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Economic Commission for Europe**Inland Transport Committee****Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods**

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)

Nineteenth session

Geneva, 22–25 August 2011

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Catalogue of questions**Report on the sixth meeting of the informal working group on the catalogue of questions (22–24 March 2011)**

Transmitted by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR)^{1, 2}

I. Introduction

1. Following up on the request of the Safety Committee (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/38, paras. 29–36), the informal working group on the catalogue of questions held its sixth meeting from 22 to 24 March 2011 in Strasbourg at the invitation of CCNR.

2. Besides the delegations of Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland, representatives of the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC), the International Committee for the Prevention of Work Accidents in Inland Navigation (CIPA) and the European Barge Union (EBU) took part in the meeting, under the chairmanship of the delegation of Germany.

¹ Distributed in German by the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine under the symbol CCNR/ZKR/ADN/WP.15/AC.2/2011/32.

² In accordance with the programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee for 2010–2014 (ECE/TRANS/2010/8, programme activity 02.7 (b)).

3. The informal working group emphasized that it would like more delegations to participate in its work in future. Experts from testing and training centres in particular should be present.

4. The group decided to use German as the working language. Delegations would be able to arrange for interpretation in other languages for future meetings if necessary.

II. Work schedule

5. The informal working group agreed on the schedule and methods of work proposed by CCNR (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/38, para. 29) and will submit them to the Safety Committee as working document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2011/31 for adoption at its nineteenth session.

6. The group revised the document containing instructions for the ADN expert examination and will submit it to the Safety Committee as working document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2011/27 for adoption at its nineteenth session. The document sets out instructions for the use of the catalogue of questions in accordance with ADN 8.2.2.7.1.3. It describes how to use the catalogue and introduces models for drawing up examination questions.

7. The group noted that the catalogue of questions required updating, as certain topics were not included and should be incorporated in the current version. This applied, for example, to issues relating to stability calculation. It would also be necessary in future to supplement the catalogue of questions with topics newly added to the Regulations annexed to ADN.

III. Questions for the expert examination after the refresher course

8. The informal working group carried out a detailed review of informal documents INF.4 and INF.7 (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/38, para. 29), submitted at the eighteenth session of the Safety Committee. The delegation of Germany was invited to introduce in that respect working document ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2011/29 at the nineteenth session of the Safety Committee for a decision.

9. The group invited the delegation of Germany to draft a proposal on the obligation to recognize ADN specialized knowledge certificates.

10. The group invited the delegation of Switzerland to draft a proposal (informal document) to amend ADN with a view to including CEVNI in the ADN examination.

IV. Catalogue of questions – 2011 status

11. The informal working group established a working procedure for aligning the multiple-choice questions in the catalogue with ADN 2011 and correcting them (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/2009/12-17, 21, 22, 24-26 and 34-38). For that purpose, CEFIC, CIPA and EBU would first conduct a review of the current situation, which would be taken up at the meeting to be held on 6 June 2011 in Bonn.

12. The group invited the delegation of the Netherlands to draft, by September 2011, new questions and proposals for deletions on the basis of ADN 2011. New questions should cover substances posing a hazard to water and transitional periods, in particular.

13. The group noted that the French version of the 2010 catalogue of questions should, in principle, serve as the reference text. However, a French version aligned with the German version was not yet available. The group also intended to use the German version of the catalogue of questions as a reference text for all translations.

14. The delegation of the Netherlands pointed out that the Dutch translation of the catalogue of questions was based on the German version.

15. The informal working group invited the Chairman to verify whether the existing tables of multiple-choice questions could be adapted effectively by means of appropriate software once the Regulations annexed to ADN were amended and, if that was the case, to submit a proposal for improving the tables.

V. Other business

16. The informal working group noted that the replies to the substantive questions thus far appeared to have been used only in Germany and the Netherlands and only in part during the examination of ADN experts. The replies were prepared in particular to help new Contracting Parties to ADN.

17. The delegation of Germany said that it intended to propose holding consultations, during the meeting to be held by the Safety Committee at its nineteenth session, to determine how training of ADN experts was organized in the various States (INF.8).

VI. Next meeting

18. The informal working group considered it necessary to hold a subsequent meeting on 21 and 22 September 2011 in Strasbourg.

VII. Draft decisions

19. The informal working group drew the attention of the Safety Committee to the fact that the tasks assigned to the group could not be performed according to the planned schedule of work without the participation of more people in the group. The informal working group therefore proposed that the Safety Committee should take the following decisions:

- The schedule and methods of work of the informal working group on the catalogue of questions should be adopted as presented and the group should be assigned to carry out the tasks set out.
- The Safety Committee should invite delegations to ascertain whether they were able to make staff available to support the informal working group. For the purpose of carrying out the tasks relating to the examinations, it would be particularly desirable if more persons affiliated with training centres and instruction and examination organizers, or persons familiar with their specific tasks, were involved in the work.