may wish to approve the draft resolution on bringing these modifications to the current text of the resolution (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/8). The Working Party may also wish to ask the secretariat to publish the revised Resolution No. 61, taking into account all the amendments to the document adopted since its publication in 2006.

The Working Party may furthermore wish to take note of the SC.3/WP.3 discussions of amendments to other parts of the resolution, such as section 1–2, “Definitions” (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, paras. 22–23). In particular, the Working Party may wish to discuss the recommendation by SC.3/WP.3 that the Working Party establish a viable mechanism for consultations between SC.3/WP.3 and the EU experts on technical requirements to work on improving the definitions both in the resolution and Directive 2006/87/EC as well as other possible amendments to Resolution No. 61, ensuring that the comments made at UNECE meetings on the text of the directive are discussed and evince a reaction from the European Commission and that the UNECE documents are taken into account during the preparation of the EU documents (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, para. 23).

Finally the Working Party may wish to discuss the exchange of opinions held at the thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh SC.3/WP.3 sessions with respect to the future operation of the European Hull Database and its extension to the non-EU member States (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/72, paras. 28–29 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, paras. 25–26)

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172/Amend.1,
ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172/Amend.2, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/8

(d) **Guidelines for Passenger Vessels also Suited for Carrying Persons with Reduced Mobility (Resolution No. 25)**

Following the decision of the fifty-first session of the Working Party (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 37), at its thirty-seventh session SC.3/WP.3 finalized the draft of the revised Resolution No. 25 on “Guidelines for Passenger Vessels also Suited for Carrying Persons with Reduced Mobility” (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, para. 33). SC.3/WP.3 also recommended that the SC.3 maintain Resolution No. 25 as a separate document from Resolution No. 61, so that Governments have the option to apply either both, Resolution No. 61 (with its chapter 15 on passenger vessels) and Resolution No. 25, revised, or one of them, as they find appropriate.

The draft revised Resolution No. 25 is presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/9 for the Working Party’s consideration and approval.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/9

7. Harmonization of the legal framework for international inland water transport

(a) **Status of international conventions and agreements on inland navigation issues**

The Working Party may wish to take note of information on the current status of legal instruments on inland navigation questions, adopted both within and outside UNECE, as well as the progress in a number of their Contracting Parties since the Bucharest Conference in 2006. This information is presented in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/10. The Working Party may wish to invite Governments to keep the secretariat informed of any further rectifications or additions to be made to the document.

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 on the website of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee.³

The Working Party will be informed of the progress achieved in elaborating an additional protocol to the 1988 Strasbourg Convention on Limitation of Liability of owners in inland navigation (TRANS/SC.3/R.130), aimed at facilitating access of the non-CCNR countries.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/10

(b) **Application of UNECE resolutions relating to inland navigation**

The Working Party may also wish to consider the situation regarding the application by governments of its resolutions on the basis of document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/11 and invite governments to accept the resolutions if they have not yet done so.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/11

(c) **Exchange of information on local knowledge requirements in UNECE countries**

At its fifty-third session the Working Party took note of a preliminary overview of the local knowledge requirements existing in UNECE countries, prepared by the secretariat in accordance with the decision of the SC.3/WP.3 thirty-fourth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/68, paras.26–27). This information is collected in order to

³ <http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/agree_e.pdf>.

contribute to rationalizing and unifying the requirements on checking the knowledge by boatmasters of specific stretches of inland waterways and their navigating skills on those stretches. The Working Party invited Governments which had not yet submitted their information on the existing local knowledge requirements to do so at their earliest convenience (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183, para.16).

The Working Party may wish to consider the updated document, including the corrections and additional information from the delegations received by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12

8. Establishment of common principles and technical requirements for pan-European river information service

At its fifty-first session the Working Party recognized that international groups of experts continuously updated the technical standards for the river information services and asked SC.3/WP.3 to notify the Working Party of any developments that would make it necessary to amend the UNECE resolutions related to river information services (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 27). At its thirty-seventh session, SC.3/WP.3 considered and approved the proposal on amendment of Resolution No. 60, “International Standards for Notices to Skippers and for Electronic Ship Reporting in Inland Navigation” (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/175), submitted by the President of the international Expert Group on Notices to Skippers (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/72, para. 48).

The proposal for the Working Party on Inland Water Transport on amendment of Resolution No. 60 is submitted for consideration and adoption in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/13.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/175, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/13

9. Recreational navigation

At its fifty-second session, the Working Party considered the proposal by the European Boating Association (EBA) to amend the text of Resolution No. 40 on “International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft”. The EBA proposed to allow administrations to deliver international certificates for operators of pleasure crafts (ICCs) to competent persons who were not nationals or residents of the administration’s country. The EBA also proposed to add a new annex with information on the implementation details of the ICCs. After an exchange of opinions, the Working Party asked the Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation to improve the wording of the amendment proposed by the EBA and to collect additional information for the proposed annex to the resolution (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/181, paras. 44–46). The amendment proposal to Resolution No. 40 was finalized at the thirty-sixth session of SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/72, para. 43). It is proposed for consideration and formal adoption by the Working Party in document ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/14.

The Working Party may also wish to note that a part of the SC.3/WP.3 thirty-seventh session had been dedicated to the issue of recreational boating and included the presentations on the financial aspects of developing recreational navigation and its economic and social benefits, organized by the EBA (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/74, paras. 36–37). The Working Party may wish to discuss how it can further promote the use and the safety of recreational boating.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/14

10. Inland water transport and cross-sectoral issues

(a) Inland water transport and security

The Working Party will be informed of relevant activities by Governments and international organizations and decide on possible action in this regard taking into account the instructions of the Inland Transport Committee.

(b) Inland water transport and environment

The Working Party may wish to continue its discussions on its possible activities in the area of inland water transport and environment, taking into account the relevant activities of member States and River Commissions.

11. Election of officers

The Working Party may wish to elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair for its fifty-fifth and fifty-sixth sessions in 2011 and 2012.

12. Tentative list of meetings for 2011

The Working Party may wish to approve the following tentative list of meetings of SC.3 and SC.3/WP.3 for the year 2011:

16–18 February 2011	Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (thirty-eighth session);
15–17 June 2011	Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (thirty-ninth session);
12–14 October 2011	Working Party on Inland Water Transport (fifty-fifth session).

13. Other business

At the time of drafting this provisional agenda, there are no proposals under this item.

14. Adoption of the report

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

III. Tentative timetable

Wednesday, 13 October	10.30 – 13.00	Items 1 – 3
	15.00 – 17.30	Items 4 – 5
Thursday, 14 October	09.30 – 12.30	Items 6 – 8
	14.30 – 17.30	Items 9 – 13
Friday, 15 October	10.00 – 13.00	Item 14