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Economic Commission for Europe

Inland Transport Committee

Working Party on Inland Water Transport

Fifty-fifth session

Geneva, 12–14 October 2011

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda

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

To be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
starting at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 12 October 2011

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 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 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 www.unece.org/trans/main/sc3/sc3/sc3age.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. Follow-up to the UNECE 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”);
 - (c) Strategic Development of Inland Waterway Infrastructure.
6. Mutual recognition of boatmasters’ certificates and other issues related to the professional qualifications in the area of inland navigation.
7. Standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation:
 - (a) European Code for Inland Waterways (Resolution No. 24);
 - (b) Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (Resolution No. 61);
 - (c) Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services (Resolution No. 57);
 - (d) Other issues under consideration by SC.3/WP.3.
8. 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.
9. Recreational navigation.
10. Inland water transport and cross-sectoral issues:
 - (a) Inland water transport and security;
 - (b) Inland water transport and environment.
11. Programme of work, biennial evaluation and terms of reference.
12. Tentative list of meetings for 2012.
13. Other business.
14. Adoption of the report.

II. Annotations

1. Adoption of the agenda

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

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/190

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 about the decisions of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee (ITC) taken at its seventy-third session (1–3 March 2011) as they relate to the work of the Working Party.

SC.3 will also be informed about 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 reports of the eighteenth and nineteenth sessions of WP.15/AC.2 (ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/38 and ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/40) and the reports of the sixth and the seventh sessions of the ADN Administrative Committee (ECE/ADN/13 and ECE/ADN/15).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/221, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/38, ECE/TRANS/WP.15/AC.2/40, ECE/ADN/13 and ECE/ADN/15

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

The Working Party will be informed about relevant activities of UNECE member States and the European Union (EU) aimed at promoting transport by inland waterways. In particular, the Working Party will be presented with information on the follow-up to the 2006–2013 EU NAIADES Action programme for the promotion of inland waterway transport. The Working Party may also wish to discuss the activities of River Commissions, based on a succinct report, prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/1).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/1

4. Follow-up to the UNECE White Paper on efficient and sustainable inland water transport in Europe

The Working Party will be presented with the final version of the UNECE White Paper on efficient and sustainable inland water transport in Europe (hereafter, the UNECE White Paper), as endorsed at the seventy-third session of ITC (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/189).

The Working Party may wish to hold an exchange of views on the follow-up activities to the paper. In particular, the Working Party may wish to continue the discussions of its fifty-fourth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/187, para. 29) on the possible UNECE role in hosting the future European Hull Database. It is recalled that the UNECE White Paper recommends that UNECE support and facilitate current efforts within the EU to set up an international hull data base that, to be effective, requires including and maintaining non EU- inland vessels data (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/189, para. 212 (c)). The possible role of UNECE in this area had been discussed during the thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions of the UNECE Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (SC.3/WP.3) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/76, paras. 21–23; ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, paras. 19–21).

The Working Party may wish to take note of the background note on future cooperation on the European hull database, adopted by the thirty-ninth session of SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/2) and decide on how to further address this issue.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/189, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/2

5. Inland waterway infrastructure

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

The secretariat will report on the latest developments, if any, related to the European Agreement on Main Inland Waterways of International Importance.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/120/Rev.4

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

The secretariat will present the draft second edition of the UNECE Inventory of main standards and parameters of the E waterway network (“Blue Book’), prepared based on the submissions from Governments and the 2011 PLATINA Inventory of bottlenecks and missing links on the European waterway network (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/3). The Working Party will be invited to approve the content of the revised Blue Book and issue instructions to the secretariat, if any, on the format of the final publication. The Working Party will also be informed about the progress in the preparing the updated map of European Inland Waterways, based on the revised of the Blue Book.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/144/Rev.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/3

(c) Strategic development of inland waterway infrastructure

At the occasion of the revised UNECE Blue Book and in the context of the proposed programme of work under item 11, the Working Party will be invited to discuss its work and priorities in the area of inland navigation infrastructure. In doing so, the Working Party may wish to take into account the results of the special discussion on the strategic development of inland waterway infrastructure during the thirty-ninth session of SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, paras. 22–23). A concise strategic note on this subject will be prepared by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/4).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/4

6. Mutual recognition of boatmasters’ certificates and other issues related to the professional qualifications in the area of inland navigation

On the basis of the note by the secretariat (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/5) the Working Party may wish to discuss how it could further facilitate the recognition of boatmasters’ certificates in the ECE region as well as address other issues related to professional qualifications in the area of inland navigation. In doing so, the Working Party may wish to take into account the discussions on the mutual recognition of boatmasters’ certificates held during the thirty-ninth session of SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, paras. 14–18).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/5

7. Standardization of technical and safety requirements in inland navigation

SC.3/WP.3 held two sessions in 2011: the thirty-eighth session on 16–18 February 2011 and the thirty-ninth session on 15–17 June 2011 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/76 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78). 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)

First, the Working Party will be invited to consider the draft roadmap for future work on the European Code for Inland Waterways (CEVNI)(ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/6), adopted by the SC.3/WP.3 thirty-ninth session with the goal to describe and assess the ongoing work on the Code and the scope of its next revision (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, para. 7). The Working Party may wish to adopt the document as the main reference and mandate document for its future CEVNI related activities. In particular, SC.3 may wish to approve the proposed schedule of the future work on CEVNI, i.e. preparation and adoption during the next biennium (2012-2013) of the fifth revision of CEVNI, taking into account the information of the application of CEVNI by member States and River commissions and the existing national and regional deviations from CEVNI.

Second, in accordance with the decision of its fifty-third session to monitor the use of CEVNI (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183, para. 13), the Working Party will be invited to consider the second edition of CEVNI status document, which contains current information on the implementation of CEVNI in member States and River Commissions (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/7).

Third, the Working Party may wish to approve as pending amendments to CEVNI (to be formally adopted by the next revision of the Code) the new amendment proposals presented in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/8. In accordance with the SC.3 decision on the procedure for introducing amendments to CEVNI (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183, para. 13), these proposals were prepared by the CEVNI Expert Group and approved at the SC.3/WP.3 thirty-ninth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, paras. 8–13).

Finally, the Working Party will be informed about the joint work of UNECE and River Commissions on the German version of CEVNI.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/115/Rev.4 and Corr.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/6, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/7, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/8

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

The Working Party will be presented with the first revised edition of Resolution No. 61 on Recommendations on Harmonized Europe-Wide Technical Requirements for Inland Navigation Vessels (hereafter, Resolution No. 61) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172/Rev.1) containing SC.3 Resolution Nos. 64, 65 and 68 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172/Amends. 1–3).

The Working Party will be invited to consider and adopt further amendments to Resolution No. 61, finalized at the thirty-ninth session of SC.3/WP.3 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, paras. 27–28 and 30). The draft Resolution on amendments to Resolution No. 61 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/9) will include:

- (a) Revised definitions used in Resolution No. 61 with the goal to further harmonize the text of the resolution and the EU Directive 2006/87/EC laying down technical requirements for inland waterway vessels (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/9/Add.1);
- (b) New chapter 20 B on Special provisions applicable to river-sea navigation vessels (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/9/Add.2).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/172/Rev.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/9, Add.1 and 2.

(c) **Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services (Resolution No. 57)**

At its fifty-first session, the Working Party recognized that international groups of experts continuously update the technical standards for river information services (RIS) and asked SC.3/WP.3 to notify SC.3 of any developments that would make it necessary to amend the UNECE resolutions related to RIS (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/178, para. 27).

At its thirty-ninth session, SC.3/WP.3 approved the proposal to review Resolution No. 57, “Guidelines and Recommendations for River Information Services” (TRANS/SC.3/165) in the light of the new revised RIS Guidelines of the World Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure (PIANC) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, paras. 33–34). The draft resolution on amendments to Resolution No. 57 is presented for the adoption by SC.3 or other decision in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/10.

Documentation: TRANS/SC.3/165, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/10

(d) **Other issues under consideration by SC.3/WP.3**

The Working Party will be informed by the secretariat about other issues currently under consideration by SC.3/WP.3.

8. 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 note 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 Pan-European Conference on Inland Water Transport Conference in 2006 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/11). The Working Party may wish to invite Governments to keep the secretariat informed of any further rectifications or additions 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

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/11

(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.3/2011/12 and invite governments to accept the resolutions if they have not yet done so.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/12

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

At its fifty-fourth session the Working Party took note of an overview of local knowledge requirements existing in UNECE member States (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12). As recommended at the SC.3/WP.3 thirty-fourth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/68, paras. 26–27), this overview aimed rationalizing and unifying the requirements on checking the knowledge and navigating skills of boatmasters or specific stretches of inland

³ www.unece.org/trans/conventn/agree_e.pdf.

waterways. The Working Party asked the secretariat to inform SC.3 of any additions and/or updates to information contained therein (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/187, para. 39).

The Working Party will be informed of additional information, if any, to ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2010/12, received by the secretariat from the delegations.

9. Recreational navigation

At its fifty-fourth session, the Working Party agreed to add to Resolution No. 40 on “International Certificate for Operators of Pleasure Craft” a new annex with information on the competent national bodies delivering international certificates for operators of pleasure craft (ICCs) (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/187, para. 41). With the acceptance of Resolution No. 40 by Norway and South Africa, the Working Party will be invited to update the annex as contained in the current edition of the resolution (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/147/Rev.1).

The Working Party will also be invited to consider the proposal by the secretariat to resume the work on a schematic map of the waterways used for recreational navigation and to elaborate an informative document on the implementation of Resolution No. 40 (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/14). The Working Party may wish to note that these two proposals had been preliminarily supported by the SC.3/WP.3 thirty-ninth session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/WP.3/78, para. 40).

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/147/Rev.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/13

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 this area, taking into account the relevant activities of member States and River Commissions.

11. Programme of work, biennial evaluation and terms of reference

In accordance with the decision of the ITC to review its programme of work every two years, the next review being 2012 (ECE/TRANS/200, paragraph 120), the Working Party will be invited to review and adopt its programme of work for 2012–2013 as well as the relevant parameters allowing for its biennial evaluation. The draft programme of work for 2012-2013 and expected accomplishment will be published in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/14.

To facilitate the work of the delegations, the draft programme of work for 2012-2016, established using the previous format of the SC.3 programme of work, will be published by the secretariat in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/15, highlighting the changes to the programme of work for 2010-2014, as adopted by SC.3 at its fifty-third session (ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183/Add.1).

Furthermore, SC.3 may wish to complement its programme of work with terms of references, outlining the mandate and the main operational elements of its work. The draft terms of reference will be published in ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/16.

The final documents, adopted by SC.3, will be forwarded for decision to the ITC seventy-fourth session.

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/SC.3/183/Add.1, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/14, ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/15 and ECE/TRANS/SC.3/2011/16

12. Tentative list of meetings for 2012

The Working Party may wish to approve the following tentative list of meetings of SC.3 and SC.3/WP.3 for the year 2012:

15–17 February 2012	Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (fortieth session);
20–22 June 2012	Working Party on the Standardization of Technical and Safety Requirements in Inland Navigation (forty-first session);
10–12 October 2012	Working Party on Inland Water Transport (fifty-sixth 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-fifth session on the basis of a draft to be prepared by the secretariat.

III. Tentative timetable

Wednesday, 12 October	10.30 – 13.00	Items 1 – 3
	15.00 – 17.30	Items 4 – 6
Thursday, 13 October	09.30 – 12.30	Items 7 – 8
	14.30 – 17.30	Items 9 – 13
Friday, 14 October	10.00 – 13.00	Item 14
